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All illustrations by Debashish Deb

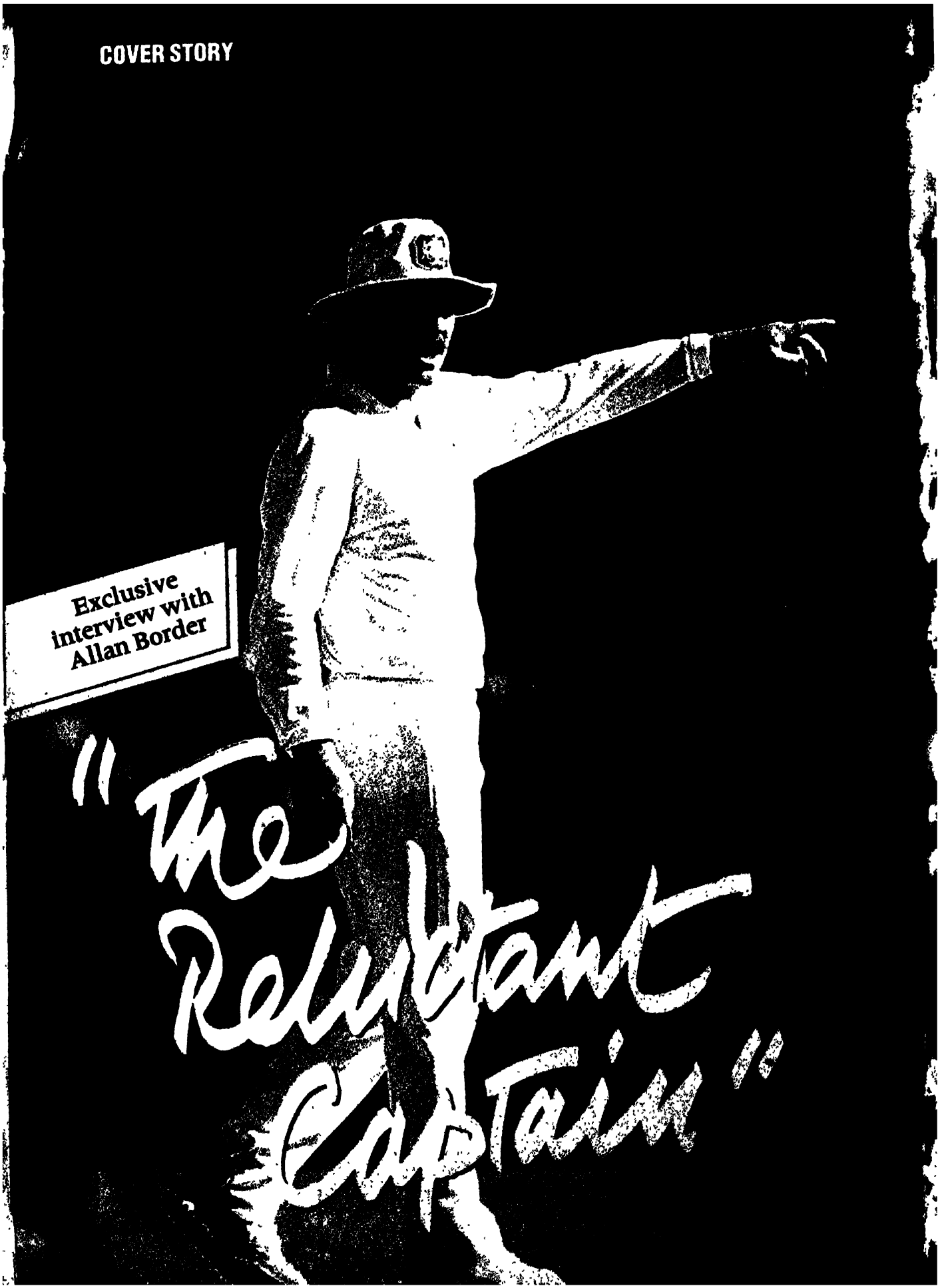
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COVER STORY


Exclusive interview with Allan Border
"The Reluctant Captain"

Allan Border.

A cricketing collosus: With Imran Khan, probably the only institution in the game today. Brooding and intense on the field. Yet off it, a cheerful person with a lively sense of humour. 126 Test matches and more one-day internationals than anybody can keep track of. When you talk to him, you realise that you are talking to somebody who is going to transcend the immediate. Indeed, history has begun to leave the first imprints on his face. But 'AB' has at least three years ahead of him and the mind boggles at the cricketing legacy he will leave behind. Presenting Allan Border, "professional cricketer", controversial Queensland recruit, reluctant captain, great middle order batsman and now, one of the game's immortals.

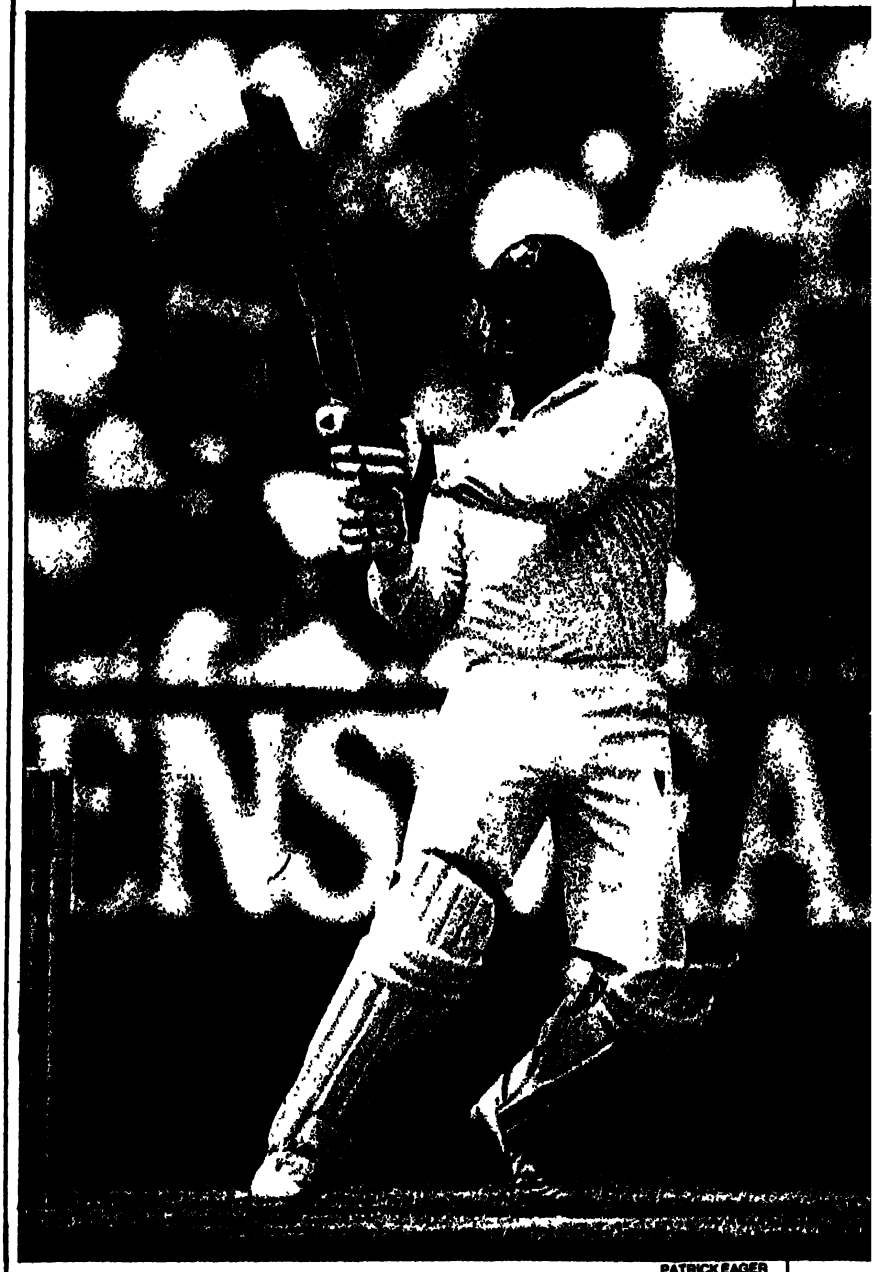
Sportsworld: Allan, when you started your international cricketing career in 1978-79, did you think you would be playing international cricket in 1992?
Allan Border: When you start, you only want to play a few games, those are exciting moments for you. You don't think about a long time in the game. It was similar with me. I just gave the game everything I had and before I knew it, I was a veteran! I had no set plans. Things just kept happening as I went along.

Would you say you were one of the beneficiaries of Packer? He took away the top didn't he? You got your chance and stayed on.
There is no question that is how it happened. But you never know in cricket, how things would have gone. But there is no denying that was the break. I was in Sydney in those days and almost 9 or 10 players went out of the first class game. I was doing quite well in club cricket but you never know whether you get a break with the established guys around. So World Series Cricket and the existence of the two warring factions was a good thing for me.

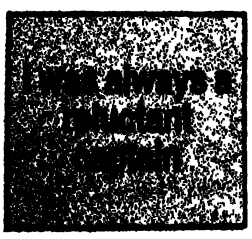
Was there a sense of awe when the World Series guys returned? To you, Chappell and Lillee and Marsh must have been big names and all of a sudden you were sharing the dressing room with them.
Yes, I remember when the news came that World Series Cricket was over and that everybody would be back, we were in India. There was naturally a great sense of relief all around but I remember we had a lot of discussions about how many of us would remain in the combined side. I mean, we had to assess our chances against the greats...

Border's style might not be attractive but is nevertheless effective

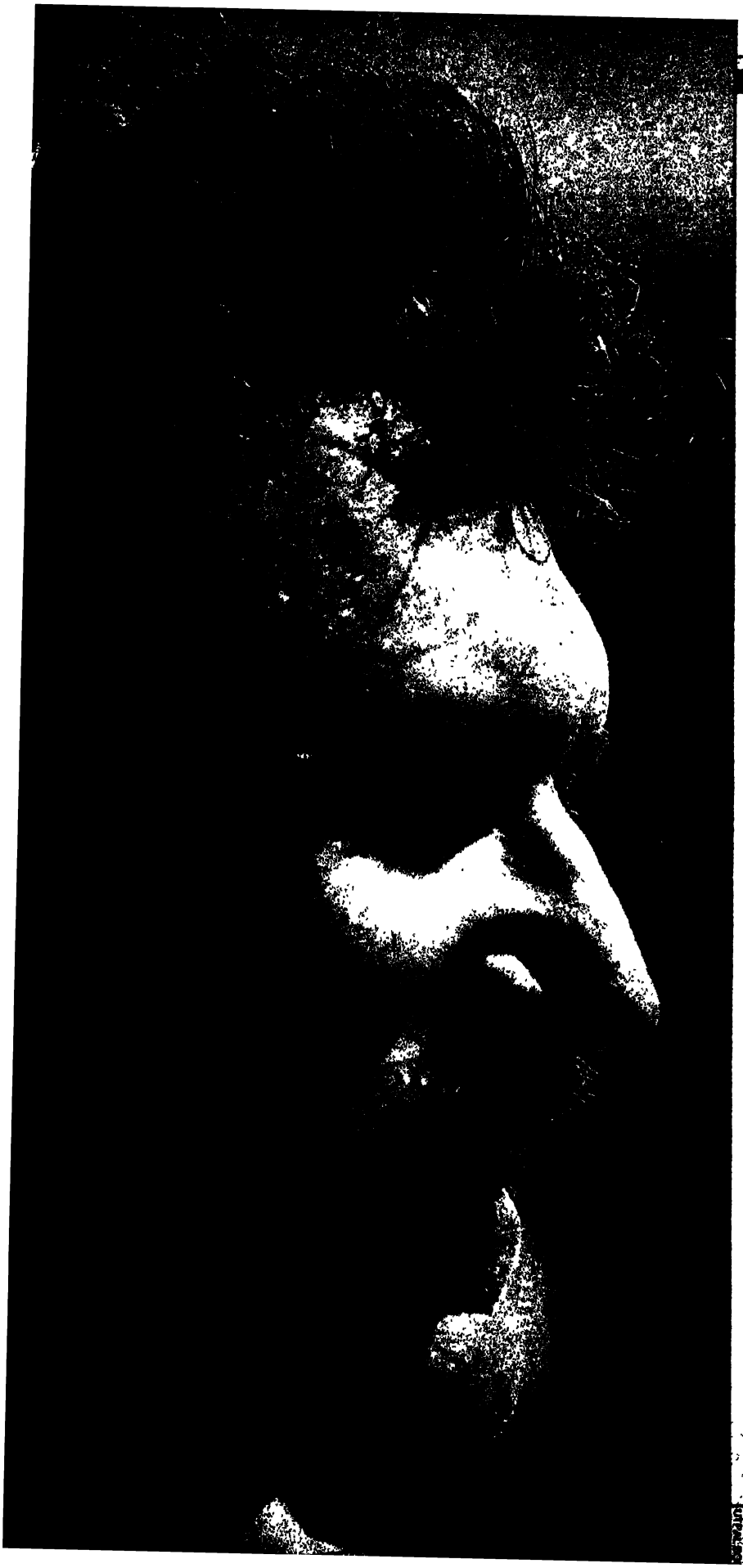
Did you fancy your chances?
I had a pretty good tour of India and I thought that would count. But I didn't know what it would be like on getting back. Luckily I got runs in Australia and made it. There were just three of us who did.



PATRICK EAGER



The others were...
Rod Hogg and Kim Hughes. The others were all from the World Series camp. Yes,



it was an awesome experience being around with the Big Three. I just took my place in a corner of the box. What added to the occasion was that we were playing the West Indies. I mean, yes, it was pretty traumatic because let alone the West Indies, you didn't know your own side!

Thereafter you had a pretty smooth ride. You didn't have to miss a game and all of a sudden you were captain of Australia. Obviously, you couldn't have imagined the circumstances in which you got it, but did you think you'd get it all?

No. I've always preferred being one of the boys, one of the players and leaving the decision-making to somebody else. I was the "vice-captain" but as the vice-captain, you are only involved in a bit of the selection process. You don't have much of a say. So this thing was a bit of a shock really. For five years, I'd been just one of the guys, having a lot of fun and all of a sudden, there was this thing thrust on me when Kim Hughes resigned. That was against the West Indies too and in the eighties, they had a pretty awesome side too. Yeah, it was pretty traumatic.

The first couple of years as captain of Australia. That wasn't the best job in the world, was it?

Yeah, we had problems of a very different kind. The Big Three had retired, that left a huge gap in the standards. A lot of the others had quit too, but it was less publicised. Guys like Bruce Yardley, Len Pascoe, Bruce Laird, Ashley Mallett, Jim Higgs... they all gave it up in a period of 18 months. And the standard of the Sheffield Shield, that went down too you know; and to top it, I was always a reluctant captain. Yes, it was a very difficult two or three years.

What was it that kept you going? It can be different for different players. Some are religious, others have specific motivators. What was it in your case? Was it the pride of performing in an individual capacity?

I enjoyed the game. I always have, even though it was frustrating. I've never been an acceptor of poor performance. I believe in turning up and giving nothing short of your best. It didn't seem to be the case with the blokes who I thought were only going through the motions. They didn't seem to have the same pride that I had. Playing for the country is very important and at this

Border describes himself as an innings-to-innings player

level a cricketer should be seen to be giving off his best. I don't have a problem with losing. If you come out, give a 100% and then lose to a better side, I have no problem with that but in those days there were some guys who I thought were not playing to their ability. That was the most frustrating part of it all.

I read somewhere that around this time, you declared yourself a professional cricketer. I believe there were a few sniggers around...
Well, in the early days it was a bit of a joke. I'd left my job in Sydney to go and play league cricket in England and on the way there, they gave me those things—the declarations—and asked me what my profession was. I said "professional cricketer". It just sort of took off from there. I was very young in those days and almost all the cricketers had jobs going.

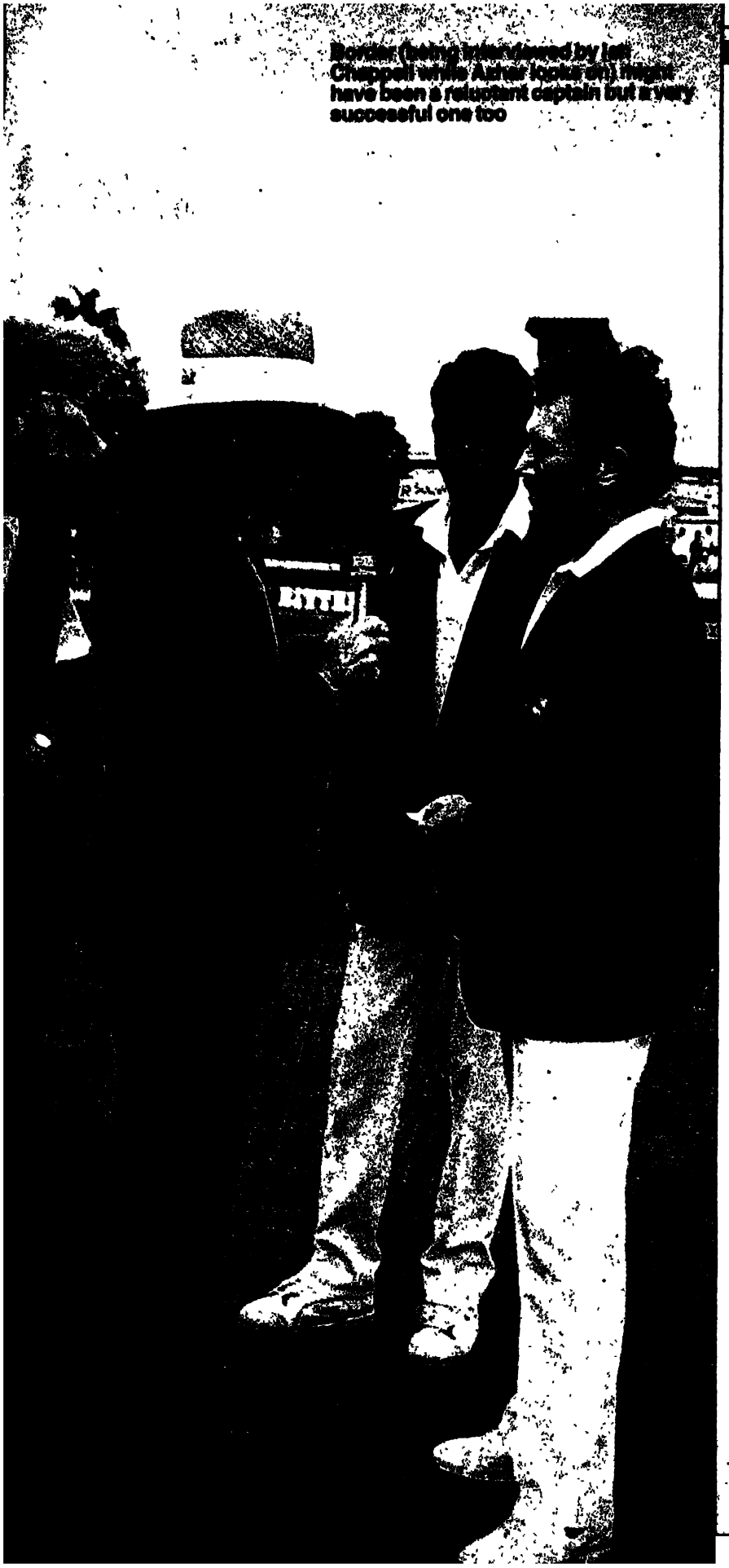
I don't have a problem with losing. If you come out, give a 100 per cent and then lose to a better side, I have no problem with that.

There was no such thing as a professional cricketer really! When World Series Cricket came around, it sort of, started getting accepted but when I said it well.....

What sort of job did you have?
I was what they called a commercial trainee with BP, the petrol guys. It involved doing all sorts of things. For some time, about three months, I was only pumping gas at a gas station. It was a clerical job you could say. I saved enough out of that job to go to England, I always wanted to go to England. I had a coach then called Barry Knight, the former Essex and England player and he said it would help my game if I played in England. I was just starting to play okay in those days. Since then, it's only been cricket.

The current Australian team is a product of shrewd selection planning





Border (being interviewed by Ian Chappell while Asher looks on) might have been a reluctant captain but a very successful one too

Throwing up a job in those days must have been something! Did you think of what you would do in the off season or if you struck a bad patch?
Well, one didn't think too much about it then. The unemployment problem wasn't as bad as it is now! I guess you wouldn't find guys just chucking jobs like that now. Well, I was young and I didn't really think about the future as much as I do, say, now.

Was cricket a financially viable game then?
Oh no! I paid my way through the first year and only played league cricket in the second. I stayed with mum and dad and that was good. And I did the Toohey's promotions. We used to go round the country doing some coaching and there used to be games between two local sides with three of the state guys in each team. I was paid a couple of hundred dollars and that was basically what kept me going.

Things are much better now for the youngsters....
Today? Today, there is a real chance of a guy being a real professional cricketer. But that has its pitfalls. It's not easy to put all your eggs in one basket. If you are studying for example, it might be prudent to keep that going. If you are getting a part time job, or getting something out of the game it's okay. But *only* cricket can be a bit dangerous.

You're No. 1 at your game now. But does it sometimes hurt to see other sportsmen, who are nowhere near the top in their game, making much more. This year's earning list, for example, shows guys like Wally Masur and John Fitzgerald have made almost twice as much as you have...
No, not at all because when I started playing the game there was no question of making money from the game. You just played it and felt happy about it. I considered myself lucky. But making money has just, sort of, happened. Today, we earn more money than we did ten years ago. And ten years later I guess the guys would be making more. I'm just lucky I got the chance to play cricket and so, I don't regret other professionals making more money.

How important is money?
To me, it's not a great motivator. I've seen a lot of guys come into the game, do well, get hounded by bat manufacturers first and get a couple of commercial endorsements and then they start spending lesser time on the game and more on doing the "sportsman's nights" and things like that.

PATRICK EAGER



The multi-faceted Border (keeping wickets to Greenidge here) is an asset to any team

I've always maintained that if you play cricket 100 per cent, the dollar will look after itself. That's the way it's worked out for me. But I've had my share of luck so I guess I'm not the ideal test case. But that's my belief. That money will always follow success.

Your cricket career has been very hard on your family...
I'm very, very lucky. I know some guys have a lot of problems at home. Their wives or girlfriends don't like them to be away so long and then when the children come along, there's an added burden and lot of them give the game up prematurely. Or have constant hassles with it and that affects their performance. I'm very lucky that my wife has been with me right from the word go and has been very supportive.

Are you an old-fashioned family man?
Yes, very much so. I don't see how I could have survived without the support.

I've always maintained that if you play cricket 100 per cent, the dollar will look after itself

How important is a stable family to a successful cricketer?
Absolutely vital. You know, this is a young man's game. You can have a great time tripping around all over the world, especially with the kind of money you can make these days. But you'll see that most of the guys, the successful breed, have a very good home life.

Did your wife know it was going to be like this when you got married?
Oh, no, but by the time we got married, she had an inkling.

You'd known each other for a long time.....
Yeah. We'd been going around for a long time and she had seen my development. By the time we got married, I'd already been touring. She realised what was ahead of her but she probably didn't think it would go on for so long.

Is she your punching bag? Your emotional

outlet? In fact, do cricketers often need emotional outlets?
Yes, they do. But in my case, I try not to take too much of it home. At times, it's inevitable, the moaning and the groaning... and you need someone to talk to. But almost always, you have friends in the team and you can discuss things with them. Or with your mentors. I wouldn't have any hesitation in sharing things with my wife but I tend to avoid that as much as I can.

In your cricket, you've always been a battler, a fighter. Perhaps it's to do with the fact that you played in a few weak Australian sides. But is that symbolic of life also?
Aaaah. That's difficult to answer. I just settled on a style and well, I know I'm not the prettiest player going. People always talk of guys like Gower when they are discussing left handers and they refer to me as a battler. Perhaps you are right, if you play for a weaker side, you are constantly shoring up the innings and that becomes style. You become my kind of player. I'd love to be an elegant player too but now that's not my style.

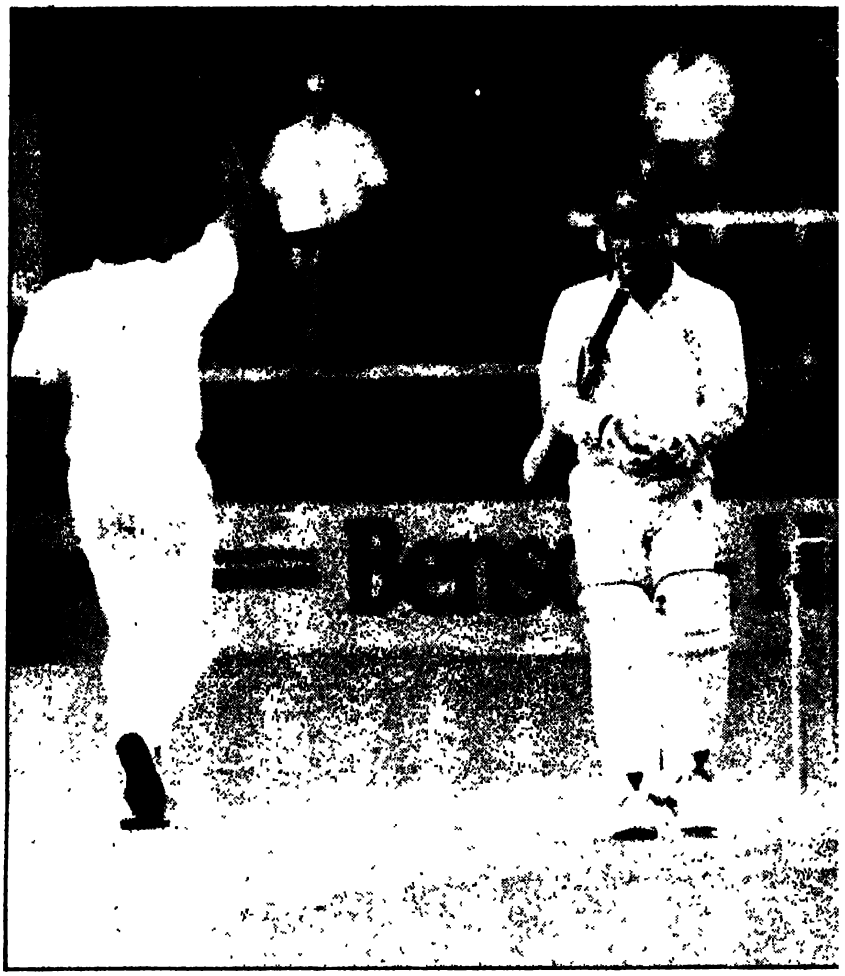
Was the failure of the others an inspiration for success? Especially in the middle eighties?
No, not really. I just enjoy going out and battling it out. I guess it's to do with the fact that I am a very determined kind of bloke. I measure success in terms of what the team has achieved, not as personal success.

Let me put that the other way around now. Has the more recent success of other guys reduced your inspiration to succeed?
Not that I know of. Maybe I have relaxed a bit and therefore, haven't scored the kind of runs I did in the past. We've got a nucleus now, a nucleus that is performing and perhaps there isn't the kind of pressure now that there used to be. I don't know, because everytime I go out now, I still want to score lots of runs but perhaps I am relaxing a bit.

You're obviously a very deep thinker on the game. Does it tend to overwhelm your existence?
It can do that and I tend to get too intense about the game. If you've done badly, it can affect your mood well into the evening and even the next day. In recent times, I have tried to reduce that a great deal but I guess being intense is just part of me.

Have you been a great career planner? I mean, professional executives have a well defined career path. They plan it step by step. Has it been that way with your cricket?
Oh no, it's just happened. I know in the last twelve months the question is being asked increasingly of me about when I'm going to give it all away. I've been looking at the cricket calendar a bit more carefully. Next summer, we've got the West Indies here, there's a tour of England in 1993, a small one to Sri Lanka, another to New Zealand. So there is quite a bit of cricket and I am a bit loath to set up a cut-off point. I'd love to go to England again because that is obviously a tour I'd like us to win.

What I really meant was whether you had set yourself small targets, achieved them, then set up newer ones and so on. Planned your career, step by step...
No, no. The game has just evolved. I've never said to myself that I must score so many by this time and so many more by



The elation at a Border dismissal whether by India (above) or West Indies (inset) is well justified

The only thing that worries me is that I let my standards drop and be picked for what I did in the past

KAMAL JULKA



Everybody says that I should bowl more but when it comes to the crunch, I don't bowl



PATRICK EAGER

this time etc. I've really been an innings-to-innings player, scoring as many as I could and trying to adjust to the team's situation...

Is 10,000 a target?
Yes, 10,000 is a genuine target now.

Once you've got there, you'll have been a very successful captain, almost certainly the world's highest run getter. Will having achieved everything take away a bit of the intensity from the game?
It's possible because every one is talking about it and...

It's just round the corner, isn't it?
Well, yes, but it still has to be achieved. The bowlers work a bit harder these days you know! And well, it's difficult to say just now but I might reach a stage where, if the team is really doing well, I won't be needed as much. And that could be a point to say enough.

Looking back at it all, the achievements, the records, the trophies you've won, how important will they be? Will they just be solace in old age or will you look at them with far more pride?
I've never really been an extroverted kind of person so when these things happen to me, I really enjoy them. I am not one to gloat and gloss over them, but I'll certainly be very happy about them when I'm retired and look back at it all.

You've been talking of batting down the order and maybe bowling a bit more. Wouldn't that first of all, affect your sense of pride? From batting at Nos 3,4 and 5 to have to go down to 7, and wouldn't that therefore require you to keep justifying your place in the side?
You're right. The only thing that worries me about how long I want to play is that I don't want to make too many concessions to standards. That I let my standards drop and be picked for what I did in the past and for my reputation rather than on whether I deserve to be there. So yes, I need to be careful about dropping down too much because one might start batting like a No.6 or No.7. And I don't even know if my bowling will be good enough to justify making a change in my career. I will obviously bowl more, and I will need to, but you never know, captains seem to be very reluctant. Look at this innings (India's first innings against Queensland) 454 runs were scored and they didn't need me to bowl. It's strange you know. Everybody says I should bowl more but when it comes to the crunch, I don't bowl!

To go back just a little bit, to your celebrated partnership with Bob Simpson that turned Aussie cricket around. Now, how much of that turnaround was achieved on the playing field and how much of it emerged from your minds?
I think the turnaround came from some shrewd selection planning. They looked at people's characters, apart from their statistics and they didn't always go by the statistically better player. They looked at his character, at the kind of guy he was, at how well he would fit into the team. That way we tried to build up a nucleus that had a solidarity around them, a desire to win, a desire to work hard. Just those right kind of ingredients that we thought were lacking. Then Simmo has been a very hard taskmaster in the basics of the game. It sounds ridiculous you know, but sometimes when you are a Test player, you tend to neglect them. Like not going out for a catch or doing a lap or things that you need to do and Simmo has worked at this relentlessly for the last four or five years. And today, we've reached a stage where people don't notice it. Now people say, "Gee, you're a great fielding side" or "Australia is a very disciplined side" or "it's a great one-day side." But it's because of those little things that have mattered. We're getting to look like that in the Tests too. If McDermott keeps up the good work and Reid keeps away the injuries and as I said, if we find a really world class spinner, we'll become a solid Test side.

One of my major drawbacks, as people point out, is my communication skills



Style be damned...it's the end result that's important (Channel Nine watchers, check the middle stump for the stump camera!)

A bit like planting the seeds for the future?
Yes absolutely. And you know when the standard of the Test side improves, it becomes more difficult to get in and so the standard at the Shield level goes up too and it makes a difference right down.



When the top side is a bit higgly piggly, it shows at the bottom too.

Is it a matter of great satisfaction to see that the Australian side doesn't really have an individual star? When you talk of Australia, you don't only talk of a McDermott or a Jones or a Border...
Yes, because what is happenning is that on a given day you might have two or three good performances but they may not last



A 'Rest of the World' team: Border (seated fourth from right) is a senior member!

KAMAL JULKA



Azhar will be watching Border closely...and picking up some tips

beyond the Saturday. You might have seven outstanding players over a weekend. That's perfect. That's why we are such a good one-day side. It's not totally dependant on a Kapil Dev firing away or a Desmond Haynes or Richie Richardson or an Imran Khan or Wasim Akram. They are obvious stars within their teams. Graham Gooch, for example.

The thing that has made me stay a little longer is the return of South Africa. I'd really kick myself if I didn't play against them

We too have stars but we spread the job around a bit more.

What happens after 1993 or 1994?

The thing that has made me stay a little longer is the return of South Africa. I'd really kick myself if I didn't play against them. I've got the opportunity in the World Cup now but I'd much rather be playing a Test series against them. If that doesn't happen till 1994, I'll just have to see how my fitness and standard hold.

A final question. When you see young guys walk into the dressing room with a sense of awe at meeting Allan Border, sitting quietly in their corner, do you think of the young man who shared the room with Lillee and Chappell and Marsh?

I don't see myself in that vein. But maybe it does happen. One of my major drawbacks, as people point out, is my communication skills. Maybe some guys think I'm a bit unapproachable and sit in a corner like I did when the Chappells and Lillees were playing. You know, not speaking till spoken to. But I was willing to share a drink with them and that tended to take the pressure off. But I guess it's bound to happen. It happens to me when I meet the stars from other sports, the sports that I like. Guys like Greg Norman have a kind of presence around them. But we try and make our young guys feel at home as much as possible. ●

WATER-TI

TREVOR GRANT writes on how difficult it

AUSTRALIAN cricket long ago built its reputation on a spirit of adventure, but when it comes to choosing teams these days the selectors are about as adventurous as your maiden aunt who has been travelling to Bognor Regis for her holidays for the past 50 years.

That, of course, is not all bad. Apart from the fact Bognor has a very nice fish-and-chip shop, stability is a key factor in the development of any successful sporting team, and it is undoubtedly one of the reasons Australia have dragged themselves out of the pit of ineptitude in which they were wallowing five years ago.

Also, when a side begins to win more matches than they lose, as Australia have done in recent times, there is no logical reason to be radical at the selection table. The problem is that in trying not to rock the boat too much, some passengers who deserve to be washed overboard remain firmly wedged in their seats, protected by the collective effort.

This was undoubtedly the case when it came down to the choice of a spinner for the Test against India. At a time when the debate should be centred on whether there was a spinner good enough to be wearing the Australian cap, the main consideration is which offspinner—Peter Taylor, now of Queensland, or NSW's Greg Matthews—should get the nod.

Given the general agreement that emerging young Victorian legspinner Shane Warne needed more than four Sheffield Shield matches before being exposed at the ultimate level, Taylor got the nod and a berth in the XI ahead of Victorian paceman Paul Reiffel, who was named 12th man in the Brisbane Test.

The harsh truth is that neither Taylor nor Matthews deserves to be playing for Australia—if, of course, selection is based purely on performances.

Before Brisbane, Taylor, 35, had taken 26 wickets in 11 matches at an average of 36.62 since that memorable debut against England at Sydney in 1986-87. Twelve of those wickets (at 20 runs apiece) came in his first two matches, both on receptive pitches at Sydney.

Matthews, while continuing to prove himself a very solid middle-order batsman, has a Test bowling average that should make the national selectors cringe. In 28 matches he has 49 wickets at 49, and in his last three series, against England (twice) and West Indies, he averaged 147, 60 and 91 respectively with the ball.

The conservative notion,



PATRICK EAGER

GHT TEAM

is to get into the present Australian team

though, that you need a spinner *any* spinner, now sees that one of these non-performers makes the side.

It is a policy that does not cut much ice with captain Allan Border. 'Why should we pick a guy just because he's a spinner? I might as well bowl' said Border, whose left-arm orthodox spinners have long been undervalued. 'A spinner should be picked because you think he's going to take wickets in a Test match, not just because he's going to give you variety.'

The continued high-quality performances in the Sheffield Shield by players who are some distance from Test selection reflects the healthy state of the game here these days.

The batting, in particular, oozes potential. While Michael Bevan, 21, of NSW, hit his seventh first-class century (against the Indians at Lismore) in his third senior season, a new name has emerged in Brisbane. Queensland's left-hand opener Matthew Hayden, made an exhilarating 149 from 229 balls on debut. Hayden, a solid, confident young man who has just turned 20, thinks big already. He asked his team-mates before his first match whether anyone had made a double-century on debut.



The harsh truth is that neither Peter Taylor nor Greg Matthews deserve to be playing for Australia—if, of course, selection is based on performance

Hayden joined seven Queenslanders who have made a century on debut, including Martin Kent, who had a brief Test career in the 1980s. Kent, who had the pleasure of watching the innings from the commentary-box, said: 'I got a chill up my spine when he got his hundred because of the way he made it. It was a truly great innings.'

New SA captain Jamie Siddons has also lost considerable ground in his battle to make the Test side. He required an operation after his close mate Merv Hughes fractured his cheekbone with a searing bouncer as Victoria stormed to an outright victory at the MCG. Siddons was wearing a helmet, but had no visor guarding his face.

David Hookes, the next batsman in after Siddons fell on his stumps, came out with just a cap on his head and then told the Press later that it was time for helmets to be made compulsory. Hookes, who has always done things differently, followed up in the next game with 75 to pass 10,000 first-class runs for his state and move into second place on the all-time Shield run-getters' list behind John Inverarity.

It was in this match at the Adelaide Oval that we saw Tim Zoehrer's remarkably diverse talents. The WA wicketkeeper handed the gloves to Mike Veletta in the first innings long enough to take 5 for 58 from 22 overs with his legspinners.

Craig McDermott carries on his good form, after Queensland coach Jeff Thomson had made a very favourable comparison with his old new-ball partner Dennis Lillee. 'I suppose he's turned into a bit of a Lillee,' said Thomson, after McDermott had demolished NSW at the Gabba. 'Like Lillee he has got all the balls, applies himself enormously at all times and has that knack of constantly taking wickets no matter what the conditions. The only difference may be that he is not as quick or aggressive as Dennis, and while I don't think he will become that quick, the aggression is beginning to surface.'

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What record did Sri Lanka make in their first World Cup cricket match?
2. Name the author of "My Cricketing Years"?
3. Which international cricket captain made his Test debut career by scoring a duck in both innings?
4. It was earlier known as the Marylebone Club. What do we know it today as?
5. Only two batsmen in history have scored a ton on debut, both in first class cricket and also in Test cricket. Who are they?
6. Who is the only batsman in history to score a century in both the innings of his Test debut?
7. How many times did Bjorn Borg reach the final of the Australian Open?
8. Which player has won the maximum singles titles in the French Open?
9. Donald Budge conceded only one set in the French Championship in the year he won the Grand Slam (1938). To whom did he concede this only set?
10. Who first thought of the all-metal racquet in tennis?
11. "There are many people, with the will to fight, life is not just this. Truth is further beyond" Who wrote these lines?
12. Which athlete's life was portrayed in the film 'Man of Bronze'?
13. Who achieved the ultimate long distance triple of winning the 5,000 m., 10,000 m. and marathon at the same Olympic Games?
14. In which sport is the racquet called Crosse?

ANSWERS

1. It was the first team to be bowled out for less than 100 runs in the 22 one-day internationals played uptil then.
2. Ajit Wadekar.
3. Graham Gooch against Australia in 1975.
4. Artillery Ground Club.
5. G. Vishwanath and Dirk Wellham.
6. L. Rowe (W. Indies).
7. Not once.
8. Chris Evert (7 titles).
9. Gaus Mohammed (India).
10. Rene Lacoste.
11. Pele.
12. Jim Thorpe.
13. Emil Zatopek (Czech).
14. Lacrosse.

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RATNESH KUMAR SINGH
S/O SRI R.K. SINGH,
RKI-43, F.C.I. COLONY,
P.O. SINDRI,
DT. DHANBAD.

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



1. Go into right zenkutsu-dachi while performing a nukite—knife thrust—to the abdomen with the right hand

CARRYING on with the kata, here are the next four steps. Perfect the movements and connect them to the movements already given earlier.

As explained, katas are a form of imaginary fighting movements which, when performed in sequence, will help you perfect your technique.

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



2. Stay in the same stance, perform a sweeping movement with the right hand as you turn 180° to your left



3. Go into kiba-dachi and deliver a hammer-fist blow with the left hand



4. Go into right zenkutsu-dachi and deliver a right chudan-oi-tsuki

[illegible] Headquarters, Calcutta is organising [illegible] Calcutta, [illegible] over a week. It will start on 17 [illegible] karate students and all those with a good martial [illegible] interested in attending the camp are requested to [illegible] Vaidya, 5/1 Vidyasagar Road, Calcutta-

WEST INDIES CRICKET

CALYPSO

When the first West Indian tourists visited England in 1900, the *Manchester City News* wrote: 'There is none of the *golly massa* Christy Minstrel element about their cricket and the tradition of the immortal Quanko Sambo has no hold upon them. With a little more experience they will have to be taken into serious account before long.'

Ironically what was written at the turn of the century is now coming true once again. After decades of winning endlessly, the Calypso Kings have of late been humbled by sheer odds. The last few seasons have not been generous with the team. But though 1992 holds out the promise, sunny days may yet be far for the masters of strokeful cricket.

Ever since the West Indian cricket authorities decided to overhaul their squad in the aftermath of a crushing

"I think it is quite early for us to get judgemental... it's only a matter of time" Murray



TOMMY HINDLEY

Haynes and Ambrose: Shouldering the responsibility of the batting and bowling respectively

Brian Lara: The great batting hope

PATRICK EAGAR



defeat at the hands of England in August, the rebuilding process began. Many heads rolled before a new look West Indian side emerged under the spirited captaincy of young Richie Richardson.

This systematic weeding out the deadwood has seen two of West Indies most prolific, albeit aging scorers, bow out of the team. There is no doubt that Vivian Richards and Gordon Greenidge will be sorely missed, but they were not expected to go on endlessly. Both of them were becoming increasingly vulnerable and their averages began declining.

No one was surprised when Gordon Greenidge, who turned 40 this May, found himself in and out of the team. He too realised that runs had become more difficult to score and a reputation would hot carry him far. Clayton Lambert, Phil Simmons and Daniel Joseph have now been after the coveted opening slot with the near-legendary Desmond Haynes. Viv Richards, too had been fighting illness as well as his critics, even as big scores became a distant dream. "As the years roll by," he himself admitted, "I am physically becoming more inept for my style of game. Today I find myself edging or missing the ball too much," confessed Richards.

"I hope to spend more time with my wife and children from now. Captaining the side has been a thrill but it has brought pressures and it is time now to ease off", said Richards before he hurried along on the path of retirement.

The same was the case with Gordon Greenidge, one of the best and most technically sound batsman. A connoisseur's delight, Greenidge came in good stead for his team, but age the destroyer of all talent, got the better of him. Having now retired from international cricket, Greenidge will be missed for the delight he brought to his innumerable fans.

Many may wonder what brought on this sudden exit of all the seniors. While the official line is that West Indian cricket needed new blood, many say that the real reason was that these veterans did not take kindly to Richardson's captaincy which led to their ultimate dismissal. But regardless of the reasons, the fact is that a new squad is on the threshold of taking charge of the columns of West Indian cricket.

"Let them get used to the idea that Viv is not there to save their backsides" Manager Mattey

In the new look team the obvious star is Richie Richardson, who despite being so young has slipped well into the captain's clothes. Unlike Viv Richards' temperamental blow all leadership, Richardson seems to have got a cool head on his shoulders, always trying to rationalise before committing himself to a

CRISIS!

move he may have to regret later.

Even though it was an unceremonious debut for Richie Richardson at Sharjah this year, his personal contribution to the team cannot be doubted. At the middle eastern cricketing festival, Richardson's two centuries (106 n.o. and 122) against Pakistan showed the promises of things to come. A month later Richie and his boys routed Pakistan at home. Yet things have not gone all that well of late. The West Indies find themselves the underdogs in the triangular WSC tournament in Australia.

The last few seasons have not been generous with the team... Sunny days may yet be far for the masters of cricket

Gordon Greenidge: Even legends fade away with time

KAMAL JULKA



Despite the enthusiastic young side, the West Indians have problems which are likely to stay till the time they gain in experience. Derek Murray, their manager says, "I think you have to give the boys a little more time to settle down as a unit. Let them get used to the idea that Viv is not there to save their backside."

Today, the situation facing the Carribbeans is similar to the days when Clive Lloyd took over the captaincy. The team played 20 Test matches before they got into the winning habit in the seventies. All one has to do is to wait and watch.

In fact it would be worth watching the likes of Curly Ambrose and Ian Bishop who have successfully stepped into the 'killing zone'. Ambrose, in particular has been amongst wickets without giving away too many runs. The pace battery has a hard job ahead if the Windies is to regain their stature as the premier cricketing nation in the world. And as Richardson admits, "In a few months from now, we may not dominate the game, but we will go in with a fair chance of winning."

Bowlers, in particular, will have to come good for the West Indians these days. They have at least four world class ones in their side who can do their job well if guided properly. Curtly Ambrose, Patrick Patterson, Anderson Cummins and Ian Bishop, all of them have displayed a control which holds their side in good stead.

However, the best player in terms of utility for the Carribbeans is Carl Hooper whose right arm off spinners have added a variety to the bowling. After hesitant beginnings, Hooper has gone from strength to strength and beside bowling is proving to be a class batsmen, with an uncanny timing in stroke play. Earlier a lack of confidence was his major undoing but things seem to have improved dramatically for him. His off spin bowling has the edge, hitherto unseen earlier. "A man who is going to play a vital role in the West Indian side," is how Michael Holding thinks about Hooper.

Thanks to Hooper and the four seamers everybody agrees that West Indian bowling is worldclass and more. With back trouble keeping Ian Bishop out of the



Carl Hooper: When will mere talent transform into runs?

WSC Championships, it would be an opportunity for Ezra Moseley, Tony Gray and Cumming to prove their mettle. And there are many more bowlers who can make good contributions in the upcoming World Cup as well.

Sadly enough the same cannot be said about the Carribbean batting which tends to crumble against pressure. Barring Desmond Haynes, the Windies do not have a single dependable player capable of hitting big scores. Says Murray, "I think it is quite early for us to get judgemental. There is still a lot to learn for boys who are so new to the international arena. It's only a matter of time."

On the contrary, three star batsmen—Keith Arthurton, Brian Lara and Phil Simmons have not done much except posting patchy performances. But Murray is confident that, these guys are quite capable of big things. Especially, Brian Lara, the 21-year-old from Trinidad. Lara was only 20 when he captained Trinidad and Tobago in the Shell Shield, and his run scoring record is superb. In the last season's Red Stripe Cup, he made a record 627 runs in five matches.

If his domestic scores have been gigantic, he has managed to hit the winning stride in the international game only on rare occassions. Nevertheless, Richie Richardson has complete faith in Lara's capabilities.

The little left hander has been compared to Roy Fredericks, the dimunitive Guyanan who opened for the West Indies in the early 1970s. "Like Fredericks, Lara always looks to attack pace bowlers and this is coming handy in Australia," adds Richardson. Even Viv Richards is full of praises for Lara. With a degree of caution, Richards adds, "The ball is in his court. The potential is there, but it all depends on how he treats his profession."

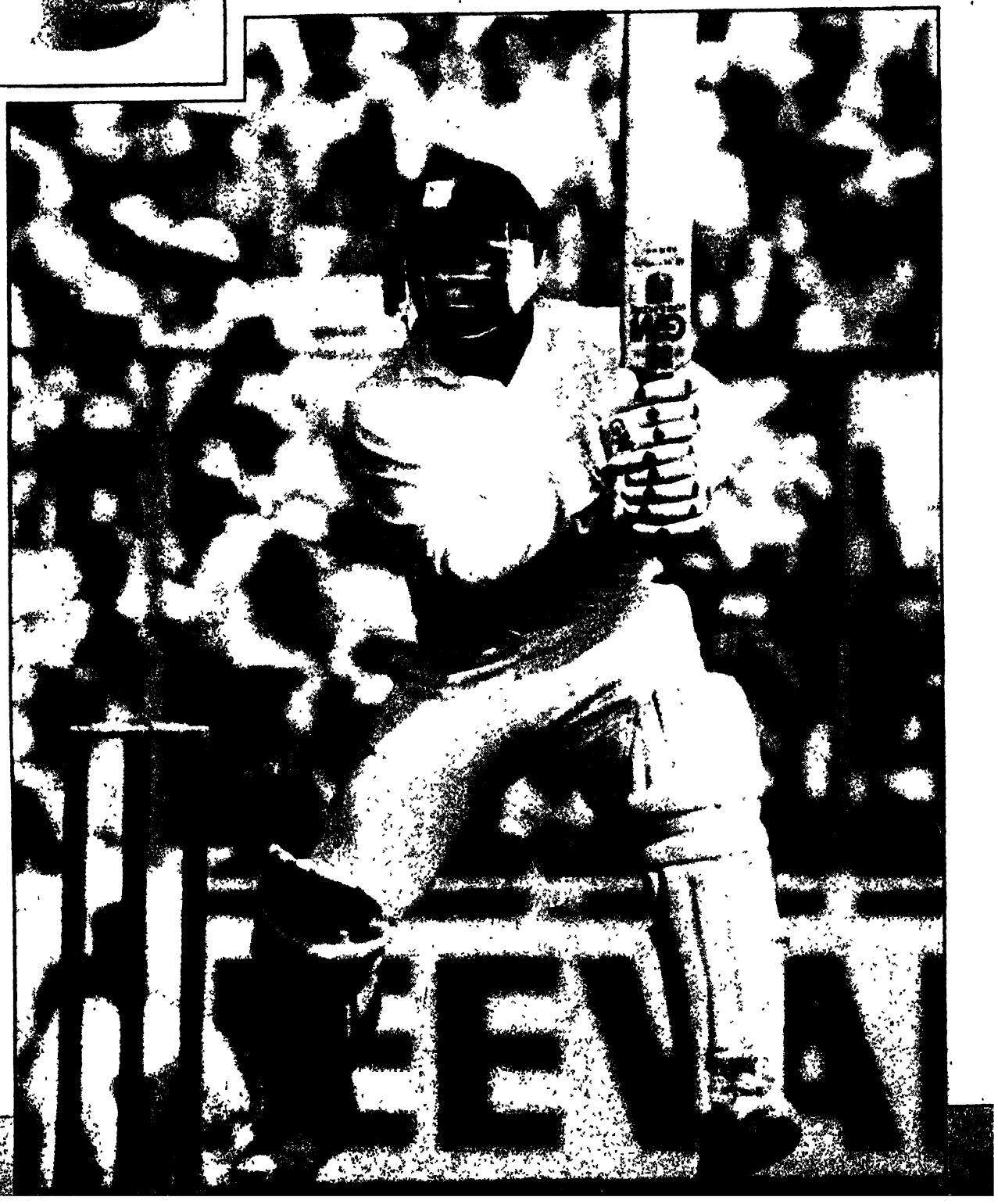
A similar promise is expected from Phil Wallace, Clayton Lambert and Keith Arthurton, though how long will they take to fulfil it remains to be seen. But the worst scenario for the West Indies will be the failure of Richardson as a batsman. The team and the cricket loving country simply cannot afford that to happen. But right now the effort is on and the sights are fixed on the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's going to be a rough ride getting these, though.

BY CHRIS DIGHTON



7000!

Desmond Haynes became the first cricketer to score 7000 runs in one-day internationals



Desmond Haynes, the prolific West Indian opener, is the first cricketer to have completed 7000 runs in one-day internationals. He crossed this milestone when he scored 89 against India in the ongoing World Series Cup.

He became the highest run-getter when he surpassed Viv Richards' tally of 6721 in 187 matches. He has also hit sixteen centuries which is also the highest in one-day cricket.

HAYNES-At A Glance

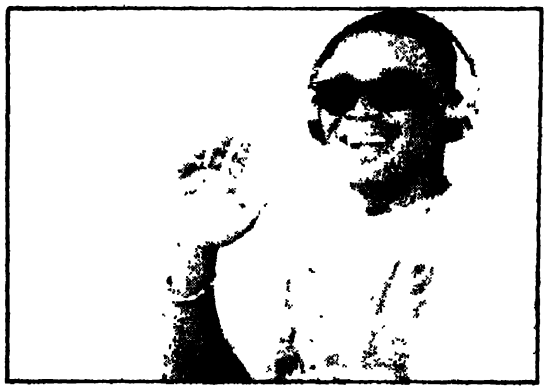
M	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50
188	187	24	7053	43.26	152*	16	42

Four Others who have scored 5000 or more runs

	M	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50
Viv Richards (WI)	187	167	24	6721	41.40	189*	11	45
Javed Miandad (P)	177	168	32	5795	42.61	119*	6	40
Allan Border (A)	227	212	32	5765	32.02	127*	3	37
Gordon Greenidge (WI)	128	127	13	5134	45.03	133*	11	31

HAYNES during the last five years

Year	Runs
1987	562
1988	746
1989	1007
1990	283
1991	431



The Centuries

148	Vs	Australia, St John's, 1977-78
108*	Vs	Australia, Sydney, 1983-84
133*	Vs	Australia, Berbice, 1983-84
102*	Vs	Australia, 1983-84
104*	Vs	Australia, Kingston, 1983-84
123*	Vs	Australia, Melbourne, 1984-85
146*	Vs	Newzealand, Berbice, 1984-85
116	Vs	Newzealand, Bridgetown, 1984-85
105	Vs	Sri Lanka, Karachi, 1987
142*	Vs	Pakistan, Port of Spain, 1988
111	Vs	Pakistan, Adelaide, 1988
101	Vs	Pakistan, Hobart, 1988
117*	Vs	India, Bridgetown, 1989
152*	Vs	India, Guyana, 1989
138*	Vs	England, Gwalior, 1989
107*	Vs	Pakistan, Eden Gardens, 1989

* Completed 5000 runs after scoring 11 against Pakistan on October 22, 1988 at Sharjah in the final match of the Champions trophy.
* Completed 6000 runs against Sri Lanka on October 19, at Rajkot in Nehru Cup. He reached the milestone when he got his 28th run.
* Completed 7000 runs against India on December 14, 1991 in the World Series Cup match when he reached 36.

*** 500 runs in a tournament**

513: playing 11 matches, in the World Series Cup, held in Australia, 88-89

* ALL THE STATISTICS, INCLUDED HERE UP DATED TILL DECEMBER 14, 1991.

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay

DON'T GET

A very common question asked by fitness enthusiasts is 'if a little training is good, is more better?'

That's a subjective question each of us must answer for ourselves.

If however you've been feeling partially or totally exhausted after your workouts, if you're working harder than you ever have and you are still getting nowhere and if you are feeling depressed these days for no reason at all, then you need to take an inventory of your exercise behaviour. Maybe you're obsessed with training.

If things have still not clicked and you are wondering what we are talking about, well, we're treading a road that we have travelled over many times - the overtraining factor in exercise.

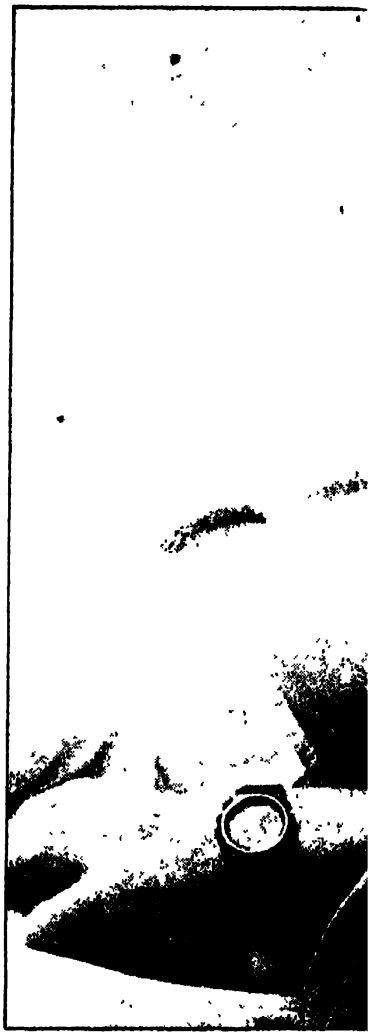
Overtraining starts with fatigue. Everybody poops out at some stage or the other in an exercise regimen. This is very much a natural phenomenon brought about by physiological changes in the body. The purpose of tiredness is to protect the body and its individual muscles from serious damage caused by over-exertion.

Why does this occur? Accumulating in your tissues are the waste products like lactic acids, ammonia and urea. Being depleted, at the same time, are your fuel stores: key minerals and electrolytes, along with essential chemicals. At the same time your muscle fibres also experience structural changes.

As the waste products accumulate in your system they interfere with the production of the energy you need to fuel your activity—the drive to exercise. They also inhibit your muscles' ability to contract and relax. Ammonia build up in the system also has a detrimental effect on concentration.

That is how training or over-training tires out the muscles. But how tired should you be at the end of a workout? How can you judge whether you are overworked? How do you know whether it's your exercise regimen or the other stresses in your life that is making you feel so wrung out? These are questions with no definite answers and differs from person to person.

Actually the recovery



Always exercise in moderation.



PHYSICAL



Lie back and RELAX

The Health Column

of your motivation is as important as your physiological recovery when you assess your recuperation from fatigue. Incidentally the psychological component and not the physical one is more vulnerable as it is usually the first component in the system's arsenal to crumble under pressure. Another issue that you need to look at is why are you pushing yourself so hard when it comes to exercising?

Exercise dependence is a relatively new concept in the area of fitness medicine. Some people crave for the nuerochemical highs, others the boost of ego that accompanies when one is in good shape. Some seek the escape they find in exercise. Some operate under the misconception that moderation means failure, some others are simply obsessive.

These are only some of the motives for going too far. If you ask yourself why you have become so obsessed with your performance to the point that you abuse your body - and if you are honest, you'll discover your own reasons and be able to work on them.

Using stress wisely is an excellent way to develop emotionally, and intellectually. Your growth in these areas are as important as the physical progress that results from the exercise stress that you place on your body. The point is to develop self control and self awareness to the extent that you can focus your energy on the areas that will give you the greatest satisfaction.

Here are some symptoms of overtraining:

- Diminished endurance.
- Increased sleep requirements.
- Reduced appetite that is usually accompanied by weight loss.
- Increased resting pulse rate.
- Slightly increased body temperature.
- Headaches and slow reflexes.
- Depressions and or mood imbalances.
- Persistent muscle soreness or an injury that doesn't heal.

If you encounter any of these signs and if you feel that you have lost the zest for working out then lay off for some time and let the body get back to normal. Only then should you start hitting the weights again. ●

LIFE ON THE ROAD

FRANK KEATING walks down memory lane and pauses before a couple of incidents he has encountered as a cricket writer







CAN IT really be 10 Januaries ago that Geoffrey Boycott packed his bags, left a note of defiant apology—pronged with a corkscrew—on the table of the team room in a Calcutta hotel, and left for England, never again to play in a Test match?

The England manager, Subba Row, with a diplomat's cussedness, did not pass the news to the Press party till Boycott was airborne and we were on the interminable train to Jamshedpur—so on arrival we had to sit up most of the night in the local cable office trying unsuccessfully to raise Fleet Street. Geoffrey beat his own story home.

Is it truly 11 years ago that we were thrown out of Guyana by Mr Forbes Burnham, the demon-king who then ruled that unhappy land in his Chinese dungarees? Sure is. Yet I can still hear as clearly as if it was last Wednesday week that spindly, sinister official in khaki shorts and wire specs asking at reception in the Pegasus Hotel, 'Which is Mr Jackman's room?' and then proceeding up the lift to serve The Oval's cock-sparrow with his 'immediate revocation of entry'.

Nonsense: it cannot be a full dozen years ago that I walked up the hillocky path, past Captain Cook's Cottage, through the park between the MCG and the Windsor Hotel? It is. I was 25 yards behind Derek Randall, and kept my distance—for there, in his reverie and without a bat, the

Black Power! Richards' centuries have a powerful impact on most people

England batting-order's ragamuffin man-child was miming every stroke in the manual...forward-defensives, opulent cover-drives, meaty square-cuts, feathery leg-glides...for all the world like a bouncy schoolboy in front of his mum's full-length mirror, and every shot, of course, accompanies by a click of his tongue, and every followthrough held, just so, with a hum of pleasure and the

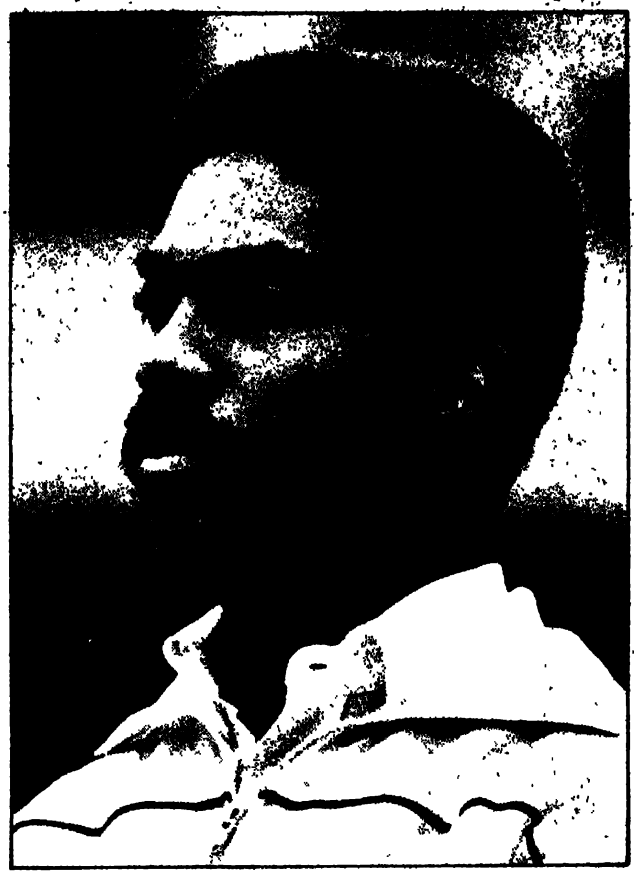
Michael Holding: Smooth as a Rolls Royce, but sadistically lethal

momentary grin of a Bisto kid. What touching and timeless textures of relish and exuberance did Randall bestow to his Test match days. Hooray for him still.

I had three tours, each as richly rewarding as the other. (Violins, please, for end-of-an-era, too: the

Geoffrey Boycott: his cricket, thankfully, was less enigmatic than he was





'Sir Geoffrey' truly sublime serenity—as if he'd climbed Everest after a lifetime of trying—the evening he took his pads off at Delhi the day before Christmas, having broken Sir Garfield's all-time Test record of 8032. And having done it, within a fortnight, he was gone...

Fleet Street wars have altered cricket reporting: a decade ago newspapers sent one man to cover the games;

now the old Press caravan is full of extras riding shotgun for the gossip-column department, or sometimes even for the crime editor.) Then they told me I had either to take cricket seriously full-time or move on to other matters. I got it into my head that I was missing the rugger internationals back home—but, more importantly, realised there were bedfuls of English roses which needed tending: i.e. serious matters concerning (usually) blondes.

Funny, when you contemplate warmly these abroad thoughts from home it is not the actual cricket which leaps to the mind, but the dotty, silly little snippets of life before and after close of play. Like flying into (I think)

Montserrat in the next seat to Geoffrey B. and noticing, when he opened his famous tooled-leather businessman's briefcase to get out his whacking, heavyweight Robert Ludlum novel, that the rest of the case was (literally) choc-full of nothing else but neat stacks of Cadbury's fruit-and-nut bars. There must have been at least three dozen in there. 'It's for me energy,' quoth Geoff.

utter, garlanded grandeur and almost sheepish modesty of Viswanath, that tiny one-off with the bashful, marsupial eyes. There was a penny-pinching, wizard's spell of slow bowling by Emburey at Trinidad, hour upon hour in dark glasses and on a batsman's pitch. And Viv's proclaiming, inevitable century in Antigua's first-ever Test—a rasping first-50 for the island, and a careful, coddled,

Garner with only one determination in his soul—to dedicate his defiance to Kenny's memory. And how. Gooch's 116 of England's 224 all out (only two others made double figures) was heroism of quite memorable resplendence.

At Sydney one night, under lights—the brightest of which was a gloriously raging moon, hung dramatically in the purply-black South

dismissive unconcernedness as Botham at Indore two winters later, when the Baron of Beefy bazooka'd 122 against Central Zone in 48 minutes and off 48 balls—having blocked 11 of the first 14 balls he received. When Botham posted his century, Gatting, at the other end, had generously scored but three solitary singles.

And on and on, the flickering memory spool careers back,







Gundappa Viswanath's centuries are a combine of utter grandeur and sheepish modesty

Cricket to savour on those three tours of mine. Like a square-drive by Clive Lloyd in Barbados, played late off the front foot, which was as withering as it was breath-taking. Or a double-century at Madras which combined the unlikely mix of the

considered second-50 as a wedding-present for Miriam.

Then there was Holding's sadistically lethal—scarily enthralling—opening over which unstrung Boycott at Bridgetown. That was in the afternoon of the cataclysmic day that darling Ken Barrington was to die. Next innings, his eyes still moist with tears, young Gooch goes out to face Holding, Roberts, Croft, and

Pacific skies—the corrot-topped Bairstow bristled out to join his compatriot Graham Stevenson with three overs and two wickets left, and 35 to get against Australia. Lilian Thompson, bless her bitchiness, was pawing the earth, and The Hill was hotting and happy. Said Bairstow as he greeted his mate, 'Evenin', lad. I reckon we can piss this, y'know.'. They did too. Almost with the same

higgledy-piggledy... Gatt with his interminable tapes of his beloved Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*; Willis with his pills and his potions and his humours, his grit and his courage, and the full works of Wodehouse in his bag; Bob Taylor exchanging smiles in a mutual admiration society with Mother Teresa; Botham's utter hooraymanship everywhere; ditto Gower's sheer class and charm both at the crease



Willis carried with him pills, potions, humour and the complete works of P.G. Wodehouse

and away from it: 'Sir Geoffrey's truly sublime serenity—as if he'd climbed Everest after a lifetime of trying—the evening he took his pads off at Delhi the day before Christmas, having broken Sri Garfield's all time Test record of 8032. And having done it, within a fortnight, he was gone.'

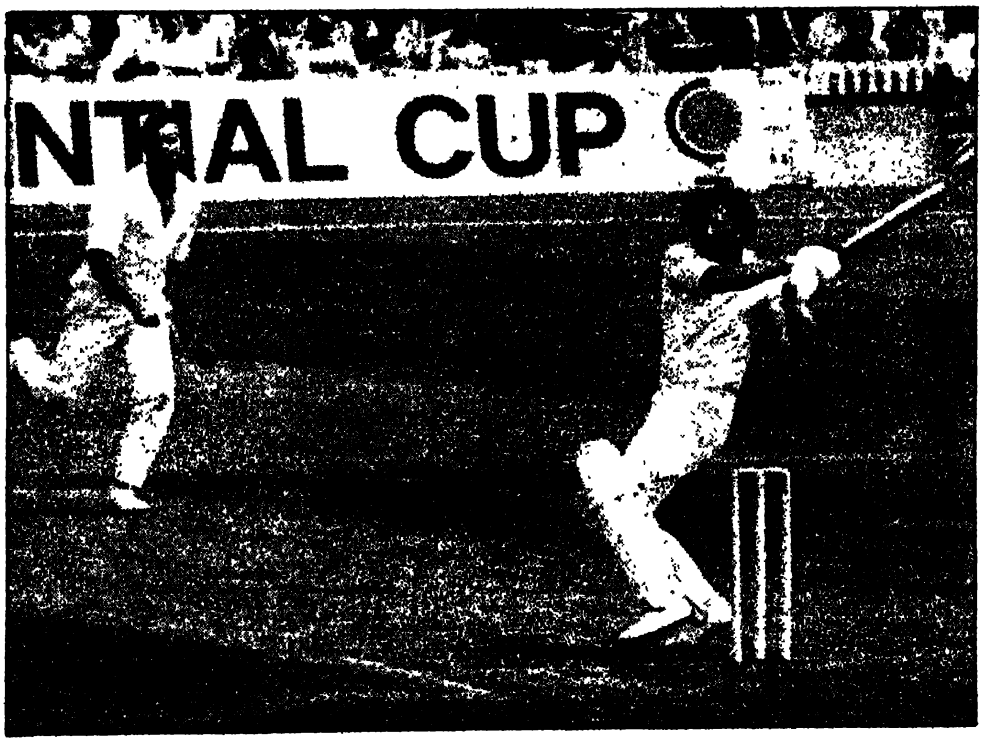
On tour, the telephone dominates the day more than bat or ball. There was dappy Don Mosey, that duke of disgruntlement, finally getting through to the BBC sports-room from the banks of the Berbice River in downtown, downtrodden Guyana. They were all out at lunch. Only a temp was on. 'I don't know who you are, but do you want to give some news?' she asked. 'No', spat the emperor of irony, jowls a-wobble, as he slammed down the phone. 'I want go give a pint of blood!'

Another time, at Jammu where we needed hot-water bottles and could see the Himalayas from the bedroom windows of the Hotel Asia, two nights running 'Ernie Embers' tried to ring his Suzie in Melbourne. Both times he was told 'Suzie is out at the cafe with Kurt.' Embers felt hurt about Kurt. Third night of calling, the same answer.' Are you sure that's Melbourne whatever-the-number was?' asked Emburey.' Oh no,' said the voice, 'this is not Australia, this is Maubendorf, *Austria*.'

From Bombay one Test match day, I was connected, for once on a surprisingly good line, to the *Guardian's* copy takers in London, dictated my breathless, deathless, acres of Waffle, hung up and went out to scrounge a drink. Next morning, that estimable paper, *The Hindu*, was delivered with breakfast. It carried my report, word for word. I rang the *Guardian* in a panic. Had they got my stuff yesterday? 'Sure,' they said, 'best and most literate piece you've done all tour—and we presume it was a bit of a crossed-wire so scrubbed out the byline "K.N. Prabhu of *The Hindu*", right?'

Right. It was time to move on; and tend to the rugby; as well as those roses.

Ian Botham's mauling of the Central Zone will not be forgotten: 122 off 48 balls



Botham, the Baron of Beefy bazooka'd 122 against Central Zone in 48 minutes and off 48 balls, having blocked 11 of the first 14 balls he received. When Botham posted his century, Gatting, at the other end, had generously scored three solitary singles.

SPORTING CALENDAR FOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
5 Final of 1st leg, Satellite Circuit Tennis (Bombay). Australia vs India, 3rd Test (Sydney); 3rd Calcutta Car Rally for the Bijoy (Calcutta); Senior National Volleyball, Men's and Women's (Calicut).	**6** 2nd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis (Pune): Australia vs India, 3rd Test (Sydney); Sr. Natl Volleyball Men's and Women's.	**7** 2nd leg, Satellite Circuit Tennis (Pune): Sr. Natl Volleyball Men's and Women's (Calicut).	**8** 2nd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis (Pune); Sr. Natl Volleyball Men's and Women's (Calicut); Calcutta Football quarter-final; South Zone vs Central Zone (Bombay); Senior Natl Badminton Meet (Goa).
12 2nd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis(Pune); Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket, Australia vs West Indies (Brisbane); 11th Junior Inter-State Athletics (Kolar); African Nations Cup Football (Senegal).	**13** Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta); 3rd leg, Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin); 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey, 'Pool B' Kenya vs USSR, Pool A' India vs Korea (Delhi); Rajiv Gandhi Int. Football U-21 (Jamshedpur); 11th Junior Inter-State Table Tennis Chps (Bombay).	**14** Australia vs India Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket (Sydney, D/N); Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta); 3rd leg, Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin); 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey, (Pool 'A' India vs China (Pool 'B') Japan vs New Zealand (Delhi); Rajiv Gandhi U-21 Football (Jamshedpur); 11th Junior Inter-State Athletics (Kolar).	**15** Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta); 3rd leg, Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin); 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey, (Pool 'B') Japan vs Kenya; USSR vs New Zealand, (Pool 'A') Korea vs Poland (Delhi); Rajiv Gandhi U-21 Football (Jamshedpur); African Nations' Cup Football (Senegal); 43rd Senior National and Inter-State Table Tennis Chips (Bombay).
19 3rd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin); Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta); 53rd Senior Natl and Inter-State Table Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Africa Nations' Cup Football (Senegal); European Nations' Cup Table Tennis (Germany; 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey Final (Delhi).	**20** Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket, Second Final (Melbourne, D/N); New Zealand vs England 1st Test (Christchurch); Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta); 53rd Senior Natl and Inter-State Table Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Africa Nations' Cup Football (Senegal); Satellite Masters Tennis Chps. (Indore).	**21** New Zealand vs England 1st Test (Christchurch); African Nations' Cup Football (Senegal); 53rd Senior Natl and Inter-State Table Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Satellite Masters Tennis Chps. (Indore).	**22** [illegible]
26 Australia vs India 4th Test (Adelaide); Satellite Masters Tennis Final (Indore); Junior National Heptagonal Meet at Lucknow; Australian Open Tennis, Men's Singles Final (Melbourne); African Nations' Cup Football (Senegal); Asian Championships Women's Squash (Bombay).	**27** Australia vs India 4th Test (Adelaide); Senior National Tennis Championships (Bangalore); Junior National Heptagonal Meet at Lucknow; Asian Championships Women's Squash (Bombay).	**28**	

JANUARY '92

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4
9 Wills Int. Golf, Bombay. Grand Slam Tennis (Pune). Sr. Nat. Volleyball, Men's and Women's (Calicut). Duleep Trophy matches: East Zone vs Central Zone (Bombay). Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket: Australia vs West Indies (Melbourne, D/N). Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa).	10 Sr. Nat. Table Tennis Championship (Bombay). Sr. Nat. Volleyball, Men's and Women's (Calicut). Duleep Trophy matches: South Zone vs West Zone (Bombay). Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa).	11 Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa). Inter-State Basketball Championships (Jullundur). Inter-State Hockey Championships (Delhi). Rajiv Gandhi International Nat. Football Tournament, Under-21 (Jamshedpur). Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket: India vs West Indies (Brisbane).
16 India vs West Indies, Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket (Melbourne D/N). Goodricke International Tournament (Calcutta). 3rd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin). Rajiv Gandhi U-21 Football (Jamshedpur). African Nations' Cup Football (Senegal). 53rd Senior Nat. Chps. (Bombay).	17 Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). Rajiv Gandhi U-21 Football (Jamshedpur). Sr. Nat. Table Tennis Championship (Bombay). Duleep Trophy matches: North Zone vs West Zone (Delhi). Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa).	18 Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket: Final Final (Melbourne D/N). 3rd leg Satellite Circuit Tennis (Cochin). African Nations' Cup Football (Senegal). European Nations' Cup Table Tennis (Germany). Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). 53rd Senior Nat. and Inter-State Table Tennis Chps. (Bombay).
23 Inter-Zonal Tennis (Pune). Sr. Nat. Volleyball, Men's and Women's (Calicut). Duleep Trophy matches: East Zone vs North Zone (Bombay). Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa).	24 Inter-Zonal Tennis (Pune). Sr. Nat. Volleyball, Men's and Women's (Calicut). Duleep Trophy matches: West Zone vs South Zone (Bombay). Goodricke International Chess Tournament (Calcutta). Sr. Nat. Badminton Chps. (Goa).	25 Australia vs India, 4th Test (Adelaide). Inter-State Basketball Championships (Madras). Junior Nat. Athletics Championships (Delhi). Inter-State Women's Hockey Championships (Delhi). Rajiv Gandhi International Nat. Football Tournament, Under-21 (Jamshedpur).
30	31	

OTHER EVENTS

Wills Western Indian Open, Golf Bombay, Jan. 8 to 11.

Australian Open Tennis, Jan. 14 to 26 at Melbourne.

Asian Championships Squash (Men), Jan. 15 to 25 at Peshawar.

Duleep Trophy, from January 8 to 28 in the West Zone (dates and venues to be decided).

TELEVISION

Live telecast of India's matches in the Benson and Hedges, World Series Cricket (for details see Calendar).

Live telecast of singles final of 53rd Senior National Table Tennis Championship at Bombay, Jan. 21

Live telecast of final of 1st leg of Satellite Circuit Tennis, Bombay, Jan. 5.

Live telecast of final of 2nd leg of Satellite Circuit Tennis, Pune, Jan. 12.

Live telecast of final of Rajiv Gandhi International, under-21 Football, Jamshedpur, Jan. 17.

Live telecast of India's matches in 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey Tournament (for details see Calendar).

RADIO

Running commentary, broadcast from radio Australia of India's Test matches and Benson and Hedges World Series Cricket one-day internationals.

Running commentary, in Hindi and english, on the national network, of India's matches in the 6th Indira Gandhi International Hockey Tournament.

Running commentary in Hindi and English of India's matches in Rajiv Gandhi International U-21 Football Tournament.

Running commentary on final of Duleep Trophy.

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

Wherein lies our strength?

THE cricket in Australia proved the fact that the strength of our batting lineup is only on paper. We went there as the team with the best batting lineup but then time and time again it has crumbled under pressure. True, in a game of cricket every team has its bad days but the alarming regularity with which the Indians are crumbling leaves us with no consolation. Sheer lack of dedication, application and tenacity on part of our front line batsmen saw the Australians not even having to exert themselves in order to defeat us. It is high time the Indians shook off this lethargic attitude and become more responsible. Otherwise the days ahead of us are certainly going to be more gloomy.
SABUJ SEN,
Calcutta.

IT was really disappointing for the Indian fans to see this abysmal performance from their cricketers, Down Under. And that too it is our much fancied batsmen who let us down. When we left for Australia, batting was reportedly our strength because we had the best batting line up. Now the onus lies on our bowlers to see us out of trouble in every match. And what a wonderful job they've been doing. They are bowling well, and then getting us the runs. Srinath is one bowler who certainly impressed everyone. Here's wishing him all the best and hoping that the batting line-up gets their act together before the World Cup.
A.M. MOHD. YOUNUS,
Madras.

WITH the batting maestros just not finding their form in Australia, all hopes of it being an Indian Summer Down Under have been washed away. One thought that this series would be an interesting one but the matches so far have not impressed. In the circumstances it is imperative that the batting-order apply themselves more to the job and get back the confidence and motivation that these losses have taken away from them. Here's hoping that they will rise to the occasion and prove that Indian cricket is still a force to reckon with.
SRINIVAS NYAPATHY.
Rajahmundry.



KAMAL JULKA

Srinath was one Indian who kept the Australians on their toes

What's life without passion?

THE amazing lifestyle of Argentine President, Carlos Menem, (What's life without risks?) in the issue dated 11-17 December made interesting reading. Other than John Major one cannot think of another head-of-state who has a passion for sport. It is no wonder then that the Argentinian soccer team remains one of the best in the world.
ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack.

Back from the cold

IF the Indian batsmen were so badly exposed in Australia it was only because of some superb bowling spells from Craig McDermott. He is one bowler who has the nippy pace and at the same time can vary his balls to outplay the batsmen. And to think that just a couple of summers ago all cricket lovers had written him off, but his performances after he came back on the scene were as inspired as his game before. It seems like he had never left the cricketing arena.

If someone exemplifies the 'never-say-die' attitude it is McDermott. The Indian cricketers could certainly take a lesson or two from him on what tenacity is all about. Keep going McDermott. Show to the world that you are far from finished.
SUNEETHA. G. V
Bangalore.

The poster photograph of Kapil Dev in this issue is by Bindu Arora

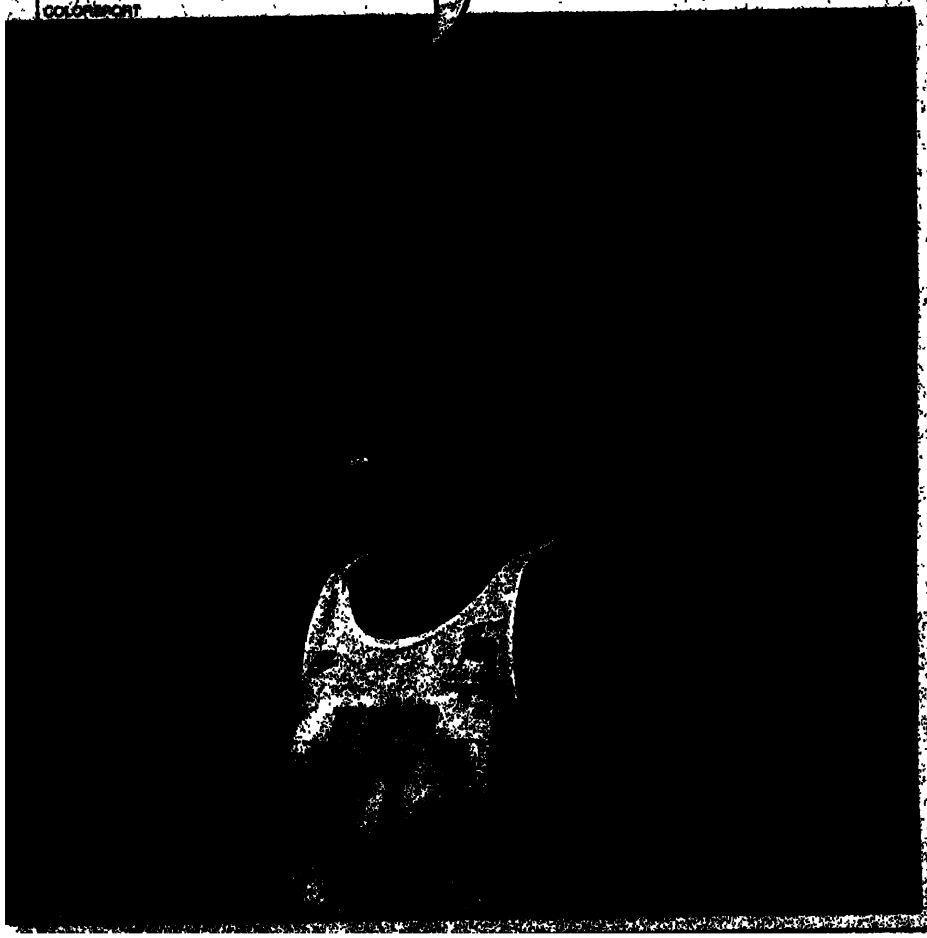
Voices

Some men can't come to terms with a muscular woman. It is something within themselves and they can't cope with it. It is all right for men to be narcissistic, muscular, fit and healthy — that is masculine, but to some chauvinistic men it is unacceptable in a woman.
FATIMA WHITBREAD, ace British javelin thrower who awaits an operation on her shoulder that will decide her career's duration, reminiscences about the sexist attitudes that she has faced in the arena of sport.

IT'S a major title, but of course it is no comparison to Wimbledon. I don't think this money is going to change my life.
DAVID WHEATON after winning $ 2 million for the Grand Slam Cup. This incidentally is the richest purse in tennis.

I'M back now. I feel like I just chewed my first piece of bubble gum. There's no doubt I'll get my title shot. I'm closing every door.
Heavyweight contender GEORGE FOREMAN is full of fire after his win against journeyman Jimmy Ellis.





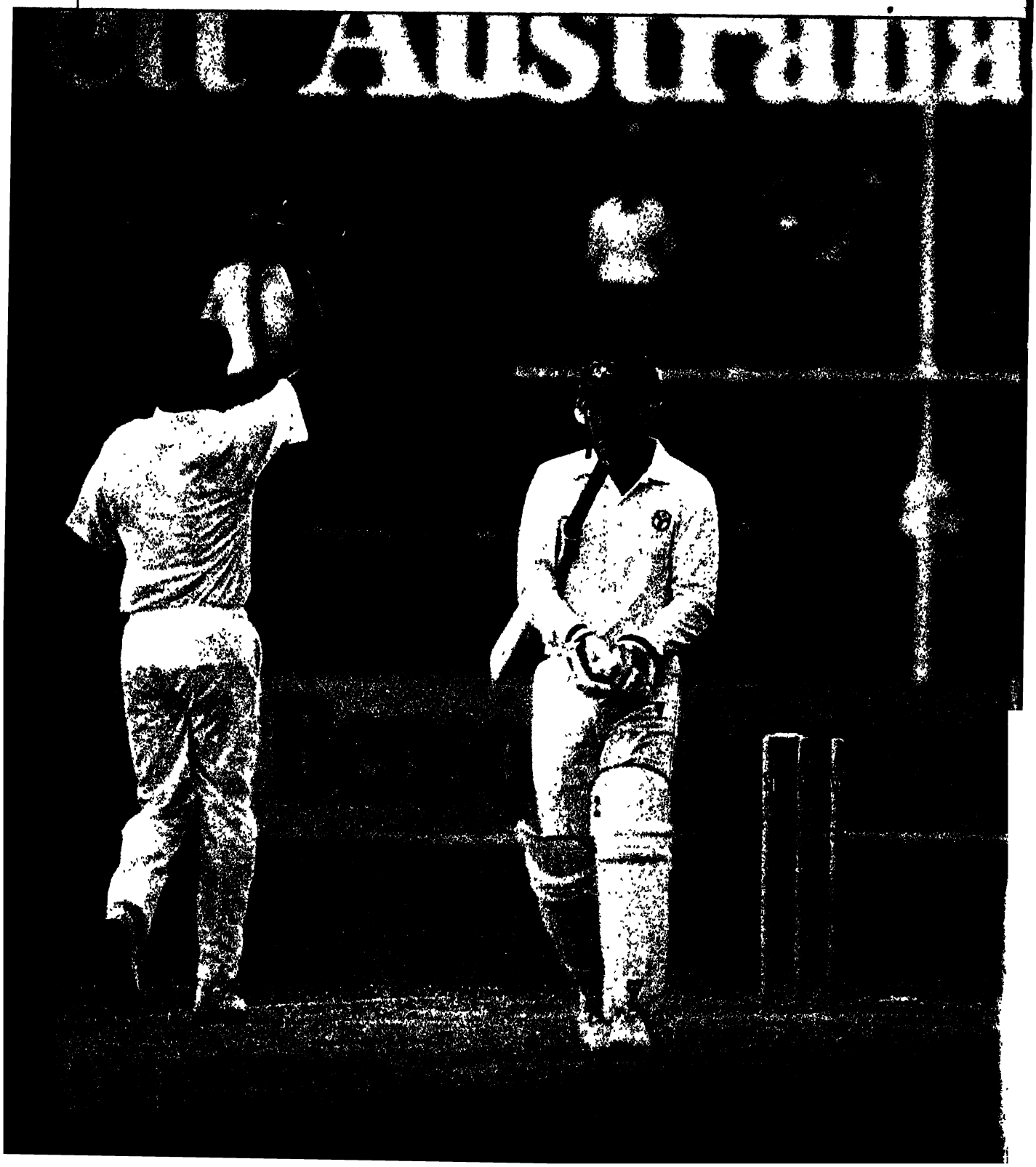
WHEN I play tournaments it's almost like a rest compared to what I do physically in training.
IVAN LENDL on the torturous physical regimen that keeps age at bay.

HE'LL probably have a lot of motivation because he's been on top for so long. But I'm looking forward to the challenge. I want to hold the world record. And my main focus next year is the Olympics. I've been his rival for 15 years. He's been mine for only three months.
Long jump king MIKE POWELL acknowledges that though Carl Lewis is over 30, he still remains his main contender and renews the challenge for the Olympics that was given to Lewis at Tokyo.

FOCUS

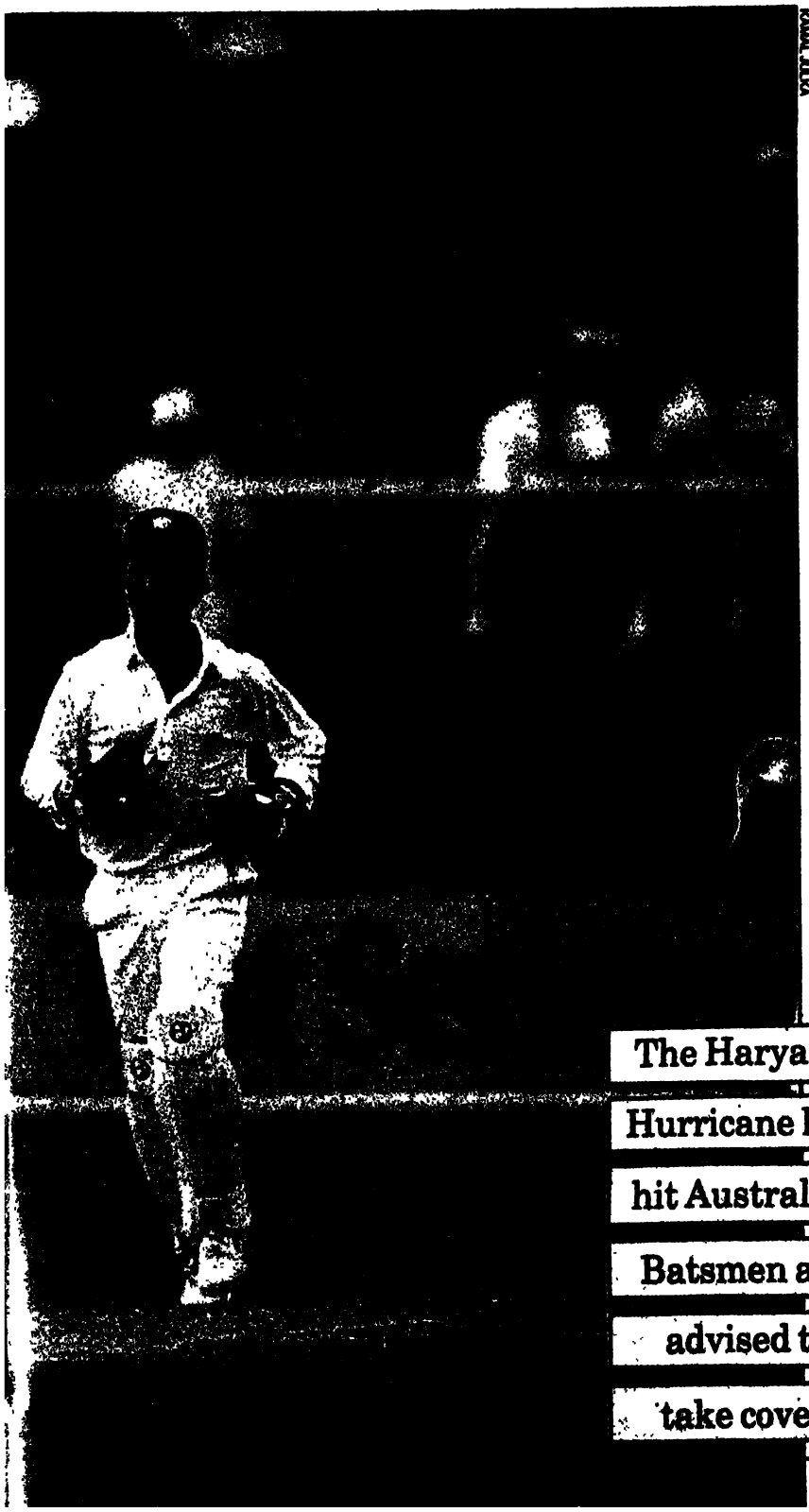
KAPIL DEV

STORM WA



BY HARSHA BHOGLE, BRISBANE

RNING!


KAMAL KISHORE

The Haryana Hurricane has hit Australia. Batsmen are advised to take cover

PATRICK EAGER



Brisbane, December 1. Dean Jones b Kapil Dev 0,
Perth, December 6. Haynes c More b Kapil Dev 0;
Adelaide, December 15. Boon b Kapil Dev 6.

Add to that the Ranji Trophy win, where he bowled beautifully on a dead wicket and in unbearable conditions. And the Irani Trophy, also resting in the Haryana Cricket Association's showcase. And becoming the first bowler to get 200 wickets in one-day cricket. And reaching 380 wickets (at the time of writing). And batting as well as he would like to.

PRESENTING Kapil Dev Model '91.

1991: a year that Kapil Dev would want to preserve forever? Keep pages from the calendar for posterity? Not quite. "When you have played for almost 15 years, every year is like another. But I am very proud of the Ranji Trophy and the Irani Trophy

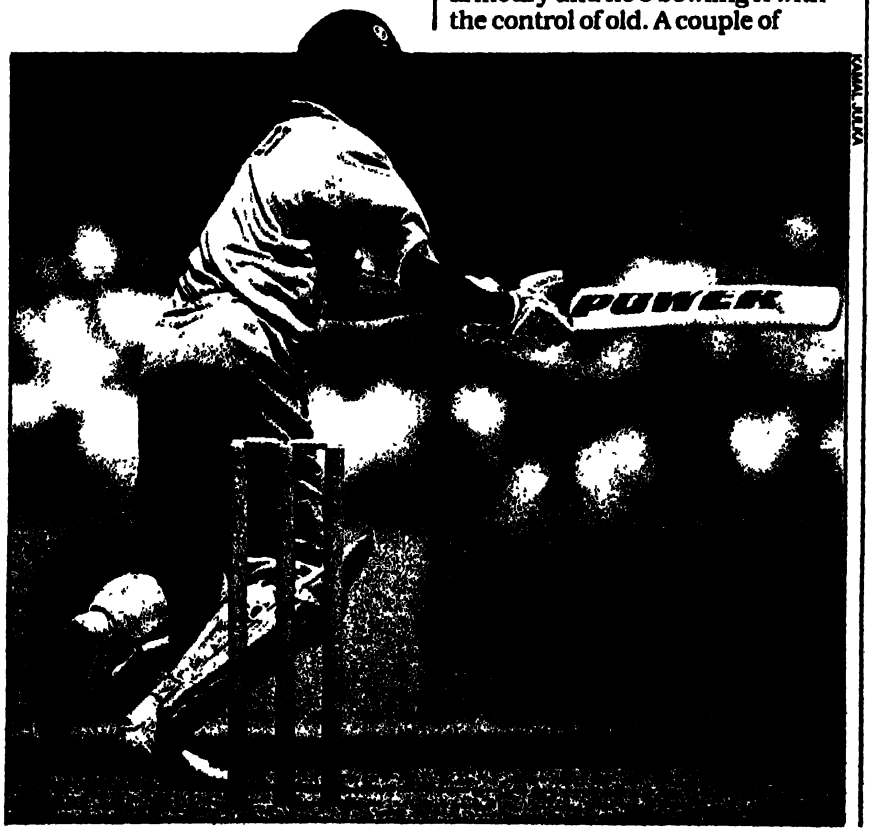
because Haryana is such a small state and does not produce too many cricketers. It's a great feeling because those boys know what it is to win now. But what I would like to remember 1991 by is that it was one more year that I went through without having to miss a Test or a one-day international. As you start growing older these things start meaning more to you."

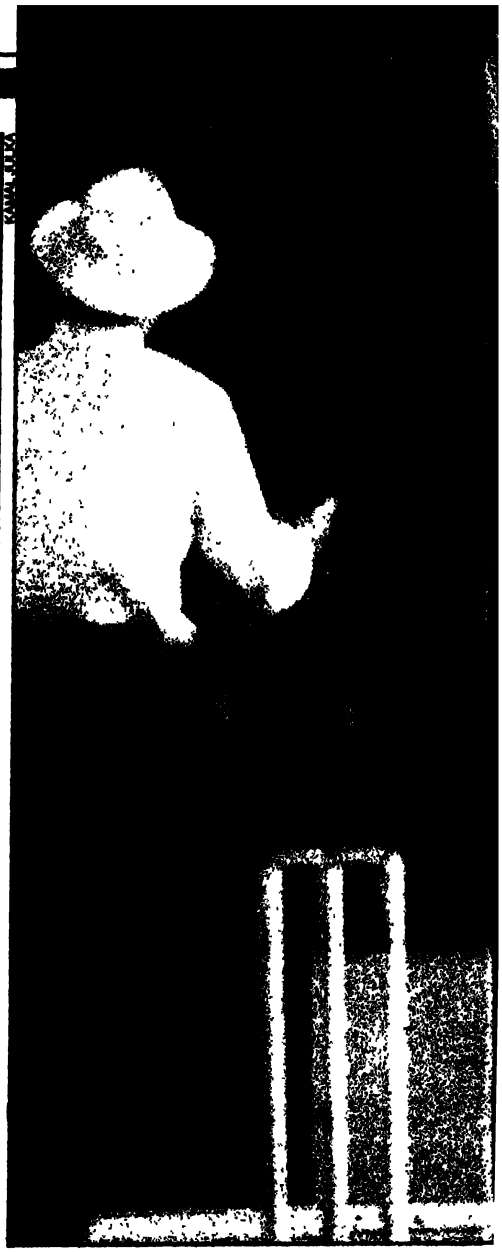
Indeed, Kapil Dev's fitness record has been one of the most enviable in the history of Test cricket. 111 matches and over 175 one-day internationals without having to miss any on grounds of fitness. It's a record he hopes to carry into the next couple of years. "My only goal, if you want to put it that way, is to continue with this fitness record. The other things keep happening. But this is something that I want to preserve."

That seemed a bit strange because the world would have us believe that Kapil Dev dreams of wicket number 432 every night. "Oh no," he laughs. "I don't worry about it. I mean, if I am fit enough and good enough to play for India, the record has to come to me. As of now, it's not on my mind, it's only in the mind of the Press. I'm setting smaller targets. My first target is to reach 400. Then I will look at 425. After that it depends on how long my body carries me."

That body is a superb specimen so far but obviously, Kapil is hoping to have it stay that way. And he makes no secret of the fact that he would like to return to his original role of strike bowler. "I've done the donkey's work for a long time. I'm fit but I am not the guy I was eight years ago. When you bowl in 110 Tests, you don't grow younger. And now I see myself bowling in short attacking bursts. Luckily for us, Manoj is bowling well and I'm so impressed by Srinath. I only pray he maintains his fitness and speed. With these guys around I don't have to bowl all the time. Of course, it depends on how the captain wants to use me. If he thinks I am more useful to the side as a stock bowler, that is up to him. But I would prefer to be an attacking bowler from now on."

And one of his crucial weapons, the out-swinger, is back in his armoury and he's bowling it with the control of old. A couple of months ago, he had told Tiger Pataudi that he was getting his out-swinger back. Kapil explains what he meant. "With such a lot of one-day cricket, a bowler is forced to bowl defensively, bowl close to the body and as a result, you tend to bowl the incoming ball. But I'm going for the wickets now and the out-swinger is the wicket taking ball. If you think defensively, you hesitate to bowl too many out-swingers because, often, even a good out-swinger can be called a wide. But today, I don't mind





111 Tests and 175 one-day internationals. Fitness has never been Kapil's problem



bowling it even if it is called wide occasionally. And I have probably bowled more wides in the last 15 games than I had in the previous 40."

This has also coincided with some excellent first spells and almost invariably they have produced a wicket. In any case, they're more economical. Kapil believes it has a bit to do with his wicket-taking ball. "When a batsman knows that ball is coming, he won't take chances. So you see wicket-taking and economy are related issues in one-day cricket."

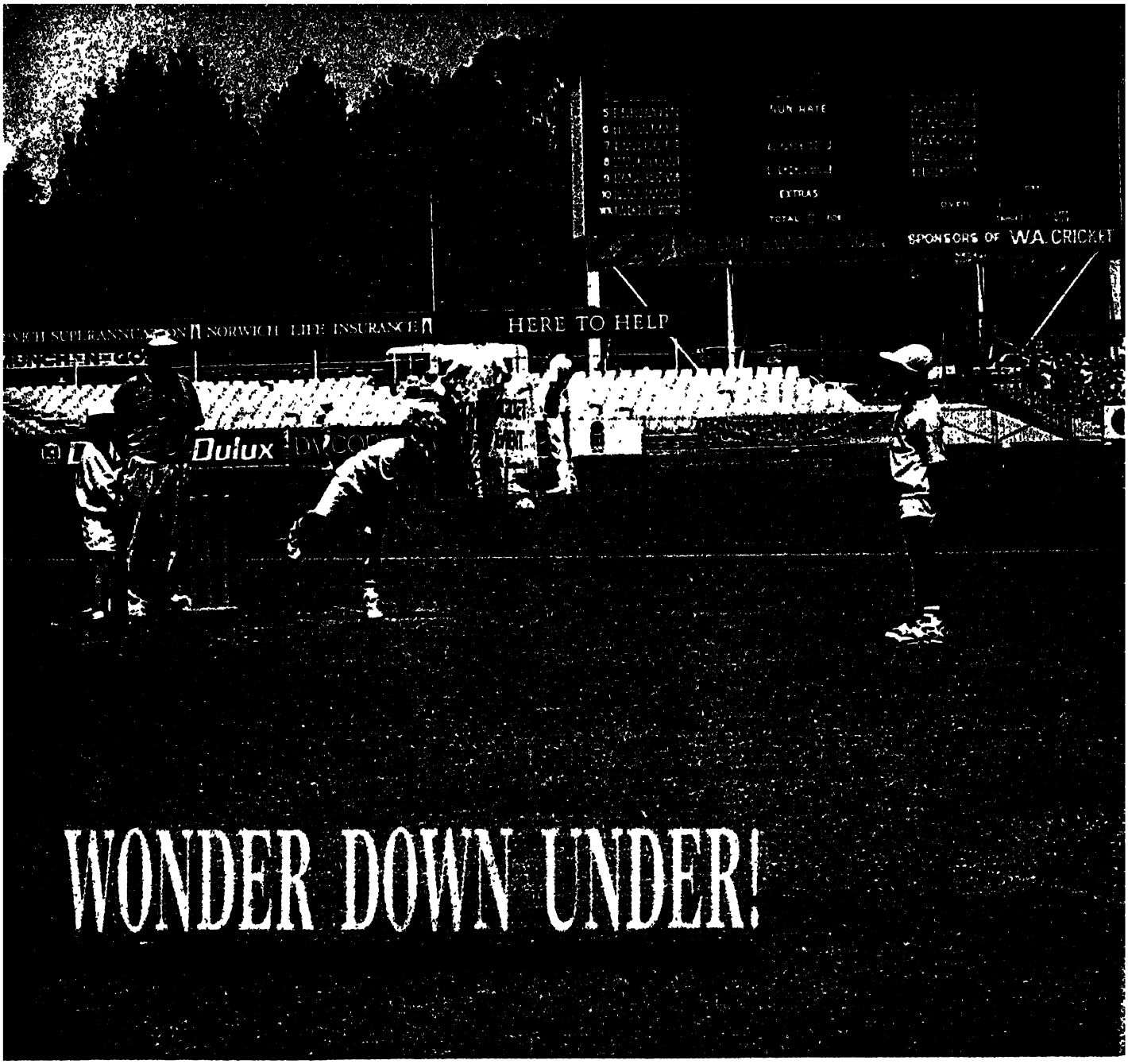
Kapil also believes that, with an eye to the future, the youngsters should now start taking over some of the pressure situations. "They have to learn to bowl in these situations. That is why I am bowling longer first spells these days."

"1991 was one more year that I went through without having to miss a Test or a one-day international. As you start growing older these things start meaning more to you."

What does he see in the future? What does 1992 hold for him?

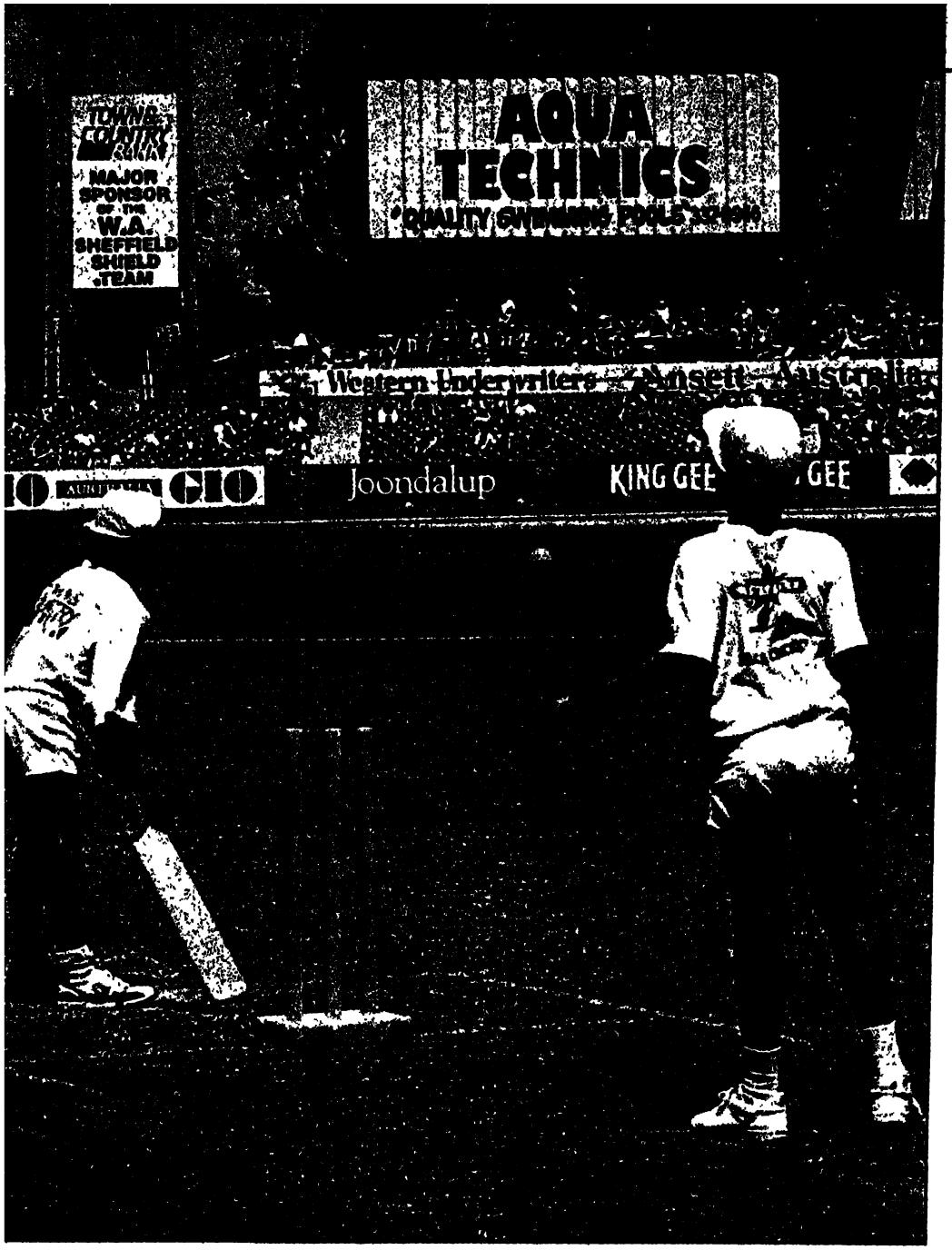
"Luckily, there is more international cricket this year than in 1991. And hopefully, it will be on better wickets. Like we are getting here in Australia. The wickets are doing something and it is a pleasure bowling here. I think our performance here shows what Indians are capable of on receptive tracks. And I sincerely hope that for 1992, we have better, and quicker wickets back home. It will encourage quick bowlers in India and allow our batsmen to get used to these conditions instead of having to adapt after coming here."

Not quite the first appeal that, is it? ●



WONDER DOWN UNDER!





SPORTSWORLD SPEC

CRICKET in Australia is always colourful, even when youngsters took to the field during a lunch break for an impromptu game



AUSTRALIA is one place where autograph hunters have a field day because the players are easily available. (Bottom left) Mike Whitney obliges a few of his young fans and (bottom right) Dilip Vengsarkar distributes posters to children

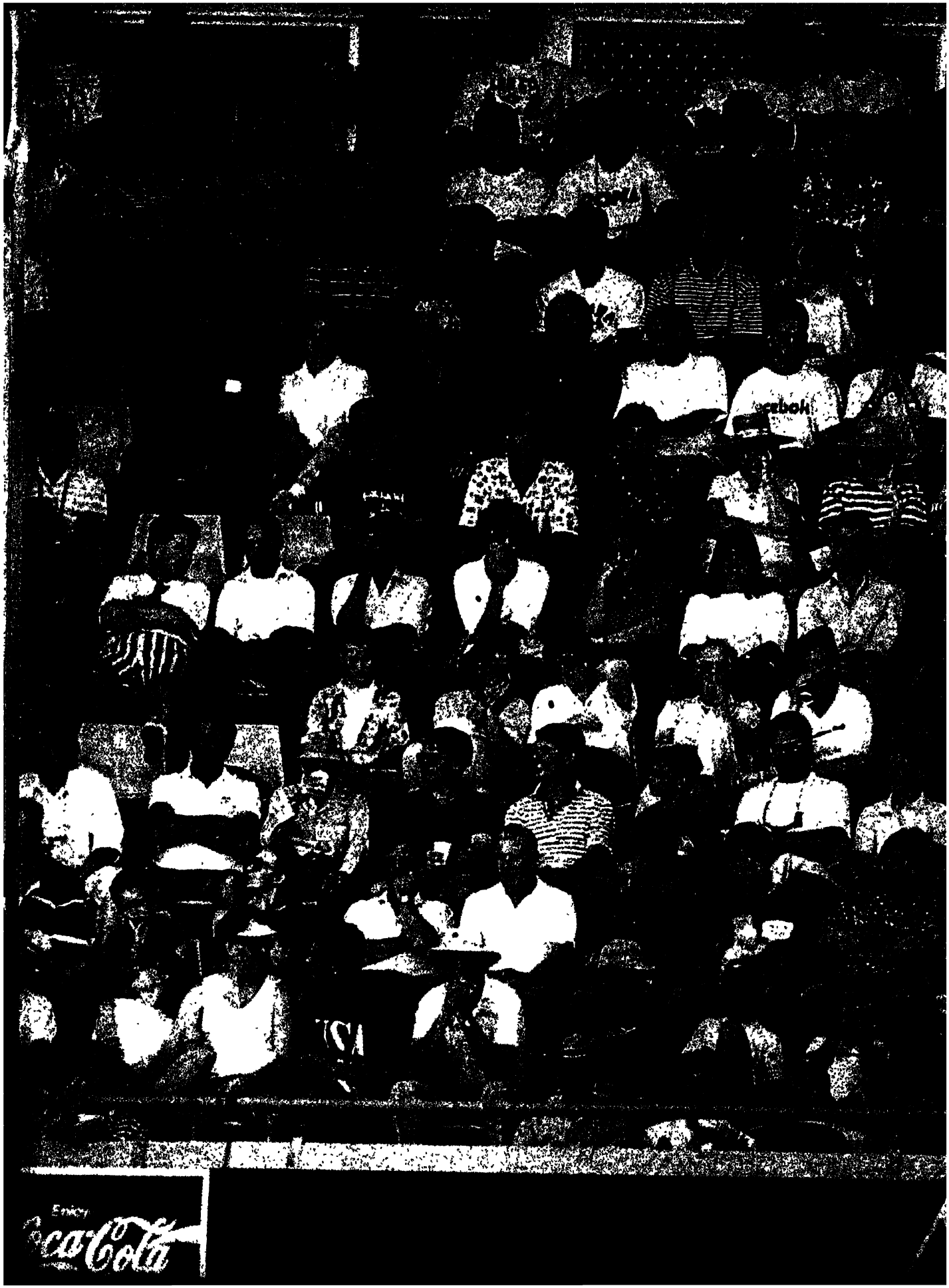


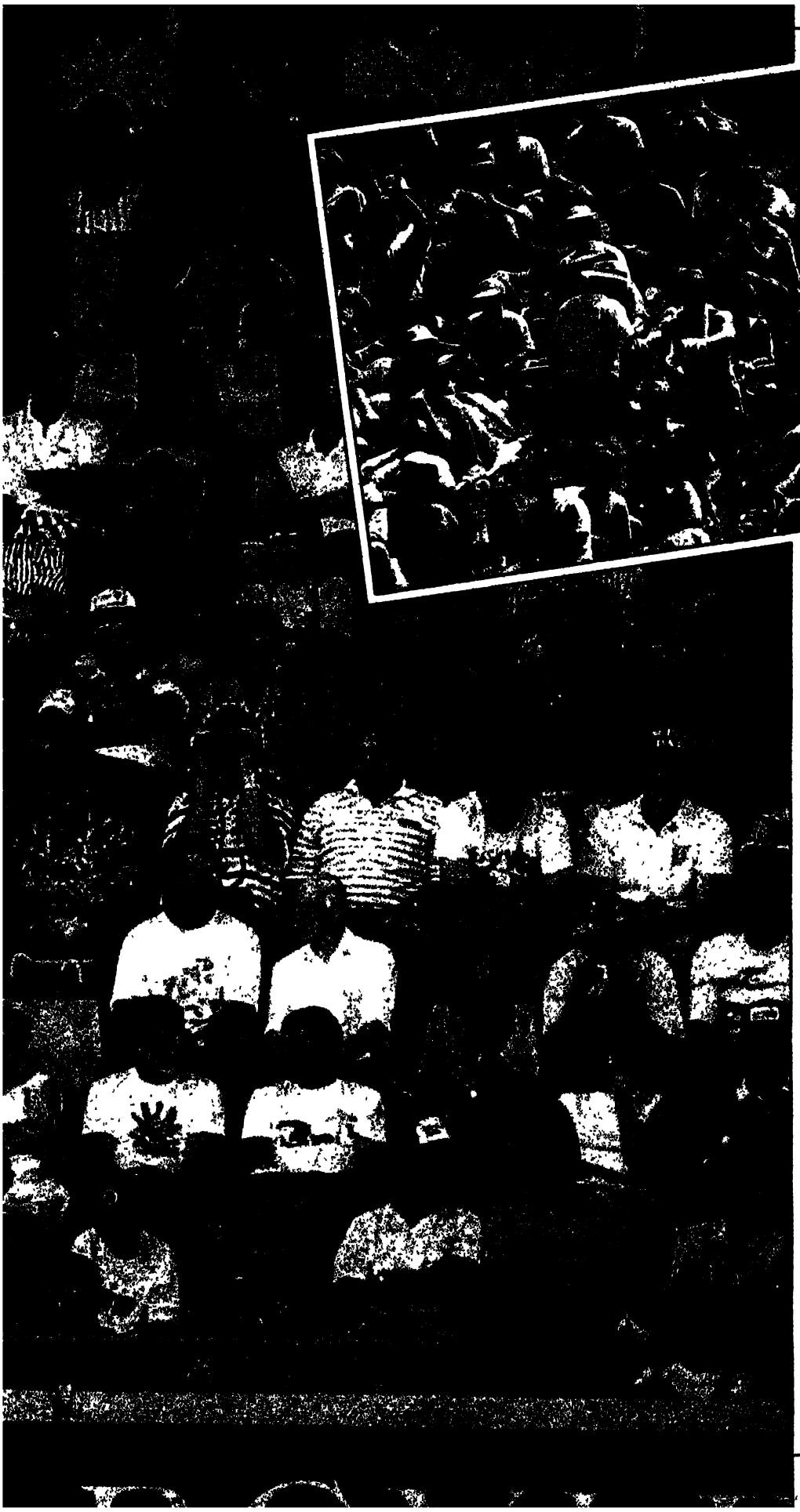


DESMOND HAYNES at times is certainly curt as this photographer found out. But then who can blame him? His team's performances were no laughing matter

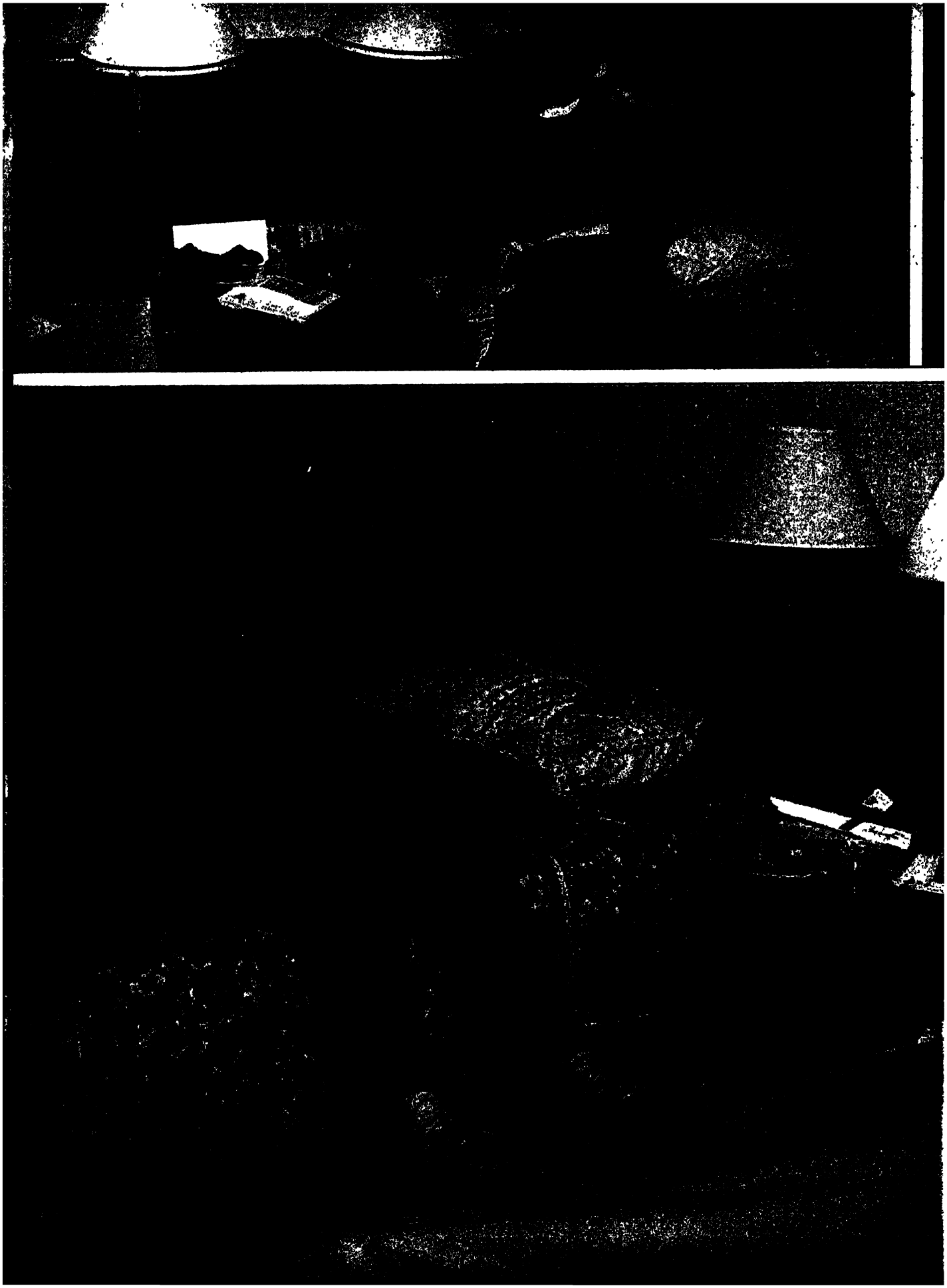


INNOVATIONS have always added to the glamour of cricket Down Under. A band entertains the spectators during the lunch break

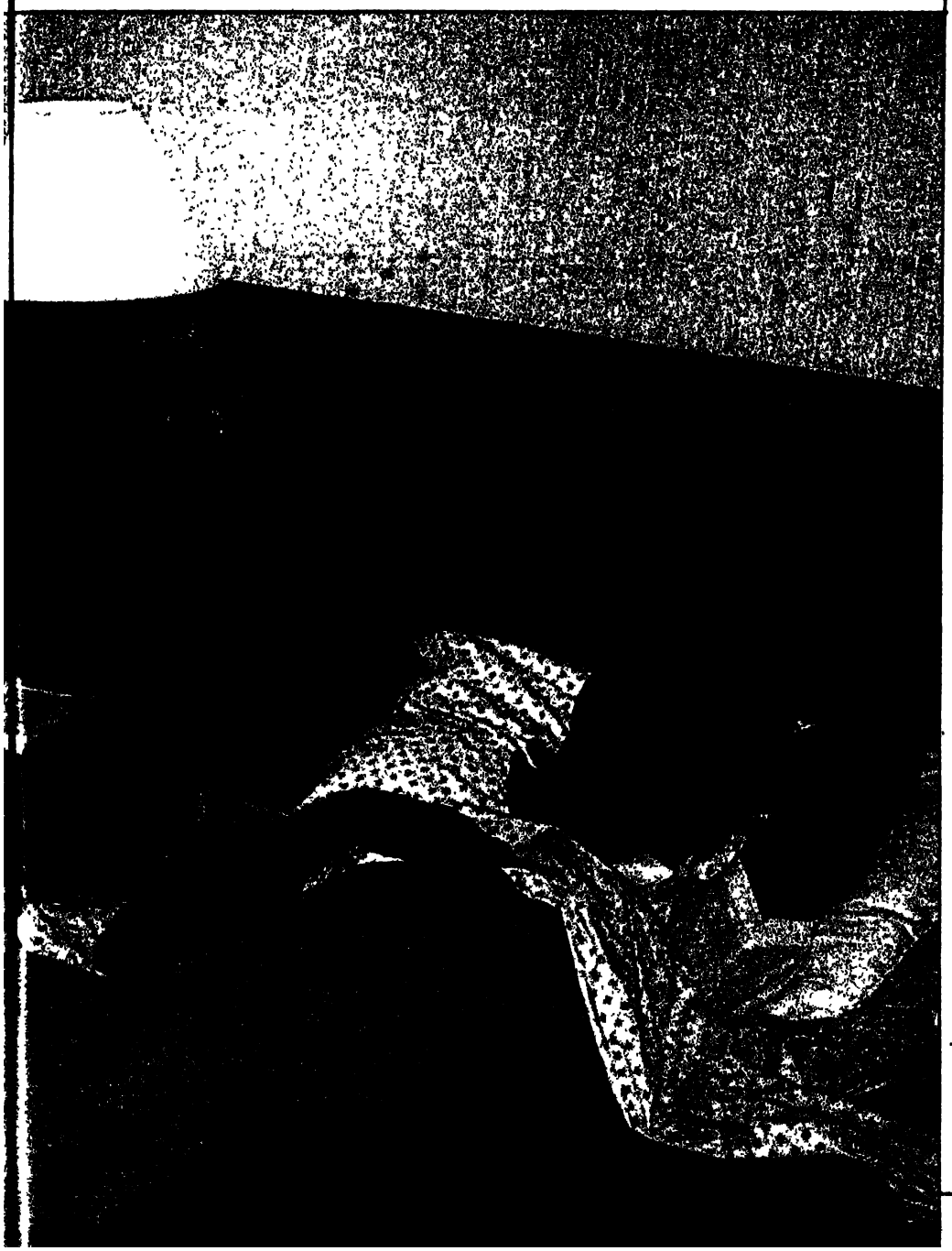

Enjoy
Coca-Cola



CRICKET season is silly season in Australia. It is also picnic time. A cricket match means hampers and beer cans (inset) but this year one actually witnessed another sight: spectators sitting in a very orderly manner. Talk about changing times, mate!







PHOTOGRAPHS: KAMAL JULKA

IT'S the season of good cheer and Subroto Banerjee muses at Christmas decorations. Banerjee's performances brought a lot of cheer to the Indian camp and (top left) he rings home to convey the good tidings

ROOMMATES Jawagal Srinath and Krishnamachari Srikkanth couldn't be more different in temperament and personality but they complement each other as do ebony and ivory on the keyboards

WILLS NATIONAL LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Take Five

Hitting his rhythm from day one, Zeeshan Ali won his fifth national tennis championships

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



LET me tell you about Enrico Piperno. He is 31 years old, in tennis terms that would suggest someone looking back at his prime, not forward. He has a wonderful wife and a five-month-old daughter and now equally adept at changing nappies as he is in swatting tennis balls. Piperno is an entertainer, a player whose jollity is a fine mask for a fertile tennis brain. But he is not an aspiring champion for those days of aspiring are quickly passing. So when Piperno-and hastily one must add, this is said without malice or disrespect to him—is seeded No. 2 at the Nationals and reaches the semi-finals, then there is something intrinsically wrong with Indian tennis. There are players in their teens and their early 20s who should be treating Piperno like a light lunch, instead he is causing them awful types of indigestion. Which is why when Rohit Reddy finally took Piperno out, with difficulty one may add (11-9 in the third) a ragged cheer of sorts

Ali playing with an icy cool, almost arrogant, confidence (and why not) strolled to his fifth national title with the ease of man working out a child's jigsaw puzzle

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



went up. Someone had finally passed the Pipemo Test.

But more of that later, the champion awaits. Syed Zeeshan Ali to be precise. With the absence of Rohit Rajpal, Leander Paes and Asif Ismail (all injured) and the inherent chasm in skills between Ali and the rest, everything pointed to lopsided encounters. Exactly what happened.

Ali, playing with an icy cool, almost arrogant, confidence (and why not) strolled to his fifth national title with the ease of a man working out a child's jigsaw puzzle, losing a scant 23 games in five matches (11 sets). Once ranked No. 127 in the world, Ali did not belong on the South Club sunshine lawns—it was almost as if he thought, "Hell, I've got a week free, let me pick up some easy money". And he did, Rs 35,500.

A confident Ali is one of the more graceful yet elusive sights in Indian tennis. Graceful because he is a sleek machine, assured in strokeplay, gliding shots effortlessly where he would like. Yet elusive is the balancing factor, for Ali's confidence is like a whimsical lover, it comes and goes, and when shaken his game betrays him.

But at the Nationals there was none of that. He beat three young hopefuls—Sandeep Kirtane, Mark Ferreira, Rohit Reddy—comprehensively, in each case not so much unearthing but exposing his opponent's limitations.

Reddy: fine attitude

—Kirtane, lacking feel and rhythm, like some hungover guitarist, won two games off Ali: a bad day at the office to be kind, but what was disheartening was his tactical naivety. With his flat hitting style not working, had Kirtane merely used topspin to keep the ball in play, he just may have rcovered some of his rhythm and a little more pride.

—Ferreira, leaner, snappier, less truculent, moves like a bird on court but has no muscle: the lack of one big shot continues to hurt him and Ali wasn't in a generous mood.

—Reddy, of whom much is to be said, was marvellously deceived by a sucession of feathery lobs by Ali, the young man's lack of inches being exploited to the full.

While Ali's savage destruction of the rest was inevitable, thus hardly stirring, the drama, and there was much praying for some, was delivered by Rohit Reddy.

Cheeks pumping air like bellows, cap rucked on his head Courier-like, sentences punctuated with 'Sir', shy schoolboy charm, and a restless spirit and a continuing courage on court. Squat, sturdy, like a muscled box he is everywhere on court. If his strokes, excluding his impeccably controlled backhand, are not overwhelming, his attitude for sure is shining.

Who dares wins, is what the Special Air Services(SAS) is all about, and so too Reddy.

While Ali's savage destruction of the rest was inevitable thus hardly stirring, the drama, and there was much praying for some, was delivered by Rohit Reddy



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Trying to Grow



Janaki Krishnamoorthy (right) with Natasha Joshi after winning the final

JANAKI KRISHNAMOORTHY wears the solemn look of a nun in thought. She hits a blinding winner, she wears that look. She hits a God awful forehand into the backdrop, she wears that look.

Then she comes off court and that solemn-nun look vanishes. She smiles, all the time, at what you say, at what you write, at what she says. And she says a lot, boy can she talk.

That has a multi-faceted explanation, but one explanation is definitely that she is a teenager. And oh yes, national women's tennis champion. So gotta smile if she's happy. But she is a grown up and knows that excited fans are to be calmed down.

Reddy plays like he looks—solid. For a backcourt boy he volleyed with alarming menace, picking some up off his shoelaces with a dexterity one would not have associated him with. His match against Piperno, where play fluctuated madly and courage was never in short measure, illuminated briefly a shadow nationals.

After snatching a soporific first set from a lethargic Piperno, Reddy grew tentative in the second, enough for Piperno to even matters. Then, madness in the third. At 1-1, 40.15 Reddy served what seemed a second serve ace. The chair umpire called, 'Game' and Reddy sat down and towelled himself off. Piperno however stayed on court, and with the linesman now saying the serve was





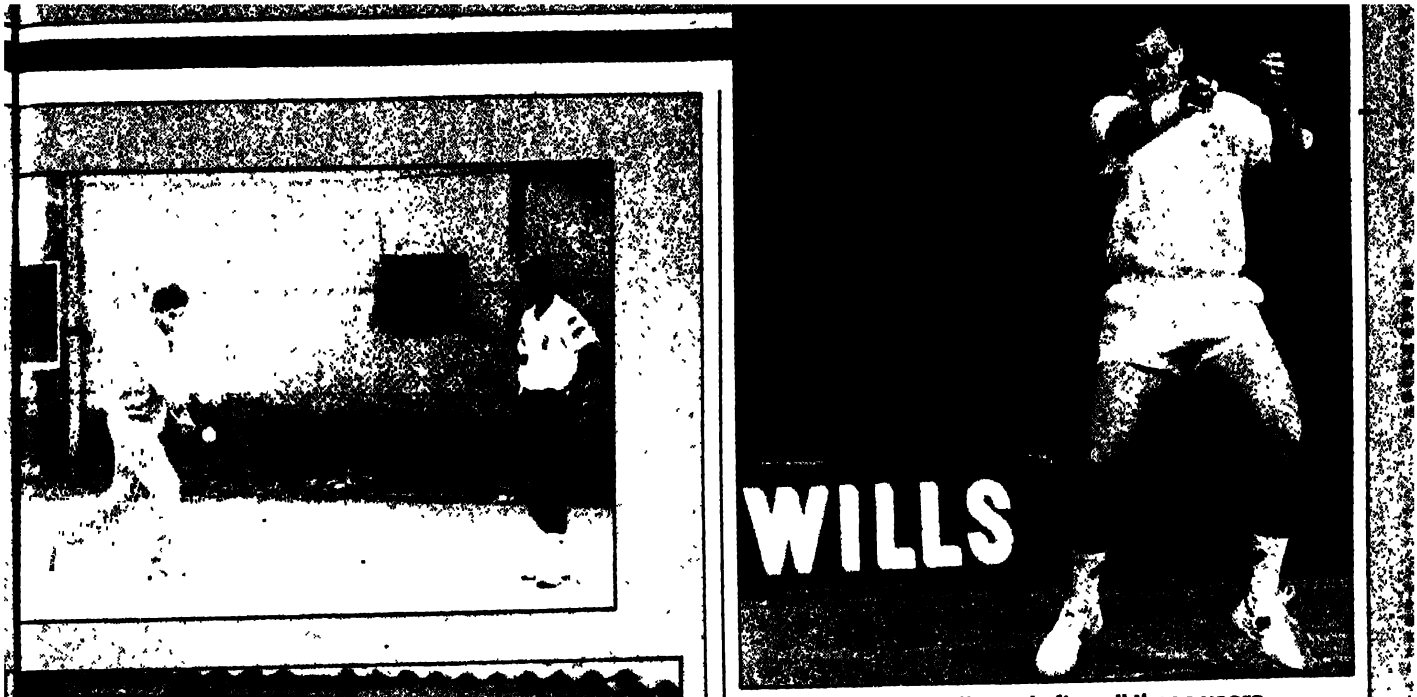




LEANDER PAES & ZEESHAN ALI

As the Nationals got over and the courts emptied out, two men stayed on—quietly, deliberately, practising, hour after hour. Bengal's best, Paes and Ali were caught by our photographer as they relaxed after a gruelling work-out. After much talking and laughing, it was racket testing time, as Ali borrowed Paes' Prince to see if he liked it. We don't know what he thought, but we'll be watching when Bengal's two Princes play doubles together on the satellite circuit

PHOTOGRAPHS: SANTOSH GHOSH



Piperno: still good after all these years



long (thus a double fault) approached the chair. The umpire, obviously intimidated, asked Reddy to get up and resume the game, and not surprisingly Reddy, his concentration shattered, was broken. Match over? Not on your life. Reddy, hitting his returns instead of pushing them, saved a match point as Piperno served at 5-4, broke back and then held his nerve to take the third set 11-9 on his third match point.

"My best win ever" beamed Reddy, yet unfortunately, though an old groin injury resurfaced ("but it did not affect me", he explained), he was unable to carry his positive state of mind into the final. While beating Ali appeared an illusion, Reddy's traumatic attack of nerves whereupon he lost the first set 0-6 was a disappointment-- the advantage of being the underdog, a significant advantage at that, appeared to have slipped his mind.

The Indian satellite in the New Year, where Indian players hopefully will be given all the wild cards, provides a perfect opportunity for Reddy to consolidate his good work—confidence breeds confidence breeds good play, and for young players like him, whose careers only threaten to take off, this could be the kick start he needed. We shall see.

If the Nationals, in a larger perspective, offered negligible pleasure, it was because we see the same players come year after year with nothing new to offer. It is almost as if the mere basics—hitting balls for a few hours each day—are being followed, without understanding it is the peripheral aspects of the game that need work. Speed work, weight training, diet control, warming up and warming down correctly, motivation, attitude—these are the truths of tennis today. Forget the old timers resigned to being journeymen; this is for the young who hope but often leave it at that.●

EXTRAS

Interesting and funny news from the cricketing world.....

●WEST INDIES opener Gordon Greenidge has effectively retired from Test cricket. The Barbadian opener, 40, was left out of the West Indian team currently touring Australia, but he was upset to learn of his omission—and the selectors' new youth policy—from the Press. Greenidge said that he does not want to play any further matches under the auspices of the West Indies Cricket Board. In his 108 Tests, Greenidge scored 7558 runs (44.72), a number exceeded only by Vivian Richards and Garry Sobers among West Indians. He scored 19 Test centuries, the first of them (107) in his maiden Test appearance, against India at Bangalore in 1974-75. At Lord's in 1984, his 214 not out guided West Indies to an improbable nine-wicket victory, but the highest of his four Test double-centuries—226—came as recently as last April, against Australia in his native Barbados. That innings ensured his place for the 1991 tour of England—his fifth—but a serious knee injury early in the tour kept him out of the Test series. Greenidge, who holds the West Indian first-wicket partnership records against all their opponents, had many successful seasons for Hampshire, opening in his early days with South African star Barry Richards.

●*Batsman Phil Robinson, 28, who asked to be released by Yorkshire at the end of last season, has not been able to find a new county. The problem lies with a TCCB regulation—which prevents counties from recruiting more than two 'contested' signings in a five-year period. Robinson, who has a career batting average of 35.85, has asked Yorkshire to re-classify his registration as 'non-contested.'*

●Windsor Castle came under attack when Ian Botham opened a shopping centre at Slough recently. A giant helium-filled balloon, in the shape of a cricket ball, came loose from its moorings and drifted towards Windsor Castle before veering away from the Royal residence at the last minute. 'Luckily it was an out-swinger,' commented one of the castle groundsmen.

●*The United Cricket Board of South Africa has indicated that only players holding the Cricket Council's advanced coaching badge will be invited to coach there in future.*

●The Australian Cricket Board has asked Channel 9 to stop screening a commercial, promoting the World Series Cup, which features the 'sledging' incident between Ian Healy and Desmond Haynes from the Bridgetown Test last April.

●*Larry Gomes, 38, who scored 3171 runs in 60 Tests for West Indies, stood as the National Alliance for Reconstruction party's candidate for the Arima seat in Trinidad's general election.*

●Wayne Phillips (121) and Dean Jones (214)



Gordon Greenidge calls it a day

added 302 for the second wicket, a Victorian record against South Australia, at Melbourne in November. It was the second double century of the season for Jones, who passed a career aggregate of 10,000 first-class runs during his innings. Later in the match SA's new captain Jamie Siddons—a Victorian player himself until this season—had a cheekbone fractured by a Merv Hughes bouncer. To add insult to injury, Siddons collapsed onto his stumps to be out for a first-ball duck. Victorian captain Simon O'Donnell called for doctors to be present at all Australian first-class matches: Siddons had to wait more than 30 minutes for medical attention to arrive.

● Warwickshire are to undertake a two-week pre-season tour of South Africa, where they will be based in Cape Town, the winter home of their coach Bob Woolmer.

● *Former South African Test offspinner John Traicos, now 44, has been named in a preliminary 20-man squad from which Zimbabwe's final World Cup team of 14 will be chosen.*



TOMMY HINDLEY



PATRICK EAGER

David Gower announces his engagement

● Alan Ramage, 34, who played for Yorkshire as a fast bowler in 23 matches between 1979-83, has been jailed for six months for accepting bribes and favours from corrupt Scarborough antiques dealer John Walsh. Walsh, who was jailed for seven years, handled goods worth £1.25 million stolen in violent raids on country houses in the north of England. Ramage was one of 30 people who lied in court in attempts to protect Walsh.

● *Newcomers Durham will start their County Championship career with a home match at the Durham University ground against Leicestershire on April 25. This will be preceded by their first Sunday league match, against Lancashire on April 19. Durham's other county matches will be played at Chester-le-Street, Darlington, Gateshead Fell, Hartlepool and Stockton. Cricket's newest first-class county has already attracted nearly 3000 members.*

● Durham have confirmed that Simon Hughes, the 32-year-old Middlesex medium-pacer, will be joining them for the new season. Director of



Ian Botham has a narrow escape

cricket Geoff Cook completed his squad of 22 by signing the former Worcestershire fast bowler Steve McEwan, 29. Durham's players will have a chance to get to know each other during a month-long preseason tour of Zimbabwe.

● *Former Australian wicketkeeper Tim Zoehrer handed his pads and gloves to team-mate Mike Veletta during the WA-SA Shield match at Adelaide, and proceeded to take 5 for 58 from 22 overs of legspin. Zoehrer, 30, added two more wickets in the second innings.*

● Ashraf-ul-Haq, the Bangladeshi delegate at the recent ICC meeting in Sharjah at which South Africa were admitted to the World Cup, was badly injured in a car crash shortly after the meeting. His wife, Sabira, was killed in the accident.

● *Hampshire and England batsman David Gower has announced his engagement to girlfriend Thorrun Nash.*

● The Wills Cup, Pakistan's national one-day competition, had a confusing ending when Habib Bank were awarded victory when PIA failed to bowl their overs in the allotted time. PIA scored 234 for 8 in 43 overs (Shoaib Mohammad 74, Man of the Match Zahid Fazal 82, Akram Raza 4 for 50), to which Habib Bank replied with 214 for 5 in 39 overs)Aamer Sohail 53, Ijaz Ahmed 71, Salim Malik 44). Habib Bank were awarded 10 penalty runs for each of the unbowled overs, taking their score to 254 and earning them victory.

Merv Hughes' lethal attack





●*Dennis Lillee and Graham McKenzie, who between them took 601 Test wickets for Australia, played for an Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI at Perth in the first match of India's tour. Lillee, now 42, took one wicket, while 50-year-old McKenzie dismissed Ravi Shastri and Sanjay Manjrekar. Lillee's former new-ball partner Jeff Thomson, now Queensland's coach, also made a return to 'big' cricket: he fielded as substitute during the Sheffield Shield match against SA at Brisbane.*

●Lancashire have signed 21-year-old fast bowler Steven Jack as their overseas player for 1992. Jack, who plays for Transvaal is a short-term replacement for Wasim Akram, who will be touring with Pakistan. Surrey, too, are expected to sign a South African stopage for a Pakistani fast bowler: 26-year-old Craig Matthews of Western Province, who played in the recent historic series in India, is expected to replace Waqar Younis at The Oval. Surrey moved for Matthews after the TCCB refused to allow them to sign Ezra Moseley, the West Indian fast bowler, because he has already played county cricket (for Glamorgan). ●

Larry Gomes stands for election



VITAL

1991 CRICKET MILESTONES I

* Kapil Dev Nikhanj became the second Indian and the fifth bowler in the world after Jalaluddin [Pakistan Vs. Australia, Hyderabad, 1982-83], Bruce Reid [Australia Vs. New Zealand, Sydney, 1985-86], Chetan Sharma [India Vs. New Zealand, Nagpur, 1987] and Wasim Akram (Twice) [Pakistan Vs. West Indies, Sharjah, 1989-90 and Pakistan Vs. Australia, Sharjah, 89-90] to achieve a hattrick in one-day Internationals in the final match of the fourth Asia Cup cricket on January 4 at the Eden Gardens.

Kapil Dev also became the first bowler in the world to capture 200 wickets in limited overs cricket by dismissing Winston Benjamin in the match between India and the West Indies on October 22, 1991 during the Sharjah Wills Trophy. Incidentally, it was Kapil's 166th one-day match.



Kapil Dev has also become the highest combined wicket taker in international cricket following his two wicket haul in the Benson and Hedges World Series Cup first match against West Indies, by claiming Richie Richardson in Perth on December 6, 1991. Kapil's tally of wickets reached 590 on that day (210 wickets in one day Internationals and 380 in Test cricket) and it surpassed Sir Richard Hadlee's 589 wickets (158 in limited overs cricket and 431 in Test cricket.

Kapil also became the second highest wicket taker in Test cricket along with Ian Botham of England (380 wickets) on the third day of the first Test between India and Australia in Brisbane on December 1, 1991.

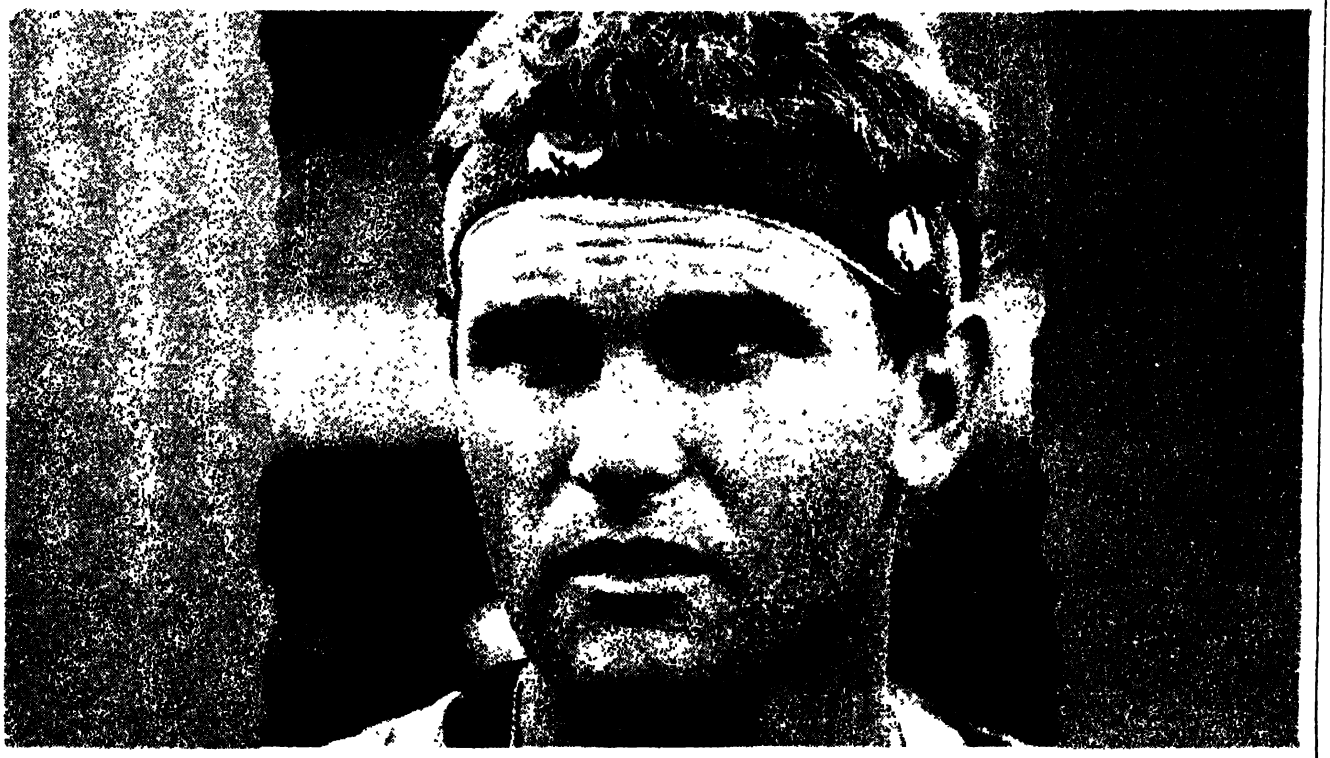
COMPILED BY HARI PRASAD CHATTOPADHYAY

STATS!

TESTS AND ONE DAY INTERNATIONALS

* Martin Crowe and Andrew Jones of New Zealand posted a world record partnership for any wicket in Test cricket by scoring 467 runs for the third wicket in the second innings of the first Test at Wellington, during the three Test series against Sri Lanka. The partnership, in which both players made career best scores, was the highest in the history of Test cricket. Martin Crowe was out off the last ball of the match for 299 and Andrew Jones dismissed an hour earlier for 186, beat the previous best Test partnership of 451 runs.

Australian batsman Bill Ponsford (266) and Sir Don Bradman (244) added 451 runs for the second wicket against England in 1934 at The Oval. 48 years later, Pakistanis Mudassar Nazar (231) and Javed Miandad (280*) equalled that record by scoring the same runs for the third wicket against India at Hyderabad (Sind) in 1982-83)



* The innings of 299 by Martin Crowe in Wellington set New Zealand's highest individual innings record, outstripping the 259 scored by Glenn Turner against West Indies in Georgetown during the 1971-72 series.

Sri Lankan captain Aravinda De' Silva in the first innings of the same Test scored 267 runs and thus surpassed Brendon Kuruppu's earlier record off 201*, made against New Zealand in the 1987 Colombo Test.

* Rumesh Ratnayake became the highest wicket taker for Sri Lanka in Test cricket by surpassing Asantha De Mel's 59 wickets in 17 Tests. Ratnayake captured five wickets in the first innings of the second Test against New Zealand at Hamilton in the three Test series, 1991 (February-March). These five wickets took his tally to 61 in 18 Tests.
* New Zealand wicket keeper Ian Smith equalled the world record of seven Test dismissals in an innings, in the second Test at Hamilton against Sri Lanka in February, 1991. Graeme Labrooy, was

Smith s seventh victim Smith equalled the record set by Pakistan s Wasim Bari against New Zealand in Auckland and England s Bob Taylor against India in Bombay in the 1980 Golden Jubilee Test.

* Andrew Jones became the first New Zealander to score three centuries in consecutive innings—186 in the second innings of the first Test, Wellington 122 and 100* in both innings of the second Test at Hamilton against Sri Lanka in the three Test series in 1991 He also became the third New Zealand batsman to score a century in each innings of a Test after Glenn Turner (101 and 110—against Australia in Christchurch in 1973 74) and Geoff Howarth (122 and 102—against England in Auckland in 1977 78)

Sri Lankan Asanka Gurusinghe also accomplished the same performance at Hamilton by scoring 119 in the first and 102 in the second innings Only one other Sri Lankan batsman, Duleep Mendis scored a century in both the innings of a Test against India at Madras, 1982

* Sri Lanka scored 325 runs on the first day in the third Test against New Zealand in Auckland It was the highest score by Sri Lanka scored on a day in Test cricket
* Vivian Richards became the highest run getter for West Indies in Test cricket on way to an unbeaten 52 against Australia in the second innings of the first Test in the five Test series 1991 by surpassing Garfield Sobers s 8032 runs

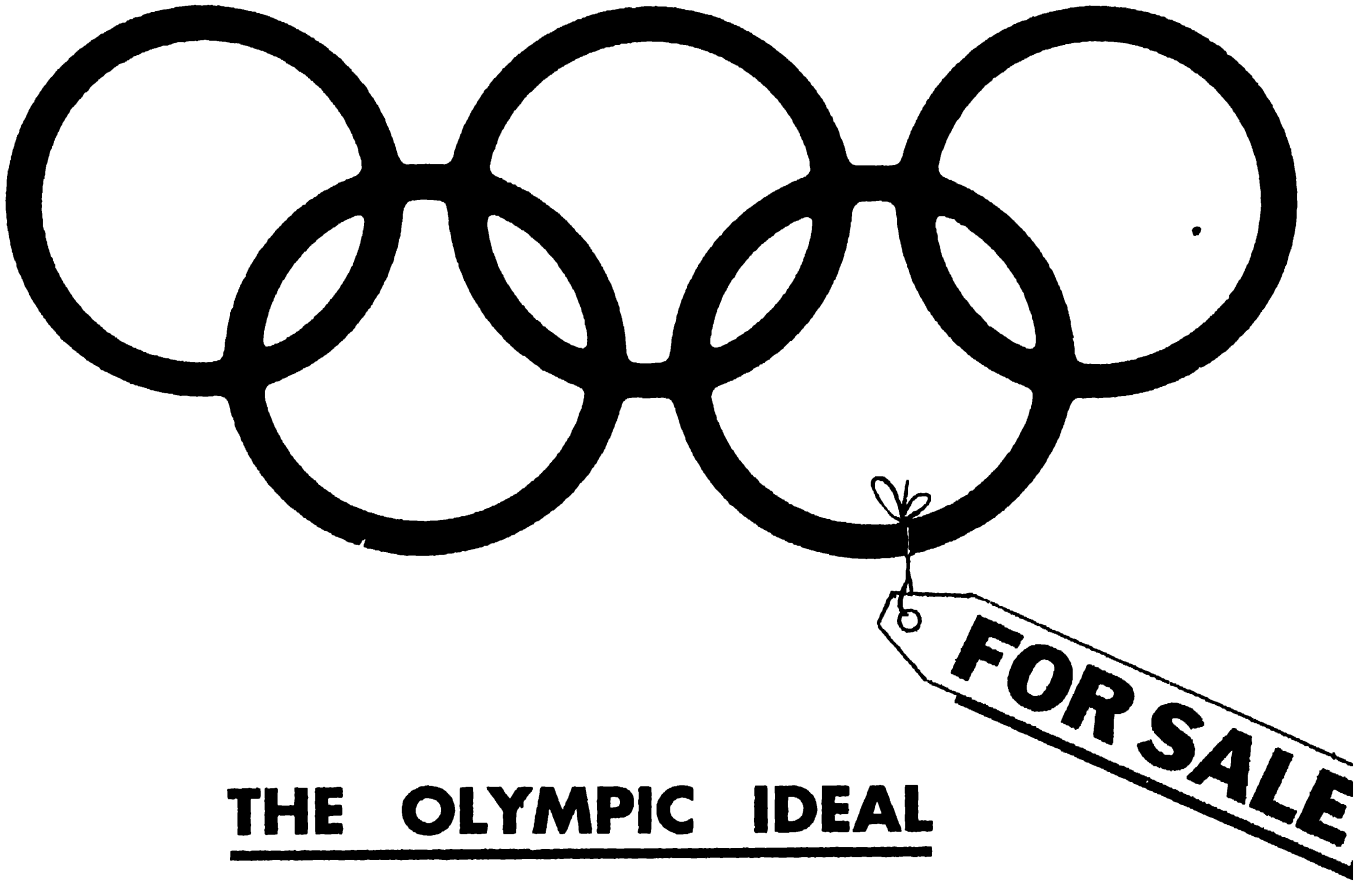


* The most important incident for cricket in 1991 was South Africa s re-entry into international cricket after a gap of 21 years and eight months They made their induction by playing a one day match against India on November 10 at the Eden Gardens South Africa, thus became the twelvth country to play in official one day internationals, preceded by England, Australia West Indies, Pakistan, New Zealand India Sri Lanka East Africa, Canada Zimbabwe and Bangladesh.
* Kepler Wessels made history by becoming the first player to appear for two countries in one day internationals He played for Australia and has now turned out for South Africa Wessels earlier played 54 one day internationals for Australia
* At 42 years and 110 days, Clive Rice became the third player—after Norman Gifford of England (44 years and 358 days) and D. Pringle of East Africa (43 years)—to make his debut in one day internationals
* Kepler Wessels scored his fifteenth half century in his 55th one day international and his first for South Africa at Eden Gardens on November 10.
* Allan Donald captured five wickets against India at Eden Gardens thus becoming the first South African bowler to do so in one day internationals. His bowling figures read 8.4-0-29-5
* The third Tie in one day internationals was played between West Indies and Pakistan at the Gaddafi Stadium on November 22.

* Pakistani pace bowler Aaqib Javed's amazing figures of 10-1-37-7 against India in the Wills Trophy final in Sharjah on October 25, 1991 constituted a new one day bowling record, eclipsing the previous best bowling figures of seven for 51 by West Indian paceman Winston Davis. Aaqib also became the second bowler to register a hattrick in Sharjah. He took the wickets of Ravi Shastri, Azharuddin and Sachin Tendulkar.
* On April 8, 1991, during the third day of the third Test between Australia and West Indies twin brothers Steve and Mark Waugh made cricket history when they batted together in Australia's first innings.
* Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin was named one of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year in 1991.
* England won a Test match against West Indies on home soil after a gap of 22 Test matches. Their last home win against West Indies was in 1969.
* England captain, Graham Gooch became only the fifth Englishman to score more than 7,000 runs in Test cricket when he scored 174 against Sri Lanka in the only Test, played in August, 1991. Gooch's century was his seventh in Tests in the last 13 months.
* After a gap of three years, India beat Pakistan in limited overs cricket, on October 18, 1991 during the Sharjah, Wills Trophy. The last time India won against Pakistan was on October 31, 1988 in the third Asia Cup in Dhaka. In Sharjah itself, India defeated Pakistan after six and a half years. India last won in the four nation Rothmans Cup, on March 22, 1985



* Allan Border created a world record by making his 126th Test appearance on Friday, November 29, in the first Test against India at Brisbane in the ongoing five Test series, 91 92, bettering Indian opener Sunil Gavaskar's 125 Tests.
* Kapil Dev became the joint second highest wicket taker in Test cricket by touching Ian Botham's 380 wickets in the first Test against Australia at Brisbane in the current five Tests series.
* India and West Indies played out the fourth Tie in the history of one day internationals in the current Benson and Hedges World Series Cup Competition, on December 6, 1991.
* Ravi Shastri produced his finest bowling performance in 136 one day internationals by capturing five wickets for only 15 runs in 6.5 overs against Australia in the current World Series Cup in Perth on December 8, 1991. Incidentally, it is the best bowling figures by any Indian in one day internationals.
* Desmond Haynes, the West Indian opener completed 7000 runs in one day internationals as the first cricketer in the world against India in the ongoing World Series Cup match on December 14, 1991. Haynes reached 7053 runs in his 188th one day match by scoring 89 against India on that day.



THE OLYMPIC IDEAL

Money makes the world go round. Money also makes the Olympic Games keep going to the mega-rich countries. Is this what the Olympic ideal is all about?

FINANCE has finally triumphed over sentiment. The 1996 Summer Olympics will not be held in Athens, the birthplace of the modern Games, but in Atlanta, the home of Coca Cola. Athens, nonetheless, seemed an almost inevitable choice. Dating back to 776 BC in honour of Zeus, the games were revived in Athens in 1896, and the Greek capital has always been favourite to successfully exploit the centenary sentiment. Forget the pollution, political instability, threat of terrorism, poor communications and immoral worries, go for the cause of history.

Instead, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) went for the sweet smell of financial success. Conveniently overlooking the fact that America hosted the summer Games as recently as 1984 (Los Angeles), the Committee succumbed to the lure of television revenue and chose Atlanta — with most of its infrastructure already in place — over Athens, Toronto, Melbourne, Manchester or Belgrade.

The Greek delegates had only themselves to blame. An insistence that the 1996 Games were theirs by right undoubtedly rankled with the IOC, as did their eleventh hour offer of a three day cruise around their islands for the 15,000 athletes and officials after the closing ceremony.

Yet money, of course, was the real key. Atlanta, immortalised in *Gone With The Wind*, committed $7 million to its bidding campaign, intends to spend $1.2 billion on staging the Games and anticipates an income of $1.4 billion from the entire jamboree. The figures proved difficult to argue against. As Greek President Constantine Karamanlis said: "I cannot but express my regret because the recent decision of the IOC disregarded the history of the Olympic Games and the ideals symbolised by Olympianism."

This is for the seventh time that either summer or winter games have gone to the United States this century. And the developing and the third world countries have taken this as a rebuff. They allege that in its quest for money, the Olympic movement has become a private preserve for the super rich nations.

It is this apparent disregard of old ideals that has brought the Olympics, if not into downright disrepute, then very close to it. Money is in danger of tainting the dream. The Princess Royal, one of Britain's IOC members, criticised the giving of presents to IOC representatives by the bidding cities. Her personal response was to send all such gifts back to where they came from. Her attitude evidently rubbed off on the IOC's policy-making executive board, which has since limited the giving of gifts to $ 200 per person and one trip only to each bidding city.

The financial takeover of the Games is another worrying trend for a movement desperately needing to redress the legacy of Seoul '88. It used to be the taking part that mattered: now, with athletics professional in all but name, winning appears to be everything. That modern ethos brought about the worst moment in the history of the Games. In Seoul, Ben Johnson ran a majestic 100 metres, beating his great rival Carl Lewis and setting a new world record of 9.79 seconds, only to be stripped of his title three days later after a routine drugs test proved positive.

The immediate shame belonged to Johnson and the Canadian team, but athletics compounded the disgrace in the aftermath. Johnson was banned for just two years by the International Amateur Athletics Federation, and his life ban by Canada has since been revoked. All of which makes Johnson eligible for the 1992 summer Games in Barcelona

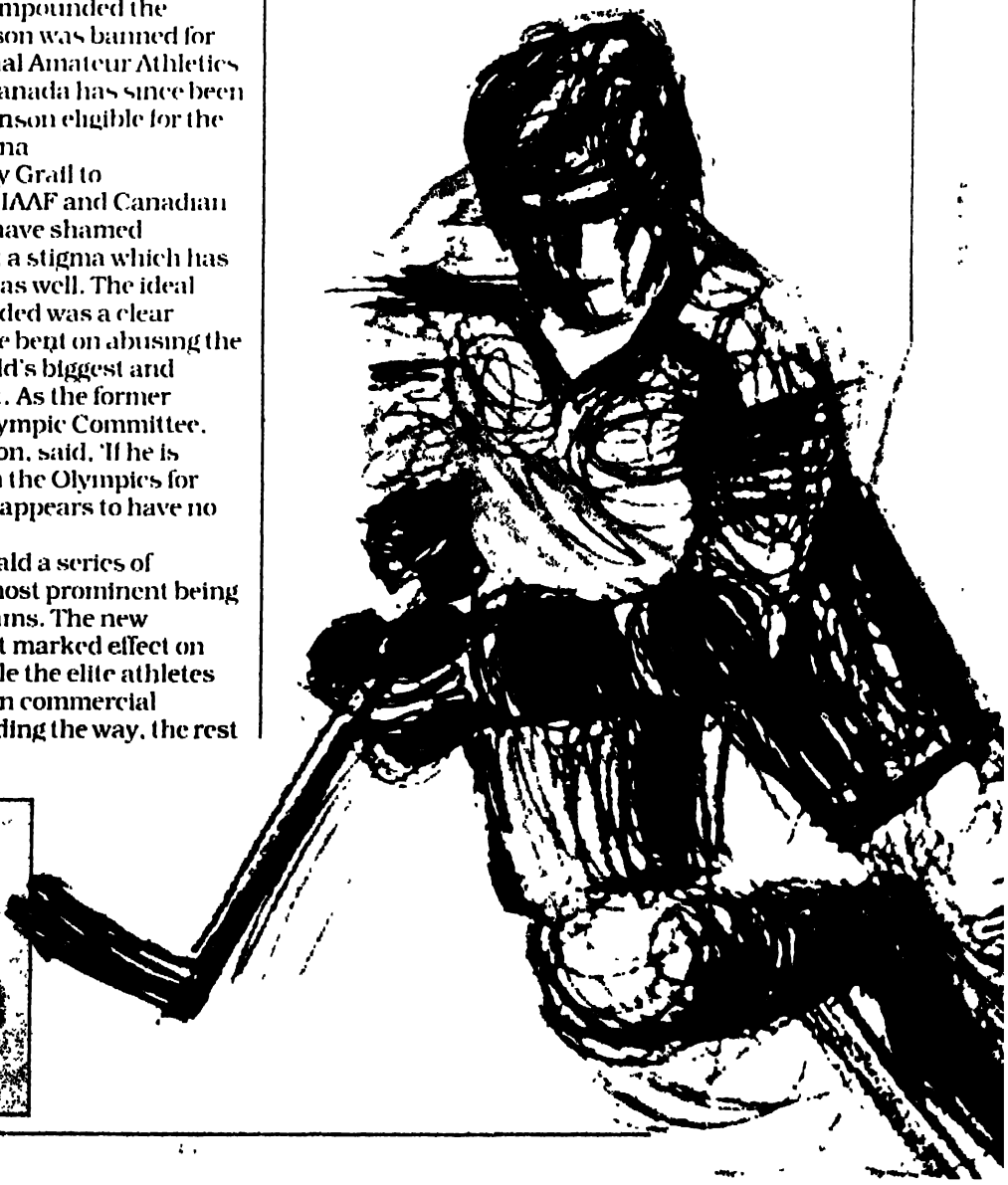
An Olympic title is like the Holy Grail to athletes—the ultimate goal. The IAAF and Canadian decisions are widely thought to have shamed athletics by condoning cheating; a stigma which has inevitably affected the Olympics as well. The ideal already tarnished, what was needed was a clear statement of intent to anyone else bent on abusing the privilege of competing in the world's biggest and supposedly most equitable event. As the former president of the International Olympic Committee, Lord Killanin, referring to Johnson, said, 'If he is guilty, he should be banned from the Olympics for life.' It is an attitude which sadly appears to have no place in the modern philosophy.

Meanwhile, the Games '92 herald a series of changes for the movement, the most prominent being the unification of the German teams. The new political system has had the most marked effect on the old East German set-up. While the elite athletes have been snapped up by Western commercial interests, with Katrin Krabbe leading the way, the rest of the old infrastructure has crumbled.

The East German training hierarchy was one of the most efficient and feared in the world. Now the youngest generation of athletes, who would have been given preferential treatment in the old East, will find it much harder to come through and survive in open competition. The new combined German team, though, should be impressively strong.

While Barcelona introduces one new sport - -baseball—to the Olympics, as well as two demonstration sports, roller hockey and pelota, more importantly, 1992 is also the last time the summer and winter Olympics will be held in the same year. In February the winter Games are scheduled to take place in Albertville, France. The summer Games, in Barcelona, follow in July. After that, the Games will be held every alternate two years, so Lillehammer in Norway hosts the '94 winter Olympics before the '96 summer Olympics are staged in Atlanta.

The official reason for the change is that too much



It used to be the taking part that mattered: now winning appears to be everything

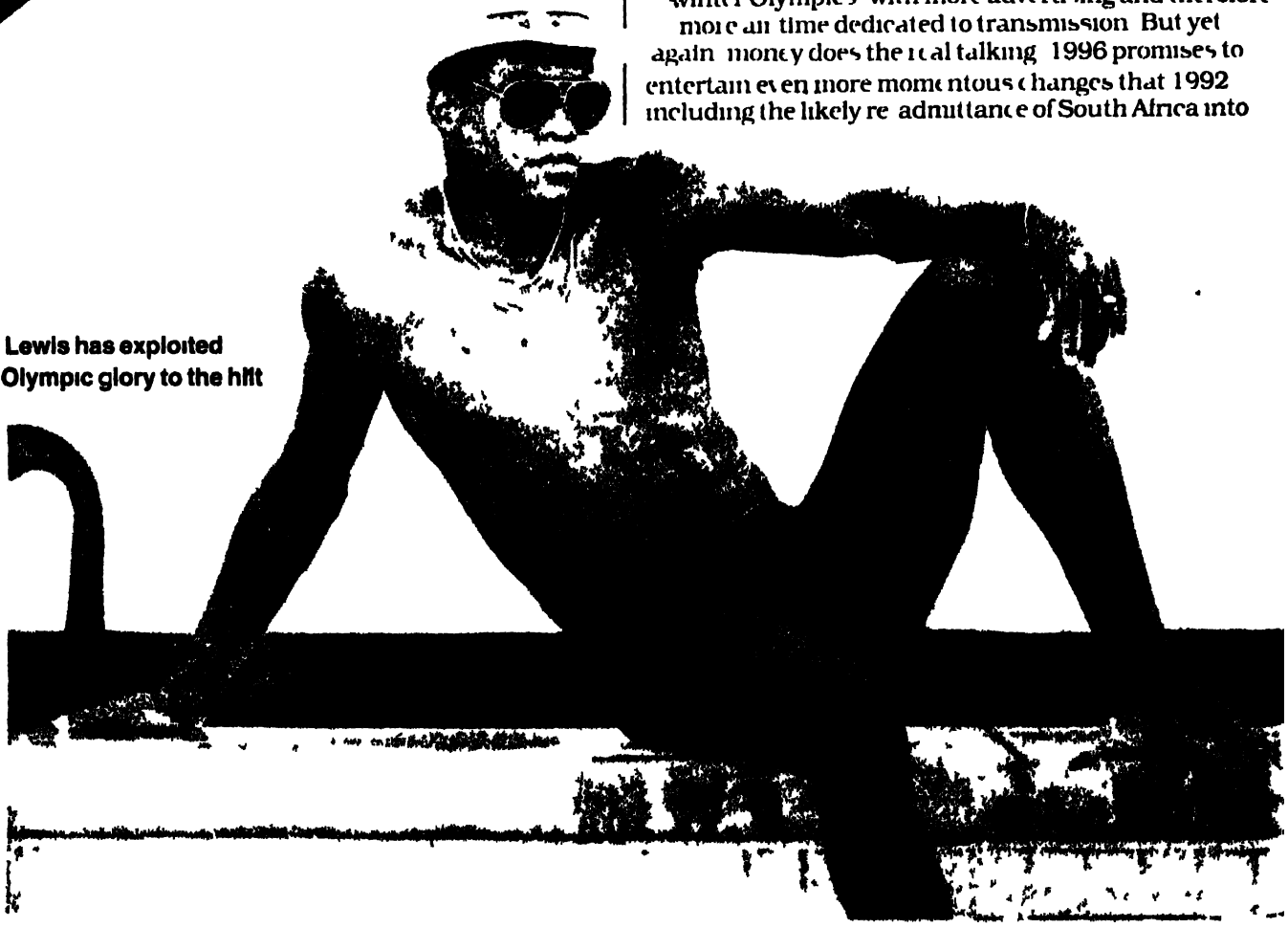


work is involved in staging two Olympics in the same year The unofficial reason once again concerns money by splitting the winter and summer Games the IOC can expect to receive far greater sums from both television and the main sponsors

The gross commercialisation of the Olympic movement owes its allegiance to the rise of television power Even though they were not born together they have grown together to suit each other s needs The current Olympic trends definitely show that The ever increasing television audience has forced the IOC to go for the highest bidder who most of the time is from a mega rich country From Rome to Seoul the potential audience has increased from around 400 million viewers in 21 countries (1960) to 2 8 billion in 131 countries (1988) And so has TV s clout Many see the Atlanta home boy and the media baron Ted Turner (of CNN fame) as the vital factor who swung the deal for Atlanta

The economics are simple At present the annual budget for an Olympic year for both television companies and corporate sponsors has to be split between the two Games When they are held separately and two years apart there is the possibility that a total budget can be allocated to each event rather than a percentage Hence the increased income

One result should mean a higher profile for the winter Olympics with more advertising and therefore more air time dedicated to transmission But yet again money does the real talking 1996 promises to entertain even more momentous changes that 1992 including the likely re admittance of South Africa into



Lewis has exploited Olympic glory to the hilt

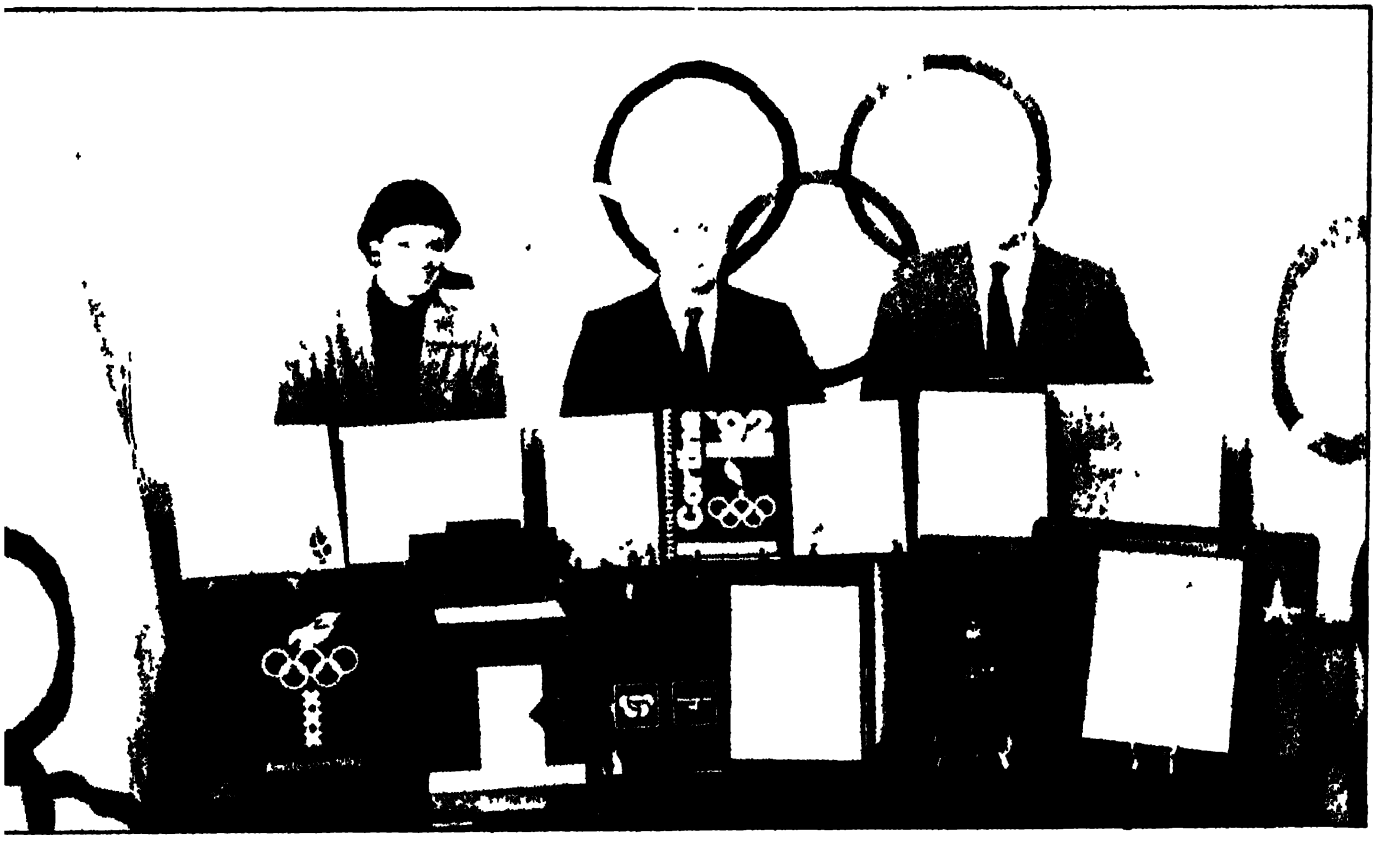
The economics are simple: held separately (the winter and summer Games) mean increased income

the Olympic fold. The Republic was expelled in 1970 because of its apartheid policies, but current political reforms make a return possible—even probable

There may also be an influx of new, modern sports at the expense of traditional events with insufficient popular appeal. This will be necessary to keep the summer Games to manageable proportions. Archery and wrestling may give way to triathlon, for instance

campaign could be from London. The double Olympic 1500 metres champion, Sebastian Coe, is backing the idea, saying, 'My own belief now is that the only way forward is to push for London if we are seriously thinking of staging the Games in this country. In a country the size of the United Kingdom, the capital is the only real choice

Away from all the speculation, one thing is definite:



The IOC has chosen money over memory

Barcelona entries for the 25 featured sports have already been restricted to 10,000 athletes and 5,000 officials, with further limits approved for the year 2000. By then, all men's sports will have to be practised in at least 75 countries on four continents (previously 50 countries on three continents) to remain on the Games' schedule. Women's sports must be played in 40 countries on three continents (previously 35 countries) on three continents).

As to the long-term future of the Olympics, perhaps the one development left is to hold a Games on the African continent. Cost has always been the stumbling block, but it is possible that the IOC might change its current policy and award the Games to two or three countries, rather than a single city. With Birmingham and Manchester having failed in their recent bids to hold the Games, the next British

the Olympics are here to stay. When Juan Antonio Samaranch took over as IOC President in 1980, it was thought the governing body was near bankruptcy. But the past ten years have been one big bonanza, reaped from the sale of television rights—particularly in the United States—and the marketing of the five-ring Olympic symbol.

Which perhaps best sums up the modern Olympics. It is still the greatest sporting occasion in the world, still the zenith for all athletes. But the rationale behind the Games has changed. It is not so much the participating that matters but the winning. It is no longer so much the spirit of international harmony that counts but the marketing. It is not so much *Gone With The Wind* as Coca-Cola.

Mike Staniforth
NEWSMEN FEATURES

SPORT SHORTS

By Fred Hull

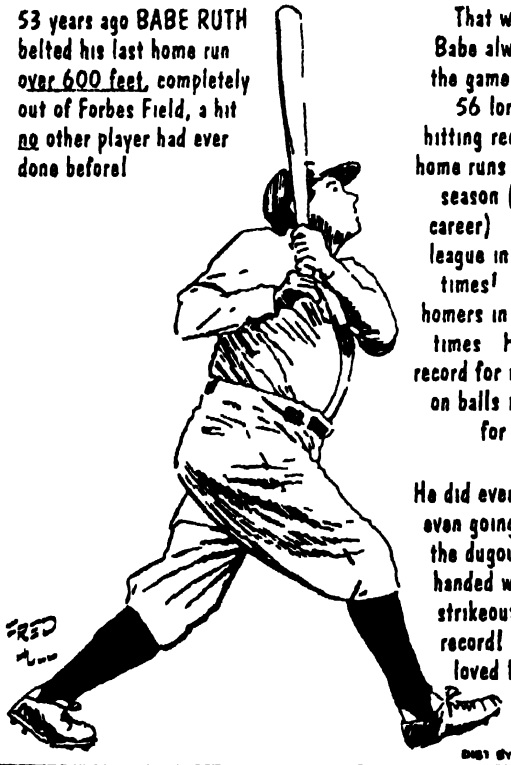
GEORGE HERMAN (BABE) RUTH

The King of Clout

53 years ago BABE RUTH belted his last home run over 600 feet, completely out of Forbes Field, a hit no other player had ever done before!

That was the way Babe always played the game He made 56 long distance hitting records 60 home runs in a single season (714 in his career) He led the league in homers 12 times! He hit two homers in a game 72 times He held the record for most bases on balls in a season for a lifetime

He did everything big, even going back to the dugout empty handed with 1,330 strikeouts, also a record! The fans loved Babe even when he missed

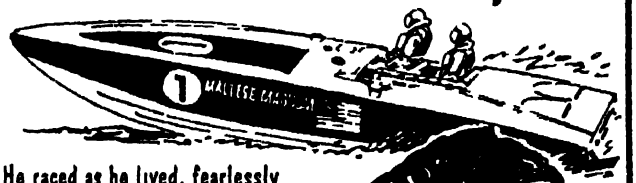


DIST BY ASIA FEATURES

DON ARONOW

For a decade he dominated power boat racing

The late Don Aronow was always a winner In college he earned seven letters in sports and was a self made millionaire by age 28. He retired to Florida at 33 and discovered power boats



He raced as he lived, fearlessly and aggressively While learning the sport, he drove boats so hard many broke apart before reaching the finish line!

Aronow decided to build his own boats The famous "DEEP-VEE" hull shape was his finished product. For a decade he dominated offshore racing! First with his great "Cigarette" boats capable of over 70 m p.h

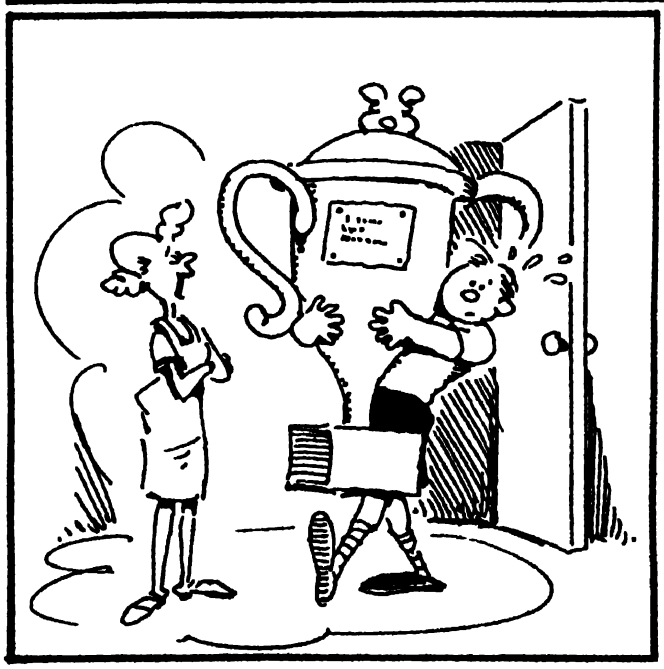
Don won every major offshore race - Miami-Key West, Monte Carlo, etc.

Even with all his victories, the achievement of which he was most proud was his unanimous selection by racing peers from 49 nations to receive the "Union of Internal Motorboat Gold Medal"

DIST BY ASIA FEATURES

Be a Sport

by Jim Janelony



"So did you win?"



"I got it...Why don't ya make a bigger hole?"

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

THE famous horse racing course at Santa Monica California, was opened on **Dec. 25, 1934.**

WHEN American boxer Jack Johnson knocked out Tommy Burns in round 14, on **Dec. 26, 1908** in Sydney he become the first black boxer to win the world heavyweight boxing championship

V CHANDRASEKHAR and Indu Puri emerged as men s and women s champions respectively in the finals of the National Table Tennis championship held in Palghat on **Dec. 27, 1981.**

VICTORIA scored the highest recorded cricket innings score of 1107 runs against New South Wales in Melbourne on **Dec. 28, 1926.**

ON **Dec. 29, 1930** Fred P Newton completed the longest ever swimming adventure when he reached New Orleans in USA after swimming 1826 miles down the river Mississippi, from Fort Dan He spent 742 hours in water for 177 days

NOEL WESTWOOD and G L Davies become the first men to circumnavigate Australia by car when they returned to Perth on **Dec. 30, 1925,** after 149 days in their car 5CV Citroen.

THE longest distance recorded for walking backwards in 24 hours is 135 18 km (84 miles) set by Anthony Thornton USA in Minneapolis on **Dec. 31, 1985.**

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

WON: By Zhao Jianhua of China the men's singles title at the World Grand Prix Badminton Championships held in Kuala Lumpur. Susi Susanti of Indonesia won the women's title.
APPOINTED: T.S. Bhullar of India as one of the umpires to officiate in the hockey competition at the Barcelona Olympics.
CHOSEN: Stefan Edberg and Monica Seles as the players of the year by the International Tennis Federation.
RECORD SET: By Vinod Kambli when he became the youngest player to complete 1000 runs in the Ranji Trophy.
NAMED: Henri Leconte and Julie Halard as the French team to participate in the Hopman Cup Team Tennis Tournament. The German duo of Boris Becker and Steffi Graf are the favourites to win the tournament.
NAMED: Alec Stewart, son of Micky Stewart, as vice-captain of the England team to tour New Zealand in January.
RECOMMENDED: Dibyendu Barua by the All India Chess Federation for the Padmashree Award.
CHOSEN: Carl Lewis, Mike Powell and Sergei Bubka as the three finalists for the 1992 Jesse Owens International Award.
WON: By Adrian Ezra the National Squash Championship for the fourth consecutive time.
WON: Bhuvaneshwari Kumari annexed the women's title.
APPOINTED: Ilaina Quashnock, the former Swiss Davis Cup captain, as Steffi Graf's coach.
SET TO PLAY: Ajit Wadekar, Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Ravi Shastri, Kapil Dev, the three Amarnath brothers and Roger Binny in the Pentangular Cricket Tournament.



Yiorgis Yiannoulis (26), a Greek high-- priestess, kneels before a mirror in the ancient Temple of Hera, and focuses sunlight to light the Olympic flame. This was a ritual rehearsal for the Winter Games that will be held in Albertville

MADRAS

Southern India TT

AFTER a gap of nearly two decades, Madras played host to a major table tennis tournament when the Southern India championships were organised by the Tamil Nadu Table Tennis Association last month. It was, in fact, for the first time that Madras was hosting a zonal meet and it was the first national level meet held in the Southern metropolis since the Nationals were conducted in the city in 1974.

Unfortunately, some of the top players were forced to skip the tournament as they were attending the coaching camp at New Delhi for the SAF Games. Actually, the tournament was to have been held in November, but because of a lack of sponsors, a month's postponement was necessitated. This meant that top players like Kamlesh Mehta, Sujay Ghorpade and Chetan Baboor in the men's section and Sejal Shah, Montu Ghosh and A. Radhika in the women's section could not take part in the five-day competition, the last zonal before the Nationals to be held in Bombay.

So, the prestigious competition was robbed off much glamour but the meet while not throwing up any new talent did see many exciting and close encounters. And in the absence of the stars, a couple of players did really well to show that more will be heard of them in future.

Archana Rao of Karnataka, for example, is a fine prospect and she seized the chance the competition gave her,to win her first zonal title. The Bangalore College student, ranked No. 8 in the classification list and seeded fifth in the tournament gave a fine performance in claiming the title. In the semi-finals, she toppled the top seed and India No. 2, B. Bhuvaneshwari of Tamil Nadu.

The national runner-up for the last two years has not been having a very fruitful season. She was strangely lethargic,in losing in straight games to Archana Rao. The Bangalore girl proved that her victory over Bhuvaneshwari was no fluke when she beat India No. 5 and second seed, M.S. Mythili of Tamil Nadu in four games in the final.



Archana Rao:winner in the Southern India TT Championships

In the other semi-final, Mythili defeated third seed and India No. 6 Arul Selvi, also of Tamil Nadu after five hard fought games. If Archana Rao was the star of the women's section, Gurjeet Taneja was very much the hero in the men's section. The unseeded youngster from Maharashtra first upset Ganesh Kundu of Bengal, India No. 8 and seeded fifth in the tournament.

Actually, Taneja by this win repeated his victory over Kundu in the Northern India championship. A victory over Anupam Kunwar of Assam put him in the quarter-final where his opponent was the experienced S. Ramaswamy, also of Maharashtra. Taneja, now on a hot streak, could not be stopped. A four game victory put him in the semi-final. Here his dream run finally ended but it took the defending champion, Bona Thomas John of Railways to halt the teenager. This he did in four games and then the second seed proceeded to defeat Sujit Babras of Maharashtra in the final.

The final in fact came as a fitting climax to the competition for it was a thrilling match which stretched to five games and was marked by fast paced rallies. Incidentally, this was Bona Thomas John's first zonal title of the season.

The upset of the tournament, however,was created by Debashish Choudhury of Bengal. He shocked S. Raman, the top seed and India No. 4 in the pre-quarter final.

In the other semi final, Babras

defeated former national champion S. Sriram, also of Maharashtra, in four games

Bhuvaneshwari had some consolation in taking the junior girls singles title defeating Ritu Bhola of Delhi in the final Anupam Kunwar who defeated Gurjeet Taneja in the semi-final went on to claim the title in the junior boys singles event with a hard fought five game victory over Rubal Sayal of Delhi.

The upset of the tournament however,was created by Debashish Choudhury of Bengal He shocked S Raman, the top seed and India No 4 in the pre quarter final Raman, the national runner-up, has been having a mixed year and his showing in the Southern India championships could not have put him in a confident frame of mind for the Nationals Debashish however,lost to Babras in the quarter-final

Partab Ramchand



NEW DELHI

Petroleum Minister's Trophy

Mr. B. Shankaranand, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas (second from right) presents the Petroleum Trophy to Mr. C. Ratnam, Chairman and Managing Director of OIL (second from left) and to Mr. Jauhari Lal, OIL's Director (Personnel). OIL won the overall championships for 1990-91 of the Petroleum Sports Control Board

SRIPERAMBUDUR

A New Track

THE advantages of a readymade race track like the one at Sriperambudur cannot be overemphasised The Madras Motor Sports Club organises weekend races frequently and by this not only do the established stars get the opportunity to test both their driving skills and their vehicles regularly, but the conduct of such meets also help unearth young talent.

The races held recently did just that. While Akbar Ebrahim displayed his customary daredeviltry, the meet underscored the steady progress made by youngsters like Arun Murugappan and Rajiv Chessetty Of course, it must be admitted that the introduction of the Formula Marutis and the Formula McDowell 1000 cc races have also helped in improving standards and unearthing talent.

Akbar Ebrahim's stature has grown in the last year or two ever since he returned from a training cum-racing stint in England And he lived up to his reputation by being too good for the rest of the field in the team Carex Maruti Challenge Trophy for the Formula Indian single-seater Maruti engine car races He won both the five-lap race and the ten-lap race and at the end of the second leg had garnered 36 points–a clear 19 points ahead of K.E Kumar and Kamlesh Patel who were jointly in second place

Akbar clocked 15 minutes, 21.60 seconds for the five lapper, registering a fastest lap timing of two minutes, 8 83 seconds in the fourth lap Kamlesh Patel and K.E Kumar were second and third respectively. Kumar however,came up with the fastest lap of the race clocking two minutes, 7 68 seconds over the fourth

Akbar Ebrahim won the ten-lap race in 24 minutes, 44.67 seconds.

Arun Murugappan and Rajiv Chessetty who have taken to serious racing only recently, epitomised the budding talent of the young brigade by finishing fourth and sixth respectively in the five lapper and fourth and fifth respectively in the ten lapper.

K E Kumar, however, won both the five-lap and ten-lap formula McDowell 1000 cc car races clocking 15 minutes, 21.09 seconds and 21 minutes, 19.79 seconds respectively His best laps were the third in the five-lapper during which he had a time of two minutes, 8 09 seconds and the second in the ten-lapper when he clocked two minutes, 6.74 seconds Akbar Ebrahim was the runner-up in both races recording 15 minutes, 26.66 seconds and 21 minutes, 55 90 seconds respectively

While Akbar was well ahead in the points table in the team Carex championship, he and K E. Kumar were engrossed in a keen duel for supremacy in the McDowell Challenge Trophy for Formula McDowell 1000 cc cars At the end of the fourth leg, Kumar with 49 points was just one point ahead of Akbar. While Akbar is virtually assured of the Team Carex Trophy

as there is one more leg to come off in February, the race for the McDowell championship should see a keen finish as there are three more legs to come off later this month and two more in February.

NEW DELHI

Jatin Bedi Football

PUBLIC SCHOOL R K Puram, annexed the fifth Jatin Bedi Memorial Football title edging out Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai 4-3 via the tie-breaker Both the teams were locked goalless in the stipulated period and extra-time

The match started on a dull note and both the teams never showed the urge to score In the penalty shoot-out, Litwang Lowang, Padi Gayue, Vikramjeet Singh and Arindam Pal scored for the winners while substitute Ashok, Amit Kumar and top scorer of the tournament, Raj Singh netted for Rai School.

This tournament is organised in the memory of Jatin Bedi, who was a budding football star in the United States and who died in the Kanishka air crash along with his mother and his sister in 1985. The level of competition would have been higher if Sports College, Lucknow and the local team, St. Mary School had not pulled out from the tournament.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Delhi Public School, R.K. Puram defeated Delhi Public School, Mathura Road 4 3 in the tie-breaker after being tied goaless in regulation period and after extra-time, while Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai triumphed over the local team, St. Xavier's School 2-0.

The top scorer of the tournament, Raj Singh of Motilal Nehru School of Sports (Rai) was adjudged the best forward; Ashwani Kumar Sharma of St. Xavier's was the best defender. Oni Apum from the winners' team, was declared the best goal-keeper. All three were selected for an annual scholarship.

The closing ceremony was presided over by Mrs. Jennifer Tytler, wife of Jagdish Tytler, Minister for Surface and Transport while the scholarships were awarded by tournament patron, Prakash Bedi, father of Jatin Bedi.

Suresh Kumar Lau

KATHMANDU

Asian Karate

THE sixth Asian Karate championship was held at Kathmandu last month. Teams from Australia, Brunei, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Macao, Hongkong, Indonesia, India, Japan, Malayasia, Nepal, Pakistan and Singapore participated in the five-day biennial meet.

K.Tamilselvam of India bagged a bronze medal in the 55-kg weight category. The lad from Tamil Nadu put up an excellent show as the competition was very strong. Overall, India was placed fifth in the championship in the points tally.



SURESH KUMAR LAU

Delhi Public School were the winners of the Jatin Bedi Football tournament

India had finished third in the last meet in 1989 Commenting on the current performance, Sensei K Prakash, chief coach said the extremely cold climate was a severe handicap to the Indian contingent and hence they could not perform better

Sensei S Kothandan, chief technical director of kokino" shitoryu karate school, India and an officer in the State Bank of India, was elected vice president of the Asian Shitoryu Karate Federation The kokino shitoryu karate school is the only affiliate in India to the Asian Federation based in Singapore

Partab Ramchand

GUWAHATI

National Women's Taekwondo

THE 12th National Women s Taekwondo was held in Guwahati under the auspices of the All Assam Taekwondo Association More than 300 participants from as many as 21 States took part

In the men s group Uttar Pradesh won the team event while Manipur took the second spot In the women's section Madhya Pradesh were the champions Rajiv Bora of Assam was declared the best fighter, while in the women's section it was Radhapyari Devi of Manipur

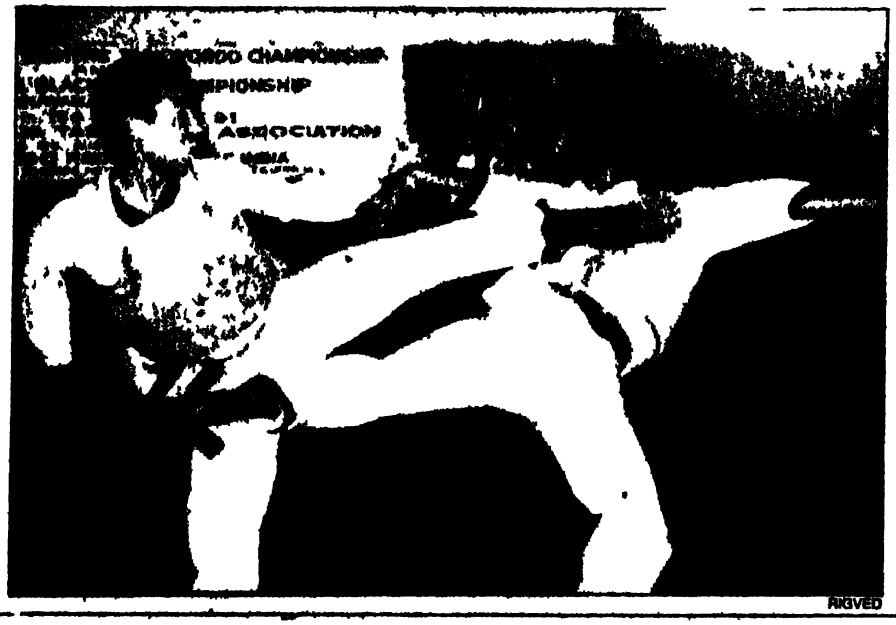
Benoy Sen



HYDERABAD

Charminar Challenge Trophy

Shiny Wilson was presented with the Charminar Challenge Trophy for being the 'Best Sportswoman of the Year'



Action during the National Taekwondo championships

TRIVANDRUM

State Karate

ABOUT 250 fighters from 14 districts took part in the 5th Radhakrishna Memorial Kerala State Karate championship held at the Kimmy George Indoor Stadium Allapuzha men won the team title (black belt) defeating Ernakulam in a stiff battle

T V Baiju representing Allapuzha defeated Venugopal (Kollam) in the Black Belt open Shiai final

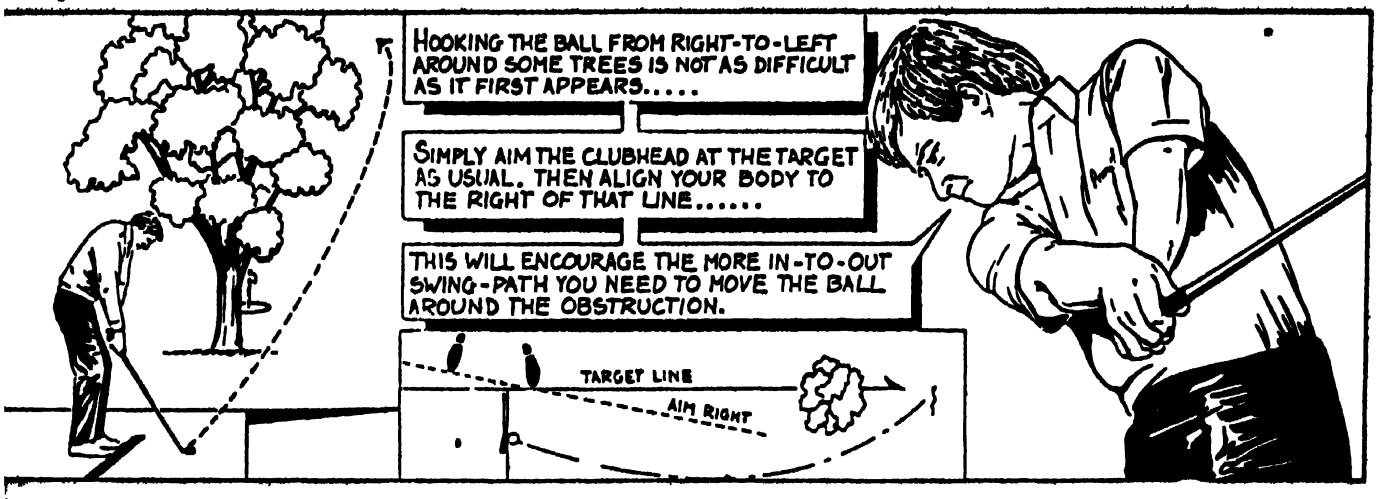
Brig I J S Bora, Station Commander (Trivandrum), Indian Army distributed the Prizes

Sajeev Kumar T. K.

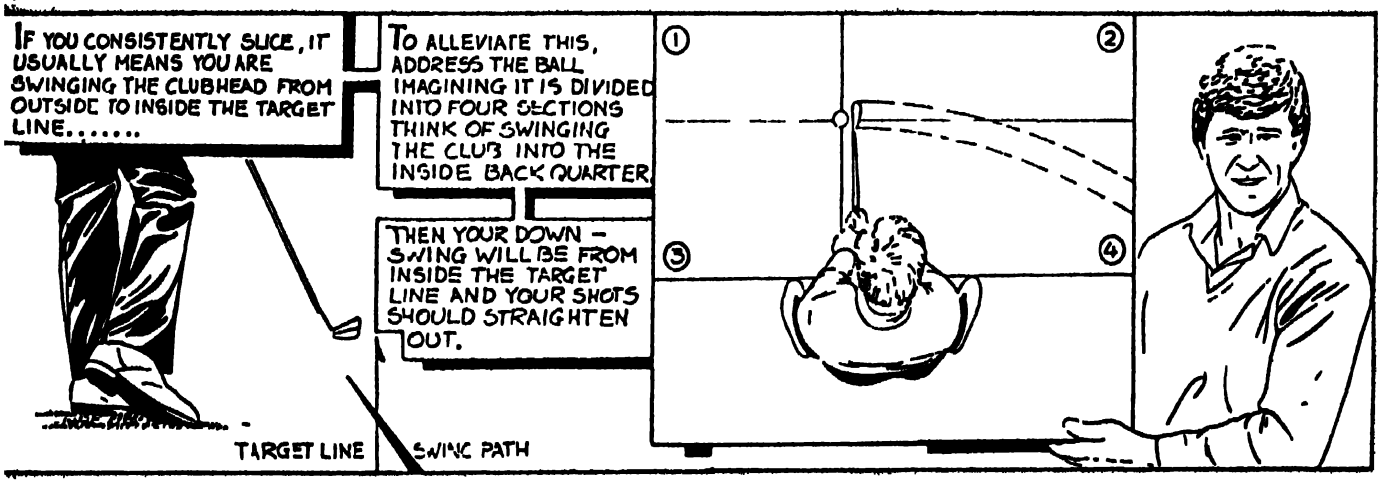
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

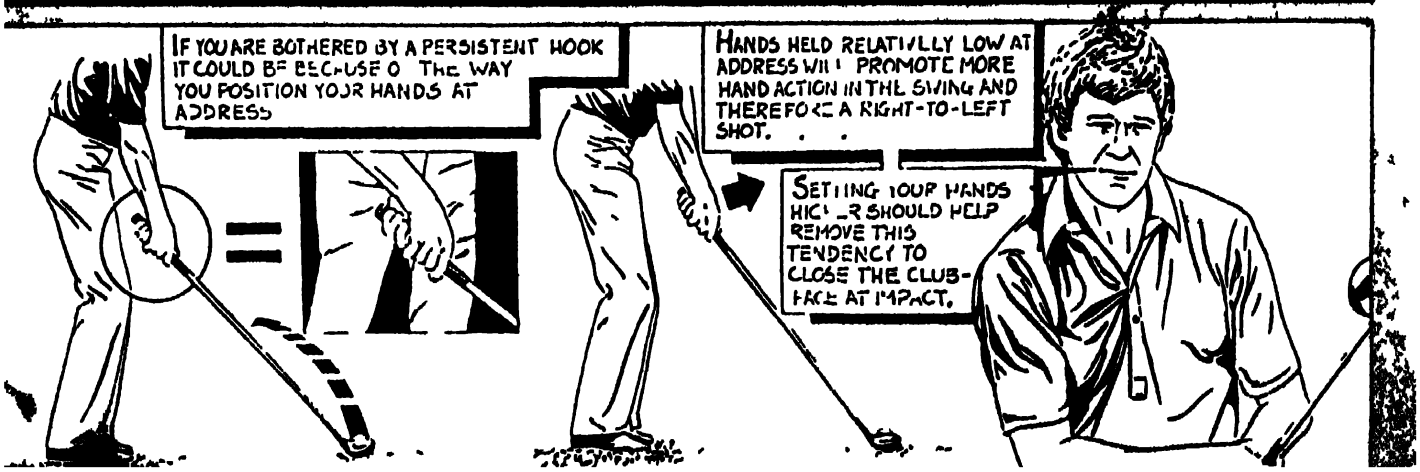
Hook Around Trees



Divide by Four



Hands at Address



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Whose autobiography starts like this: "Louisville 100 miles. I barely see the sign of rain"?
2. Another great figure's autobigraphy begins with: "The first time my name appeared in a newspaper was about 1921..."Who?
3. In a third autobigraphy one finds—"I was born on the night of of 23 October 1940..."Who is the author?
4. What is the "Copa Roca"?
5. What is the middle name of Keith Miller?
6. What is common to Gordon Greenidge, Malcolm Marshall and Barry Richards?
7. Who is the junior most of the famous 'W' triumvirate of West Indies cricket?
8. With which sport/game is "bluff call" associated?
9. For which sport/game is "World Stroke Average List" published annually?
10. What is ATP's rival to the Davis Cup?

ANSWERS

1. Muhammad Ali.
2. Sir Donald Bradman.
3. Pele
4. A traditional football match between selected players of argentina and Brazil.
5. Rose.
6. They all played for Hampshire CCC.
7. Walcott (whooo was born in 1926).
8. Bridge.
9. Golf.
10. World Team Cup.

BRIDGE

THE year 1991 was certainly the most disastrous one for me, with losses galore. First was the loss in the final of the Indian team selection trial, thereby losing the right to represent the country after a long while. Close on its heels came a 3-imp loss in the final of the Bengal state team selection trial. Then in early August was the loss in the quarter-final of the Spingold teams in the American nationals on a committee ruling that has come in for severe criticism in USA. Later the same month, I lost in the quarter-final of the biggest prize-money tournament in India, the Modipon, due to a misguess in a slam contract. In October came the semi-final loss in the Tolani Masters'.

Then, on the 20th of November, came the biggest loss of all...the sudden death of my closest bridge friend and partner Oindrilla Kundu. As the child star Tinkoo Tagore in the Bengali movie "Kabuliwala", which won the President's gold medal, this younger sister of Sharmila Tagore had enthralled millions of Bengali-speaking people with her charm and spontaneity. Though she was never to act again, the eminent film-maker Tapan Sinha, director of the movie, in a tribute after her death, stated that she was the best child artiste he had ever come across and that in his view she "would have been one of our greatest artistes ever". She never did lose this charm and her optimism and enthusiasm were infectious. What's more, she had the remarkable ability to put anybody around her at ease and to share in other people's joy as if it were her own.

As a bridge player she represented the country in 1985, winning the Asia and Middle East women's team event and thereby going on to play in the inter zonal world women's championship for the Venice Cup. In 1988, she won the prize for the best Rest of the World (outside Europe and North America) result in the World Bidding Challenge. Next year she became the first, and till date only, woman to earn the title of Bengal state champion by winning the Open Pairs (having finished runners-up in 1988). She was also a reigning national champion, having won both the Women's Pairs and the Women's Teams at last year's Summer nationals in Puri. I shall always regret that we, her teammates, let her down badly in the final of the 1989 Bengal selection trials—with a session to go, she left us with a plus score but we, in her absence, managed to lose the match by 4 IMPs, thereby depriving her of the chance to become the only woman ever to represent Bengal in the inter-state championships.

She knew her way around the table. Her card-play was nothing great, just decent. However, she was one of my favourite partners because she was willing to play modern bidding methods and play them well. In addition, she was quite adept at analysing new bidding sequences logically and intelligently—in this department, among all the people I have played with, I would rate her just below the top-notchers like Kamal Mukherjee, Debashis Ray and Jaggy Shivdasani. Unfortunately, good bidding does not make good column material and the only play hand of which I have record is one which she handled competently if not brilliantly:-

Dealer South — None vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ A104
♥ KQ2
♦ 104
♣ A9752

WEST
♠ J873
♥ 863
♦ Q962
♣ Q6

EAST
♠ Q952
♥ J95
♦ J
♣ KJ843

SOUTH
♠ K6
♥ A1074
♦ AK8753
♣ 10

Playing in six hearts, Tinkoo, South, did well to win the opening spade lead in dummy, retaining a spade entry in hand, and lead a diamond to her ace. At this stage many players would try to cash a second diamond and go down. Tinkoo took the precaution of entering dummy in trumps to play a second diamond off the table. East made matters easy for declarer by ruffing for South won the spade return in hand, ruffed a low diamond high in dummy and played dummy's last trump, claiming when the jack popped up. It would have been better for East to discard on the second diamond but even then South could win, ruff a diamond high and then draw trumps with the aid of a finesse of the ten and give up a diamond with the last trump still in hand for control.

Santanu Ghose

RIDERS FROM HELL



Team Castrol: (left to right) Oliver Perrin, Jorgen Nilsson, and F. Verherstraeten

TEMPERED in the fires of hell, the riders from Sweden once again dominated the Stadium Motocross World Championships held at Pune. The hellriders seem to have made this leg of the world championships their very own. For the fourth successive year, it was a Swede who took the chequered flag.

Jorgen Nilsson, is a maniac on his Honda CR 250. His style has the distinct stamp of a man who is in total command over the machine. Something he demonstrated with consummate ease as he powered over the woop-de doos, the berm and the table top.

In his dust he left behind Frenchman, Olivier Perrin, for whom this was the fourth successive attempt which ended in defeat. Perrin, a hot favourite with the local crowd, had to settle for second place once again.

Overall it was a very successful two days for Team Castrol. Nilsson won the world championship as well as the Pan-Pacific championship (round six), Perrin in second place and Freddie Verherstraeten in third. What more could you ask for?

The Indian riders may not match the brilliance of their foreign counterparts, but considering the problems they face, they were very impressive. A great show was put up by Ashok Raja from Pune as he swept aside all competition to win the Indian Open.

Young Zubin Patel will be the rider to watch in the future. The Bombay youngster on his modified Yamaha RX100 manoeuvred well over the badly scarred track and showed a lot of guts in clearing the jumps.

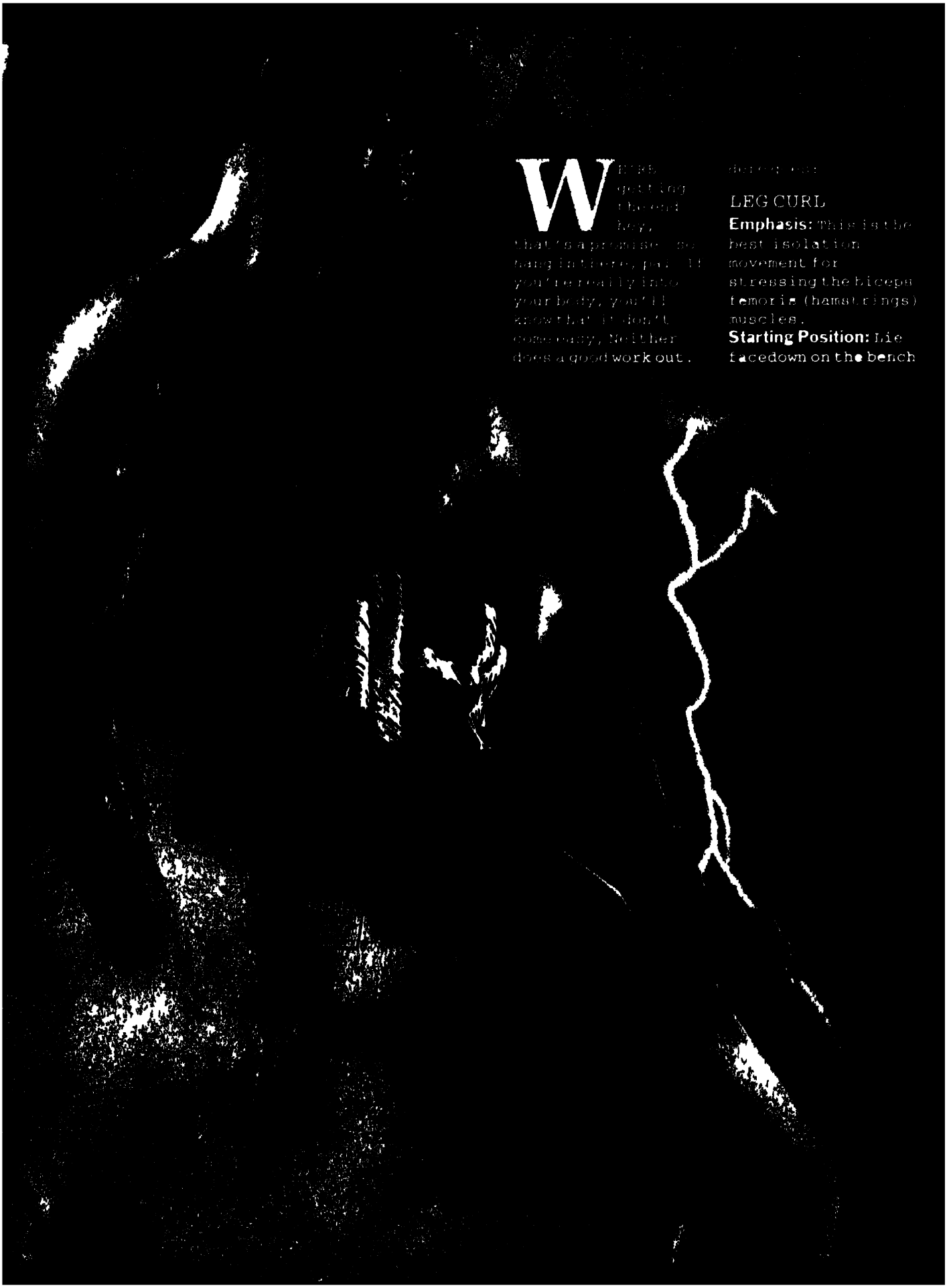
PHOTOGRAPHS: PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP



Jorgen Nilsson on his Honda CR250 won the Stadium Motocross World Championships with ease

Hellriders or Team Castrol, call them what you want but they tore the Pune track apart





W

ERE'S getting through leg, that's a promise we hang in there, pal. If you're really into your body, you'll know that it don't come easy. Neither does a good workout.

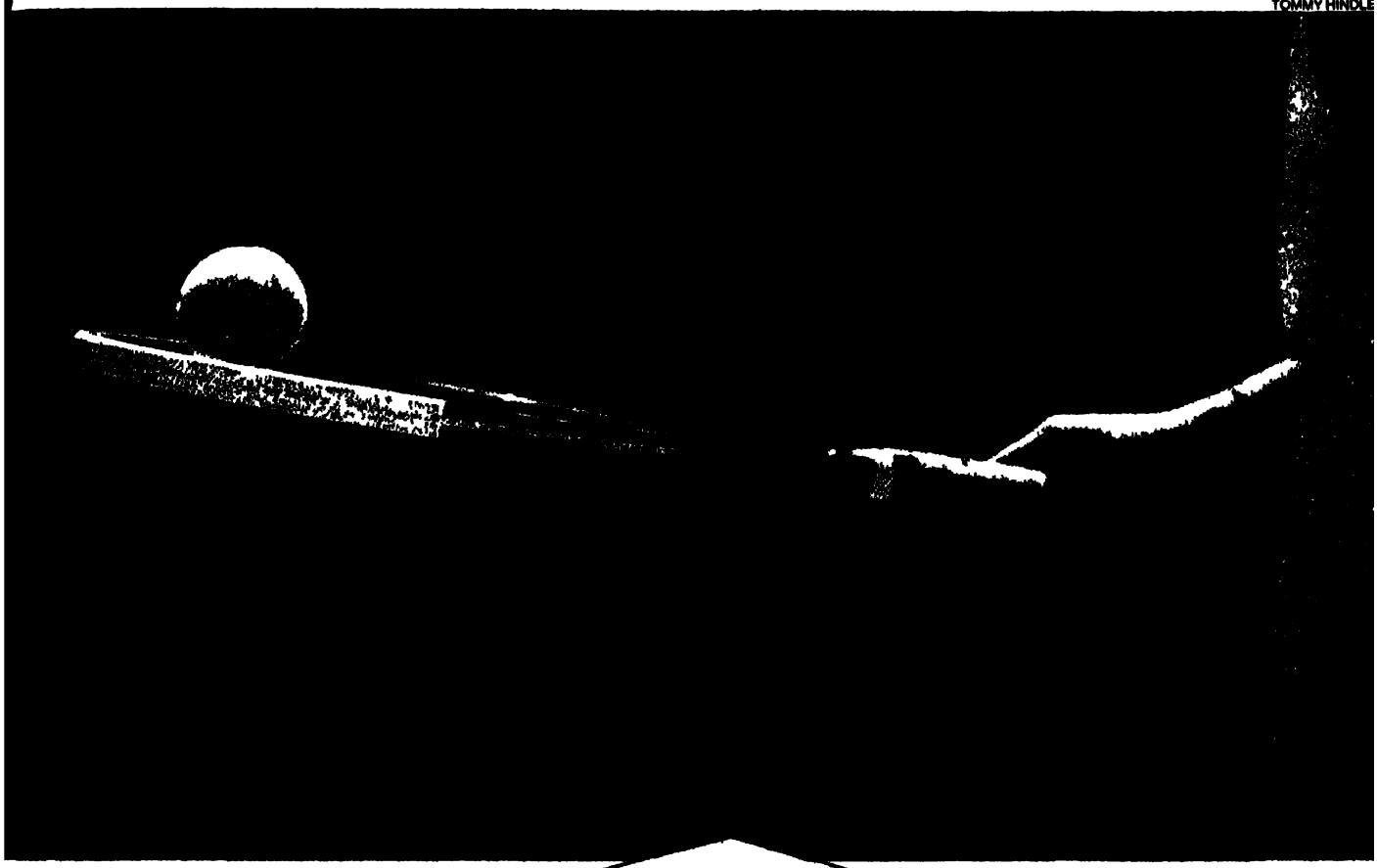
LEG CURL

Emphasis: This is the best isolation movement for stressing the biceps femoris (hamstrings) muscles.

Starting Position: Lie facedown on the bench

TRIVIA

TOMMY HINDLE



REASON that 86-year-old Rene Lacoste, a member of the team that won France's last Davis Cup championship in 1932, did not attend France's sensational 3-1 upset over the United States in Lyon: He feared the excitement might bring on a heart attack.

NUMBER of years that 70-year-old, former all-time great Jack Kramer has had a business relationship with Wilson Sporting Goods Company: 50.

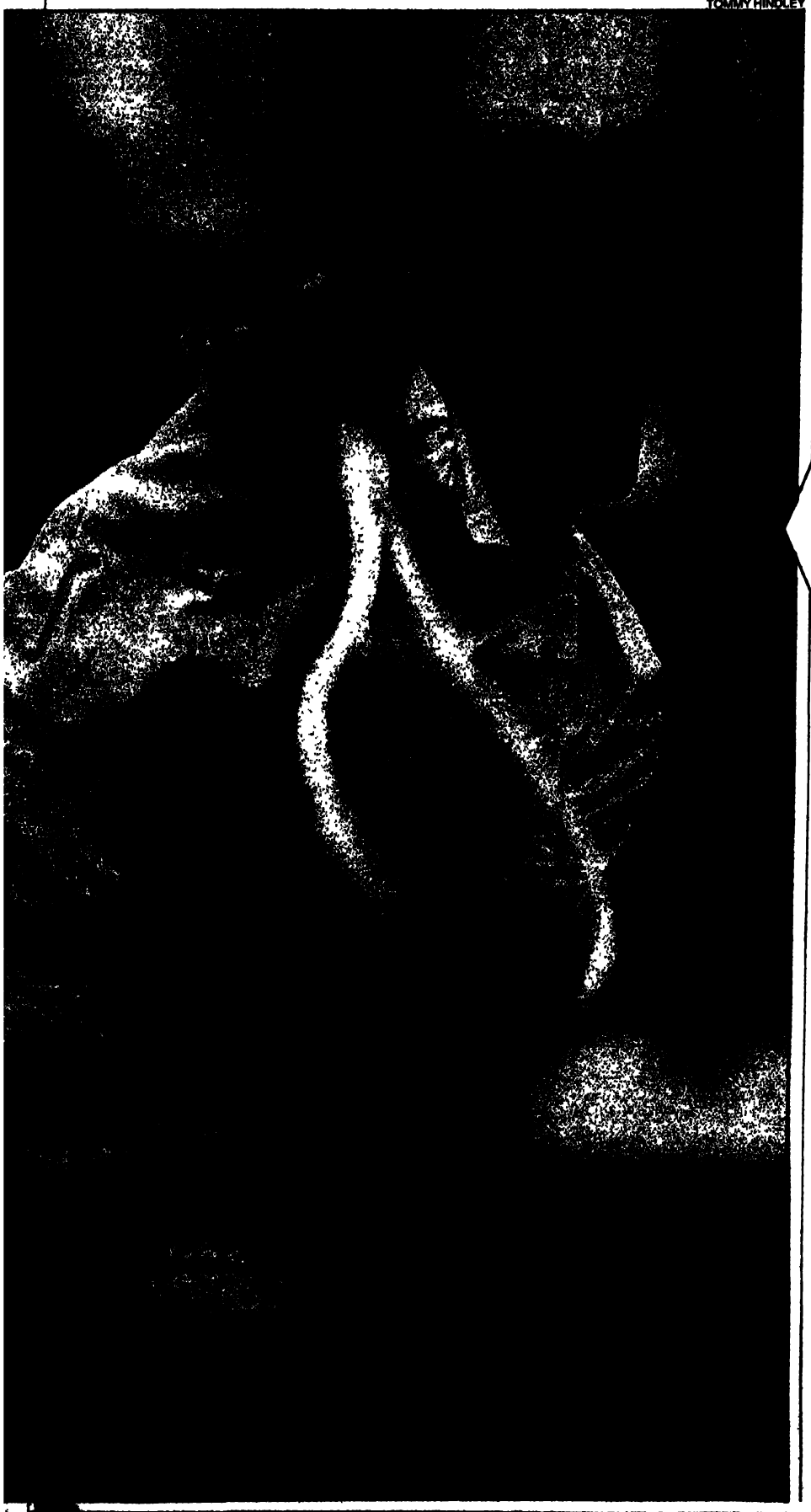
HOW much better the average player can play today, because of superior equipment, than they could 30 or 40 years ago, according to Kramer: 50 per cent.

REASON why the government of the newly independent nation of Namibia initially vetoed the country's first participation in the All-Africa Games in Nairobi: Because the team, which included tennis players, was "too white."

BIGGEST selling perfume in Germany: The "Gabriela Sabatini" fragrance.

THE reason why a ballboy once sued the United States Tennis Association: He hurt his knee on the job while kneeling.

HOW noted British tennis writer and TV commentator John Barrett once described 6'2" former French and U.S. Open semifinalist Jo Durie: As a "Beached whale."



TOMMY HINDLEY

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA'S popularity ranking in the tennis category, as measured in a national (U.S) poll of people ages 18 to 64 by Marketing Equivalent/TVQ: No. 2 (behind Chris Evert).

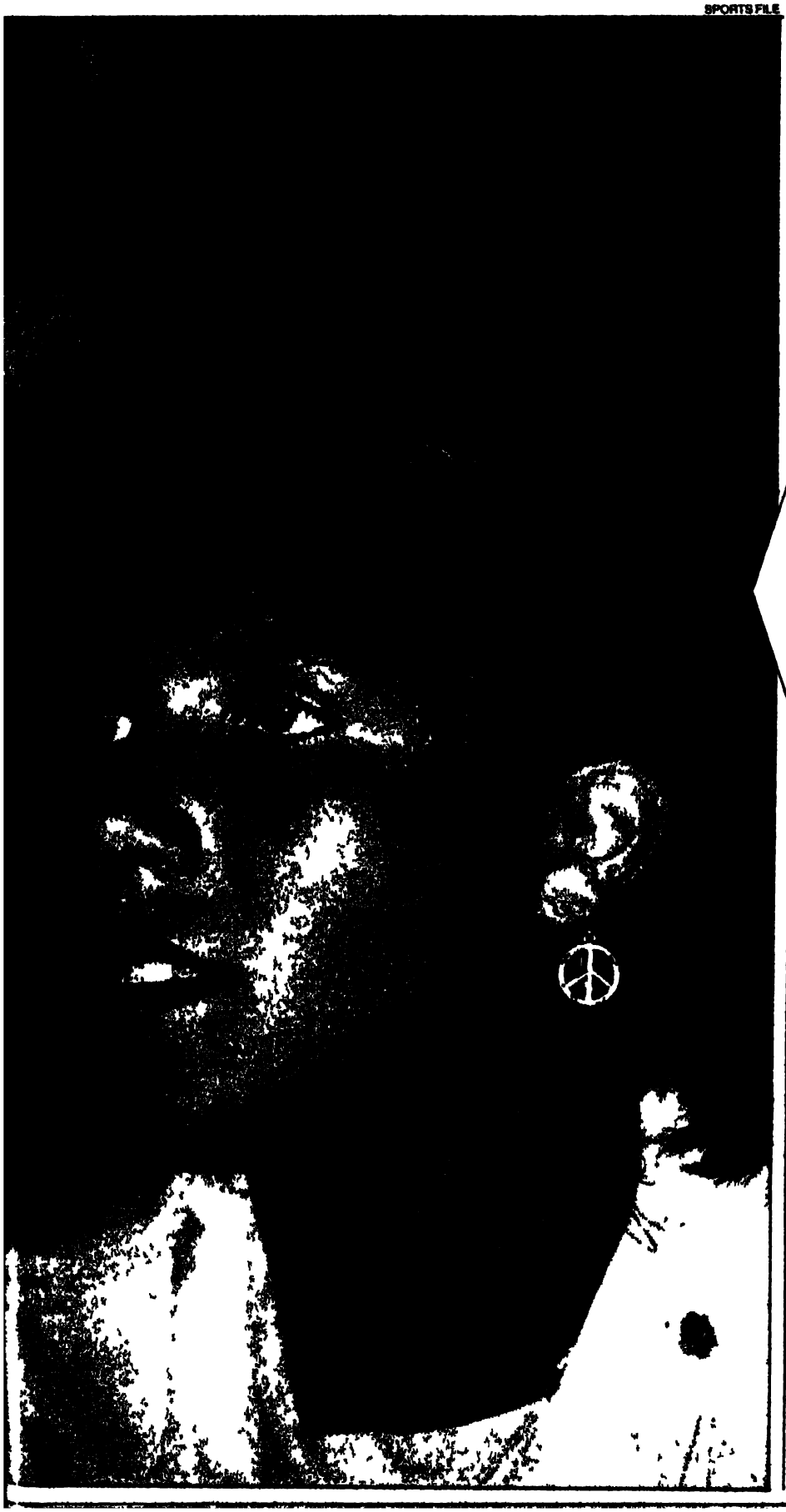
GUARANTEE upon buying the Spalding Assault tennis racket: "Win more matches or your money back!"

HOW AMERICAN tennis writer Ross Wetzsteon once described 1985 Wimbledon finalist Kevin Curren: As a "talentless lunk."

ONLY men's pro tournament that contributed funds to the players' pension fund from 1982 to 1988: ATP Championships in Cincinnati.

HIGHLIGHT of the August 1991 ABC-TV "20/20" program that gave the show its first No. 1 network rating in seven years: The highly revealing Barbara Walters interview with Martina Navratilova who discussed her emotional breakup with ex-lover Judy Nelson.

WHAT a sp[illegible] psychologist advised Frenchmen Henri Leconte and Guy Forget to do against Pete Sampras in the Davis Cup final against the United States: Drag things out because Sampras habitually takes only 10 seconds to serve after the previous point.



QUESTION in Tennis Magazine's tennis fan poll: "Should Monica Seles be made to wear a bra on court?"

BORIS BECKER's favourite pastime: "Talking with (his manager) Ion Tiriac."

NUMBER of times that a person's name in the book "Hard Courts" was misspelled: 43

MATCH that so haunts 15-year-old Jennifer Capriati that she sometimes lies awake at night and replays it. Her ultra-high caliber but frustrating 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 semifinal loss to eventual champion Monica Seles at the 1991 U.S. Open.

NUMBER of consecutive times that Andre Agassi has beaten Boris Becker: 5

NUMBER of corporate endorsements — other than tennis rackets, shoes and clothing — that Navratilova has: 0

ION TIRIAC's derisive nickname for the U.S. Open's venue at Flushing Meadow, New York: "Flushing Toilets."

HOW unloved John McEnroe sought spectator support at the 1983 Volvo Masters: At the awards presentations after beating Ivan Lendl, he appealed, "Clap for me. Please clap for me."

Compiled by Paul Fein

freewheeling

IT is the third ball of the 50th over in the second one-day international between India and the West Indies, at Adelaide. The West Indies have to score 12 runs in three balls. And there is the menacing Curtly Ambrose facing up to Kapil Dev.

Kapil Dev comes in running, leaps up at the crease, and bowls a yorker going straight to the stumps Ambrose swings wildly, misjudges the line, and watches the bails go flying. The West Indies are staring defeat in the face and Kapil goes crazy.

He runs down the pitch, his arms held akimbo, and is shouting, 'Kapil Dev da jawab nahin.' He goes up to Curtly Ambrose, and does a war dance, shaking his head from side to side, and stamping his feet. Ambrose suddenly becomes irritated by this show of aggression from Kapil and quickly he bunches both his hands together in a sort of sledgehammer and brings it down on Kapil's head

Thud! That was it. The next thing Kapil knew was that he was in a Tomahawk helicopter on his way to the other world. At the first re-fuelling stop, at Purgatory Air Base, in the long haul to the other world, an agent arrived.

He was wearing a red skin suit and had two long ears sticking out and above his head. He carried a red briefcase in his hand.

'Mr. Dev,' he said, proferring a hand, 'I come from the Devil. We are very keen to sign you for the Redskins We saw that last ball that got Curtly Ambrose on earth and we were much impressed. We have an annual series of Test matches with the Heavenly Angels and it is a matter of great prestige for us to win it. We will offer you free board and lodging, and ten thousand dollars a month. I know you will be surprised but even in Hell, the dollar is supreme and our apologies for ignoring the Indian ruppee. We will also supply your kit.'

Kapil Dev rubbed the top of his head where he got the blow from Ambrose and he kept repeating, 'Kapil Dev da jawab nahin '

'Woh to such hai', said the agent.

Kapil looked at him surprised

Then the agent replied, 'We know all the languages in the world. And I forgot to mention to you, but Damnolive has offered to pay you a million dollars to advertise their products on Hell T. V.'

Suddenly, a woman in a shimmering white sleeveless gown and with a halo of light around her head began to walk towards Kapil Dev.

His mouth fell open and his tongue sort of slipped out. She was like the Greek goddesses of yore—porcelain skin, doe-shaped grey eyes, red lips shaped like a bow, and long black tresses of hair falling on to her shoulders—Kapil had never seen a woman as beautiful as this apparition anywhere on Planet Earth. (Of course, in front of his wife, he had always stated that she was the most beautiful woman in the Milky Way.)

'My beautiful, wonderful, sweet, innocent, cute Kapil,' the woman said in a husky voice, 'what a lovely yorker you bowled to dismiss Curtly Ambrose. On behalf of the Heavenly Angels, I invite you to play for us, in the annual Test series against the Redskins.'

'How much are you offering him?' interjected the agent from the Devil.

'Love Kapil, I offer you bounteous love,' the woman replied, 'what is life without love? It is love that makes the solar system go round '

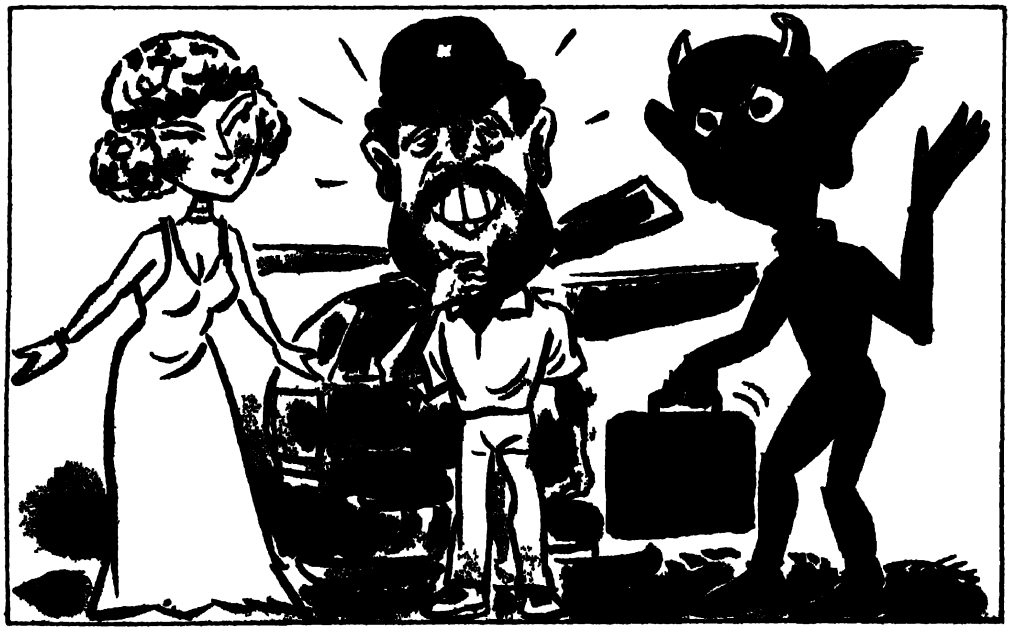
Kapil Dev scratched his head and did not know what to do.

'Let me tell you', the agent from the devil said, 'if you play for us, you won't feel lonely. A lot of your friends are on our team.'

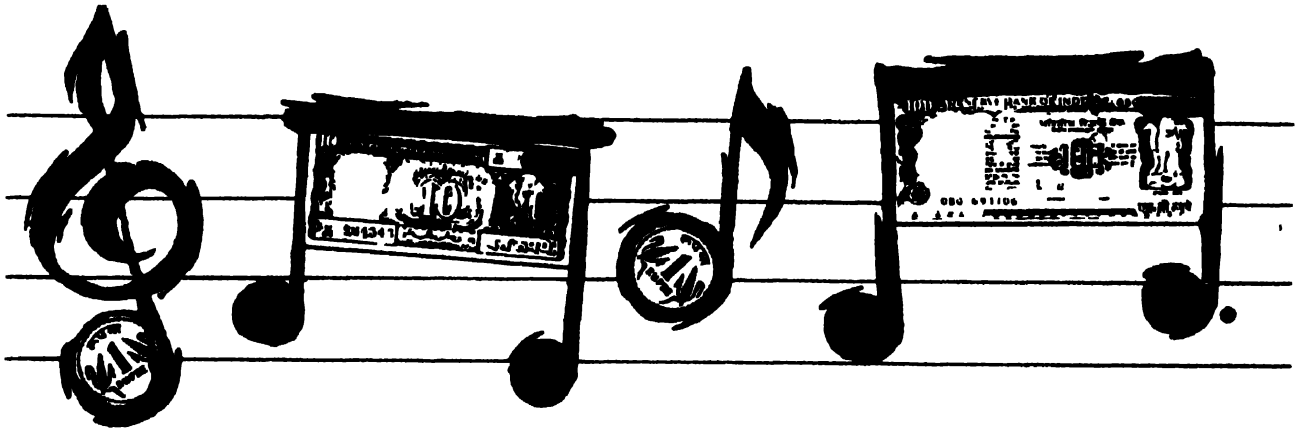
'My darling Kapil', the woman said, 'I shall give you 24 hours to think about it'...and the woman just rose into the air and vanished.

So who is Kapil Dev going to play for? Don't ask me. But here's a piece of advise: watch *Star-TV* from Hongkong. They beam these matches from the other world and you can find out what Kapil's jawab was: the Redskins or the Heavenly Angels.

Shevlin Sebastian



In Tune With Higher Notes'....



Once again LIC declares higher Bonus

This year too, LIC's with-profit policyholders get a higher bonus.The longer your policies are inforce higher the bonus returns. Final (Addl.) Bonus for Jeevan Dhara & Jeevan Akshay policies also declared.

	Bonus per Rs. 1,000 of Sum Assured (payable only on maturity or death)		
	Policies with date of commencement before 1 4 65	between 1 4 65 & 31 3 70	On or After 1 4 70
Endowment (with-profit) policies in force as on 31 3 91	Rs 72 00	Rs 70 00	Rs 67 00
Whole life policies (with profit) in force as on 31 3 91	Rs 89 00	Rs 87 00	Rs 84 00

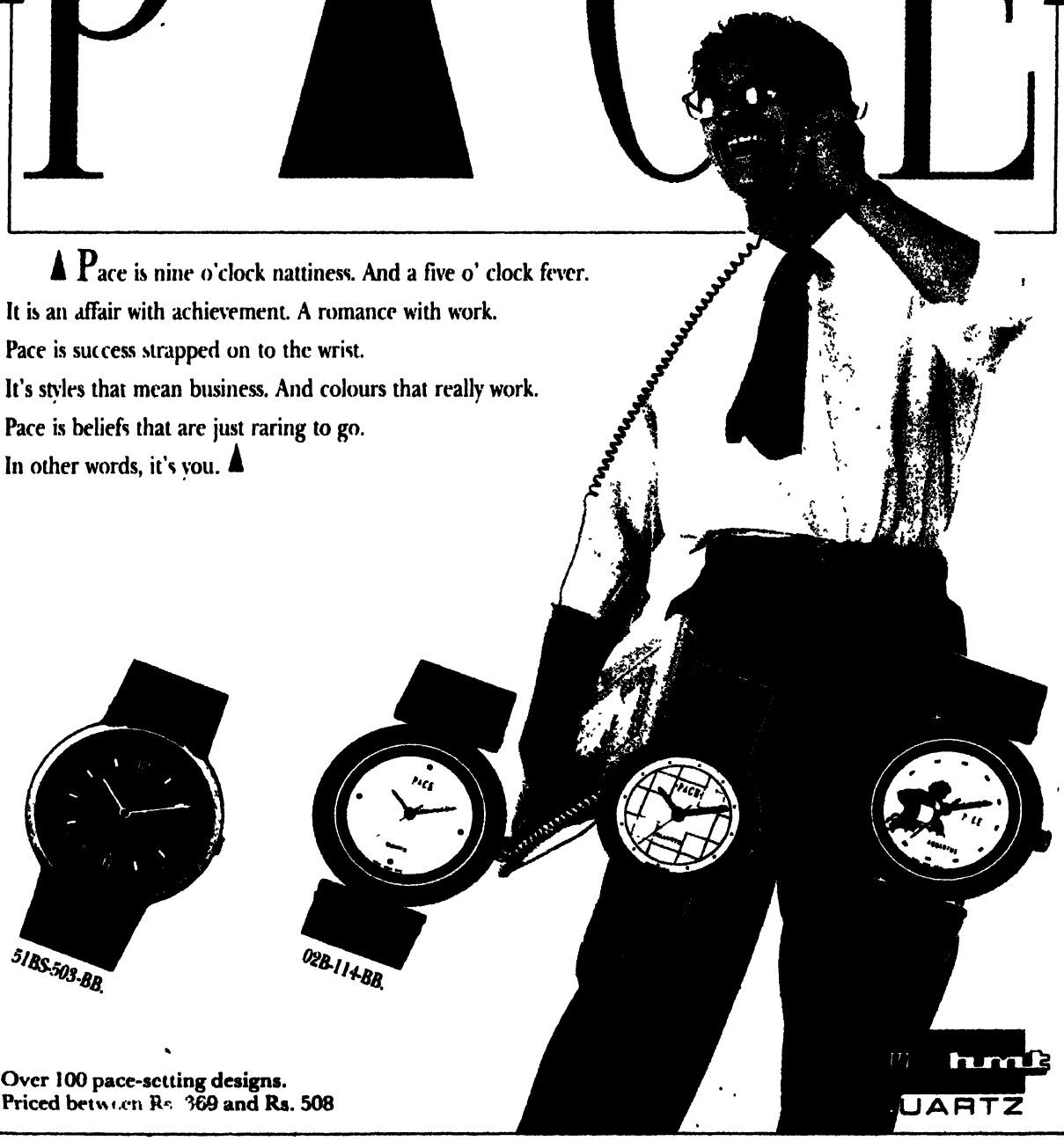
Life Insurance Corporation of India

SPORTSWORLD WEEKLY † JANUARY 1992 REGD.
NO WB/CC/30/79 TN/MS(C)375 MH-BY-S-719

It's Time You Felt The PACE

PACE

▲ Pace is nine o'clock nattiness. And a five o' clock fever.
It is an affair with achievement. A romance with work.
Pace is success strapped on to the wrist.
It's styles that mean business. And colours that really work.
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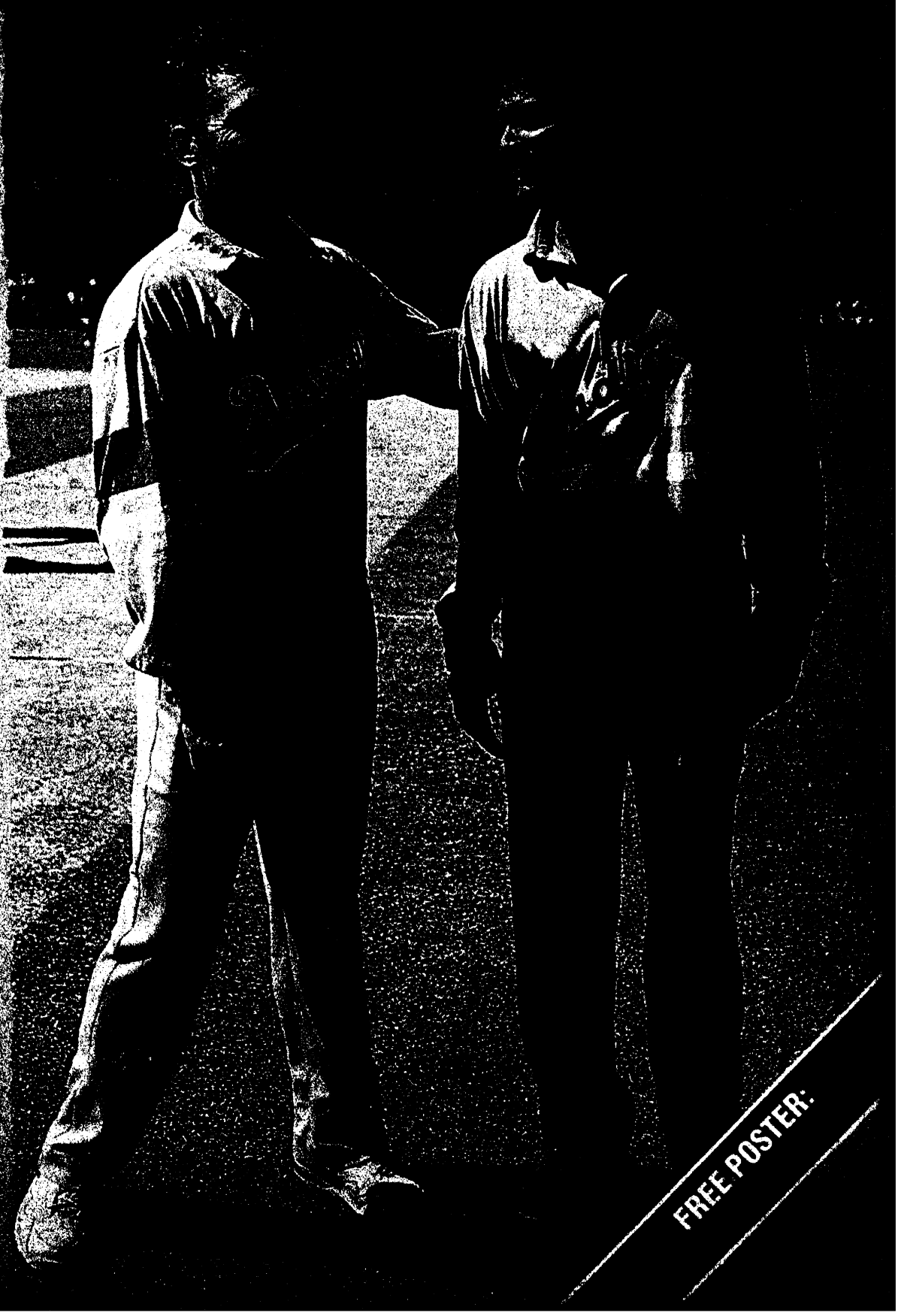


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ONE-DAY AT A TIME!

Humiliated in the Tests, the one-dayers remain India's only hope

FREE POSTER:

To climb the highest mountain, you have to co



Udaipur, 19 June 1991:

At precisely 2[illegible] two young Indians, Rajendra Singh and Lal Singh, finally completed an amazing feat which has now earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records.

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In order to set this new record, the two brothers literally had to make a journey through hell. Driving across the blazing deserts of Rajasthan at the very height of summer. And battling against obstacles like eye-splitting sandstorms, temperatures hitting 45°C and torturous roads that were covered by anything upto 6ft of shifting, treacherous sands!

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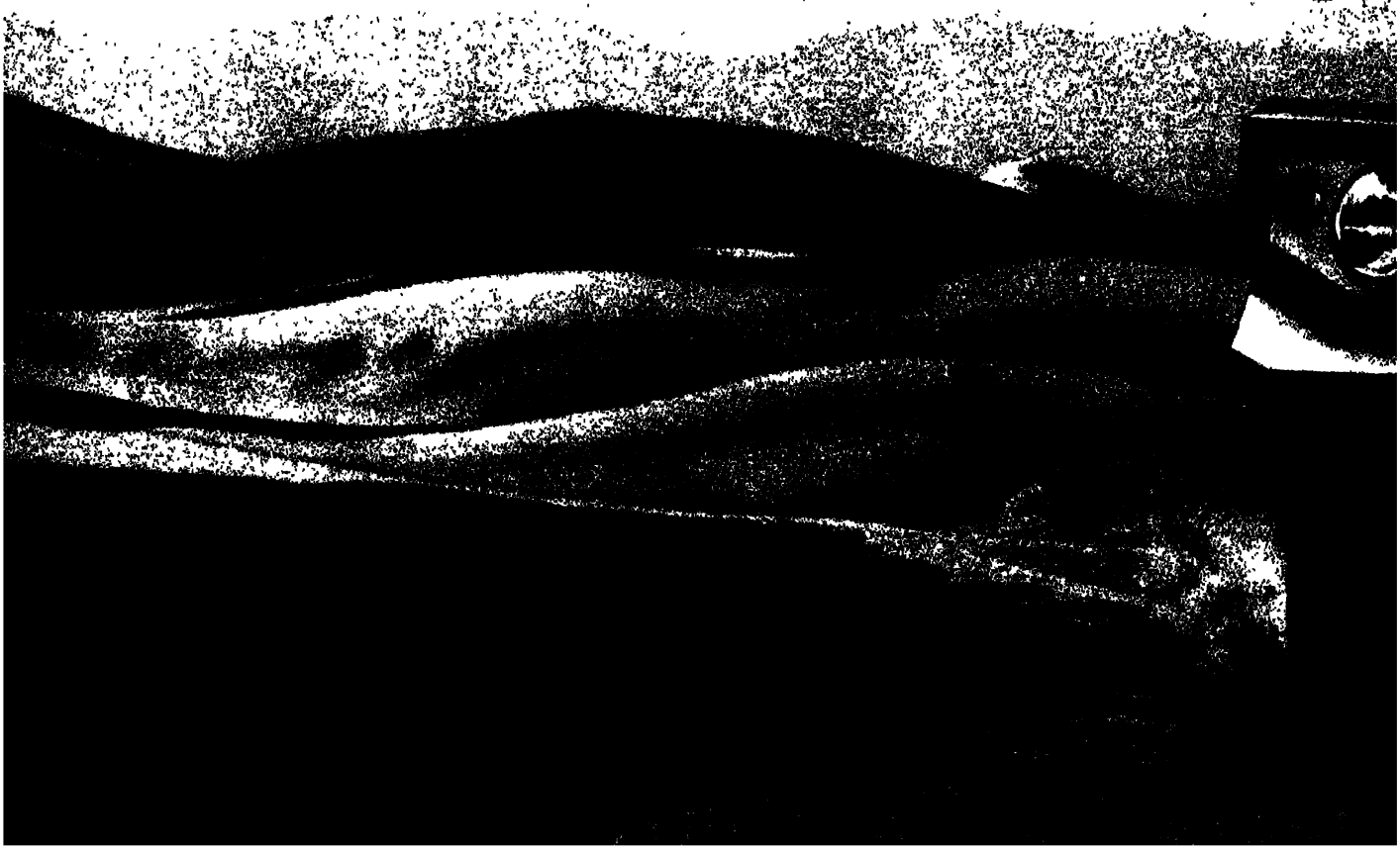


Rajendra Singh



Lal Singh

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1-14 January, 1992 Volume 13 Issue 7
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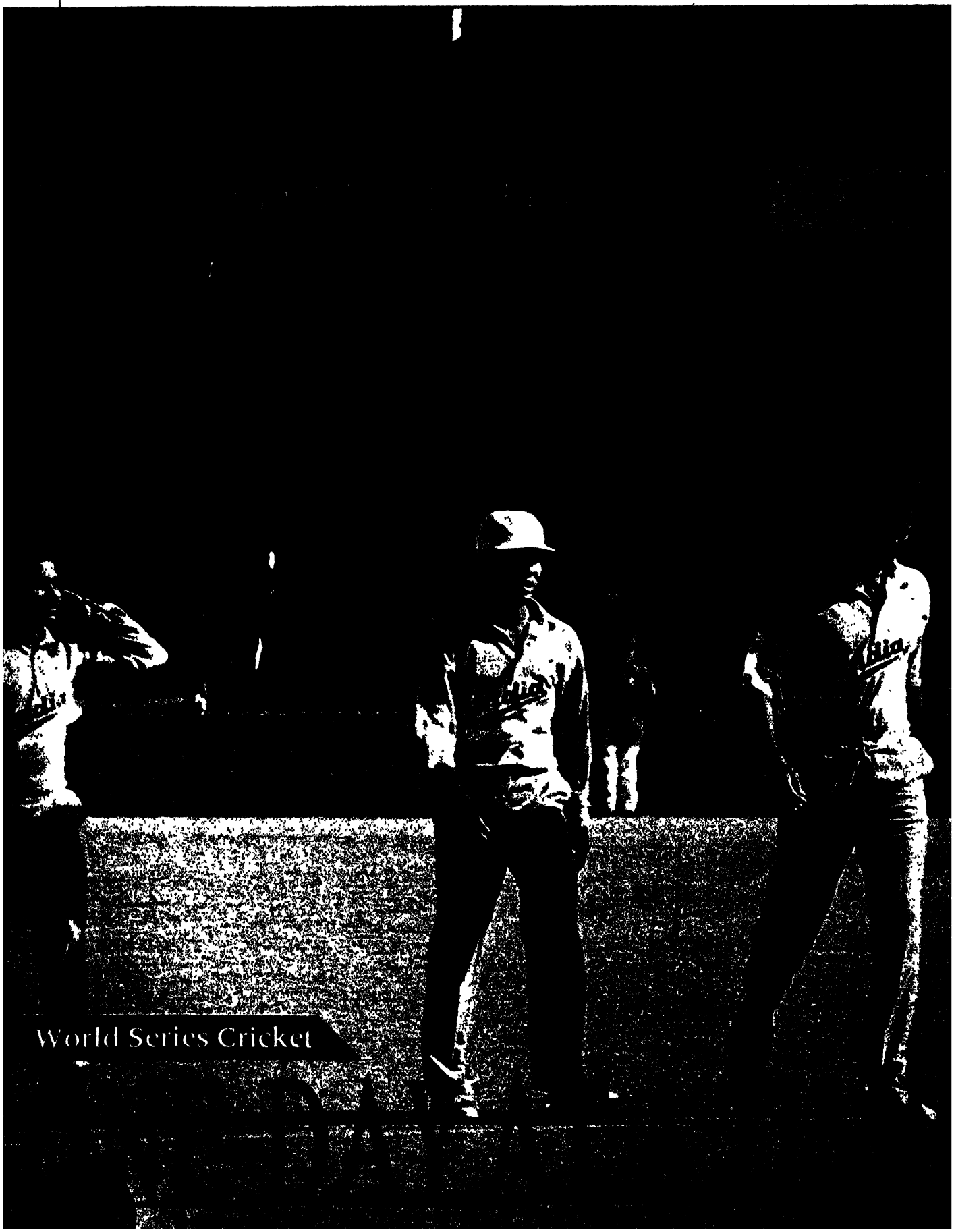
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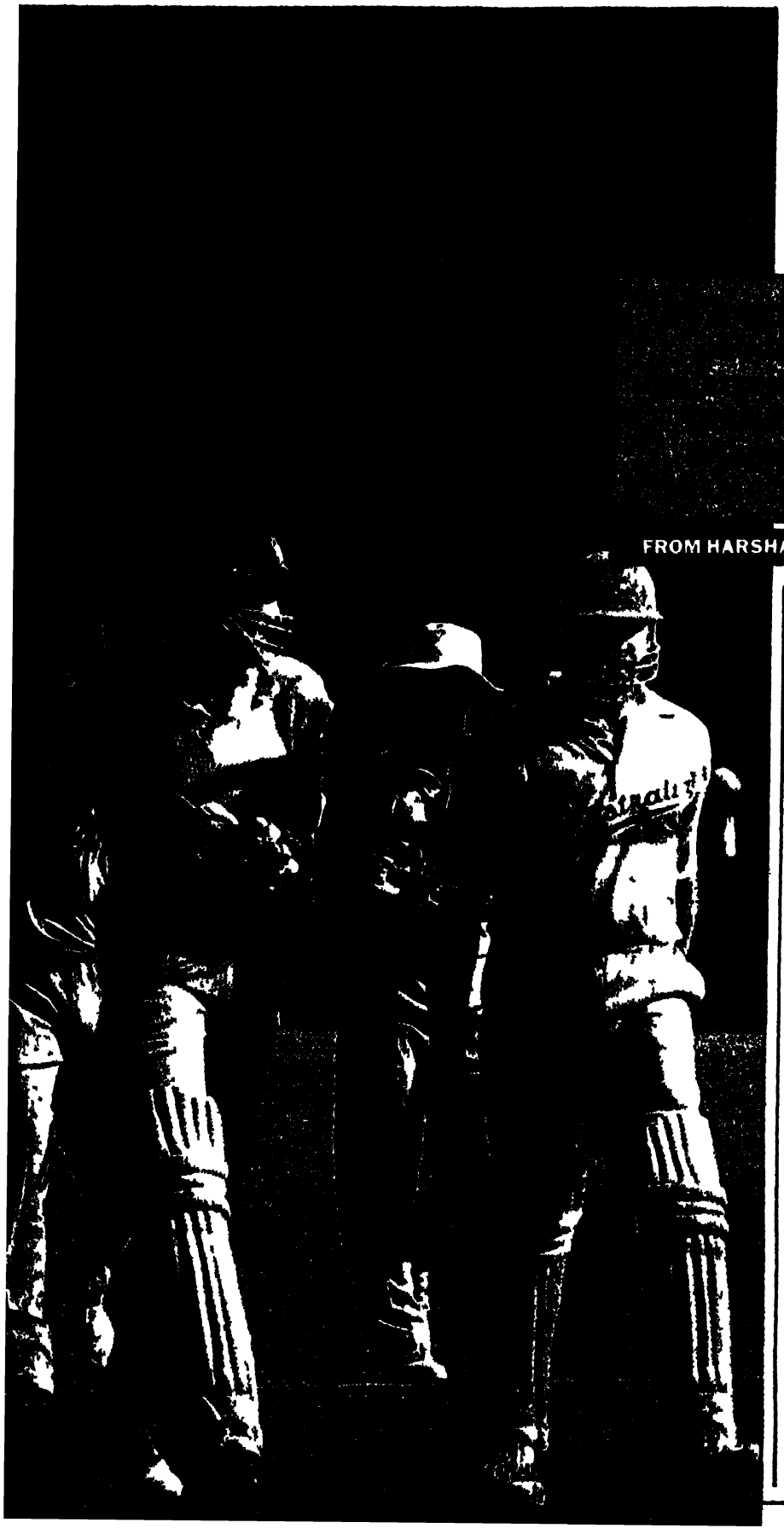
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TOMMY HINDLEY


World Series Cricket



IT was the forbidden outpost The distant pavilion The dumping ground for the Englishmen Australia's first import from England were shipfulls of prisoners. A few governors and lots of Test cricket later, Australia imported one-day cricket They

FROM HARSHA BHOGLE, WITH THE INDIAN TEAM

added a touch of modernity and a dash of enterprise to it and, freed from the clutches of British orthodoxy, one-day cricket bloomed The pastures were green and the air was fresh and one-day cricket moved, bag and baggage, to set up home in Australia

Today, a few hiccups in the early eighties notwithstanding, Australia is the undisputed leader of the one-day game It s evident in everything they do whether it is fielding or running between the wickets or simply adopting bold new approaches Indeed one-day cricket is part of the Aussie psyche now It almost runs through their blood

Nothing illustrates that better than their performance in the first round of the Benson and Hedges triangular Australia has set the standards and everybody else will be evaluated against that, here onwards

From an Australian point of view, what must be most satisfying is that their victories are being achieved, not through individual genius, but through collective spirit The Aussie team today is like a wonderfully tuned machine No fuss No noise But incredibly efficient Every part knows what it has to do and merely functions as a part of a collective whole Look at the backbones of this Australian



team While sheer ability is represented by a Dean Jones or a Craig McDermott, the lifeline really is a Boon or a Marsh or a Waugh or a Peter Taylor. Not by a stretch are they world beaters on their own, but in this Aussie machine they merge superbly

Prabhakar strikes: His has been a consistent performance

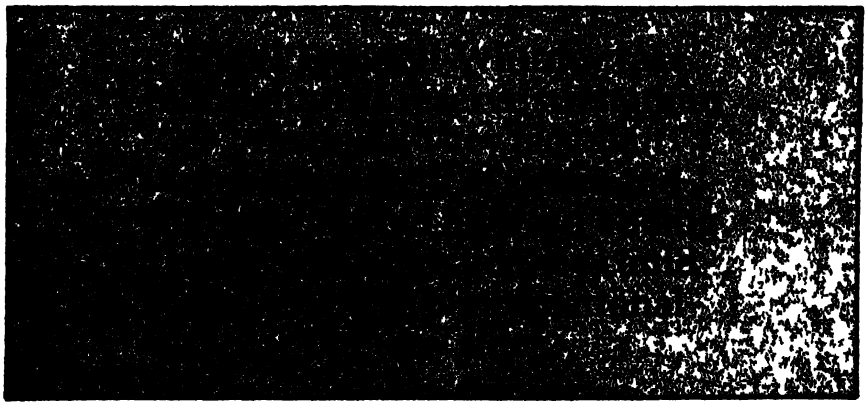
There is no facet of one-day cricket that symbolises Australia's domination better than their fielding does. Early spectators to a one-day match have been treated to a delightful exhibition of fielding practice as the Aussies attack every ball, back up every throw like a result hinged on it. There are no passengers and nobody is allowed to stroll by himself Allan Border at 36 is part of it, David Boon with his bulky figure is part of it and Bruce Reid with his suspect back is part of it. Not surprisingly, on the field, they have left incandescent trails behind them; best exemplified in the day-night game against the West Indies at the MCG where their batsmen only managed 175 but their fielders made that appear twice as big.

It's made the other sides look amateurish, often pedestrian by comparison. The West Indies had a shocking day at the SCG the other night when even a good return stood out. And the sight of Azharuddin having to instruct some of his fielders to draw lines to mark their fielding positions has



Pyjama cricket vibes well with the Aussie life style





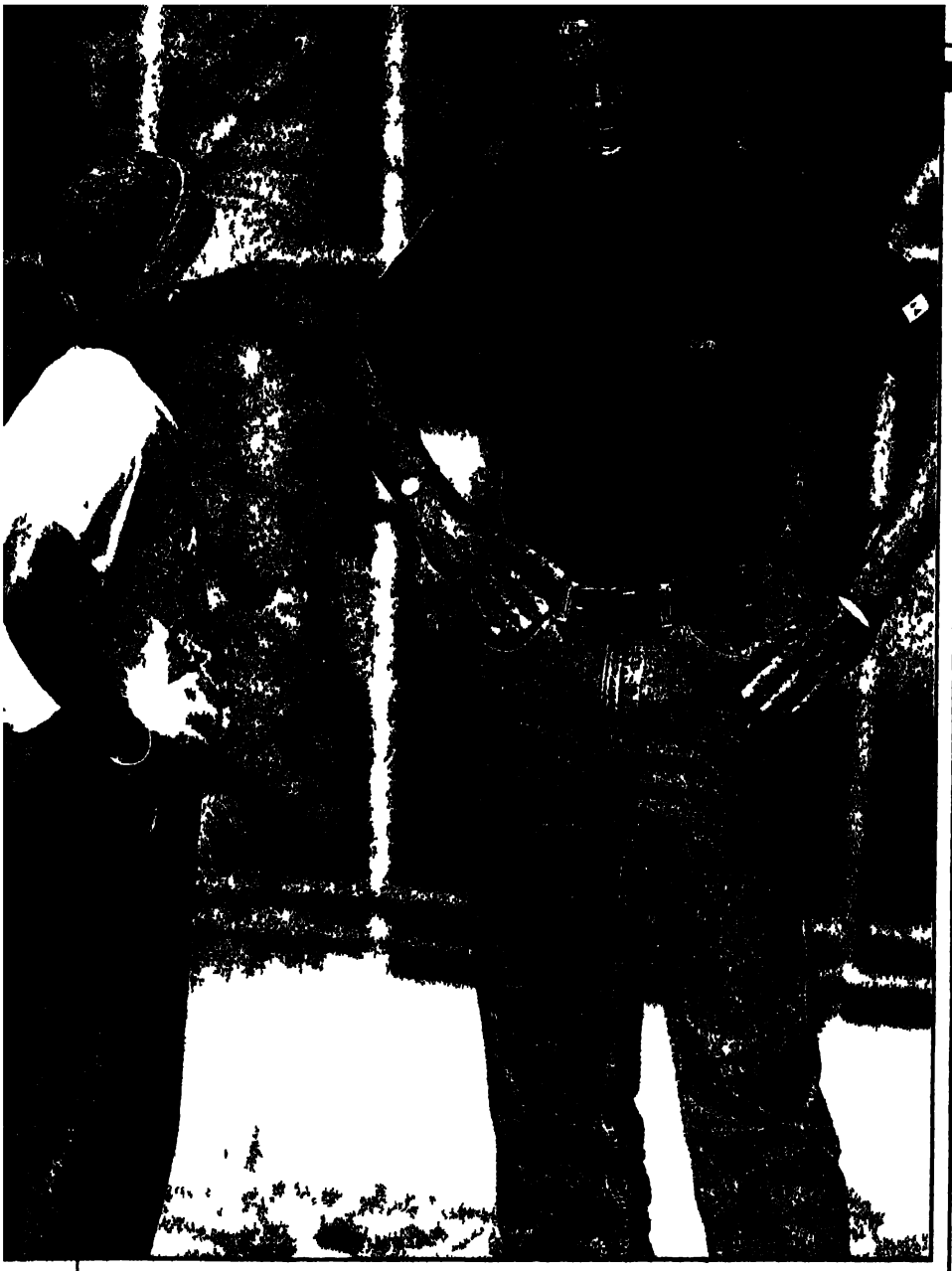
not gone unnoticed.

Allan Border was quite open about the importance the Australians place on fielding. "If you notice, a lot of one-day matches, in fact the majority, are decided by a margin of around 20 runs. We reckon those 20 runs, if not scored by the bat, should be saved in the field. They could come from an excellent catch to break a partnership or simply by cutting fours to threes and threes to twos. And if we manage to earn those 20 in the field, we've won a game '

Apart from making life difficult for the batsmen, their fielding has also made the bowling look larger than life Admittedly, McDermott is bowling as well as anybody in the world today; very fast and very straight. And Reid has given the opening attack a few more teeth. But apart from these two, the bowling is at best efficient and it is the fielding that is largely responsible for this. Two men stand out there: Dean Jones and Steve Waugh, but all the others can be proud of their efforts and nothing symbolises that better than Peter Taylor's fielding to his own bowling, frequently allowing mid-on and mid-off to stand much squarer than otherwise

The other Australian gift to one-day cricket is running between the wickets Greg Chappell was saying on Channel 9 that the side that takes more singles often wins the match and the Australians are proof of that theory. Even easy singles are often run hard thereby putting pressure on the fieldsman And since the batsmen have often backed up two or three yards, even a slight fumble fetches a second.

Boon and Marsh have always been outstanding here and it is noticeable that almost all their early runs come from singles Dean Jones is brilliant, the jewel in the crown, and often when he runs the sight is not of a succession of steps but of a free flow A century by Jones, or even a century partnership with him in it, is worth at least 15 runs more merely



Ian Bishop's (seen here with manager Derek Murray) returning home has handicapped the Windies bowling a great deal

through the speed between the wickets And Allan Border at 36 is game to run several all run fours

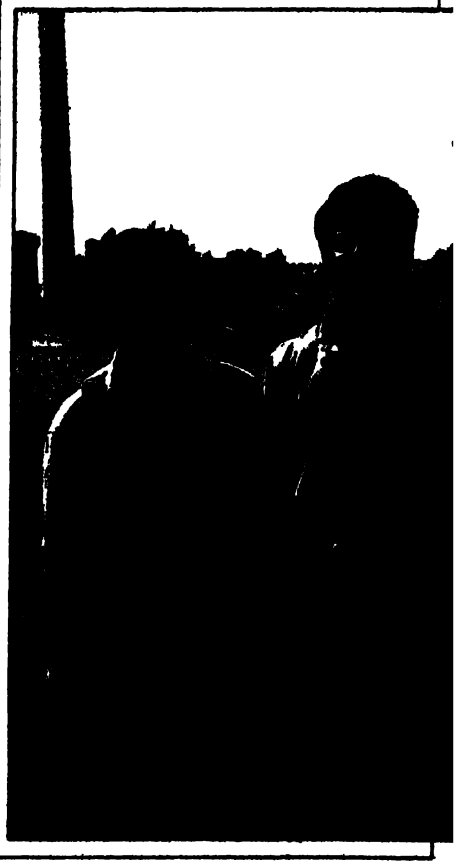
The key to it all is fitness The Aussies are an extremely fit bunch not only because it improves their performance, which it undeniably does, but because they need to hold on to their places in the side A fitness lapse could allow another player into the side and then getting back to it can well become impossible As Simon O'Donnell discovered when a shoulder problem allowed Mike Whitney a place. And like the Arab and the camel, Whitney clawed inch by inch to make his a pretty permanent place.

Indeed, the O'Donnell-Whitney case also highlights the reserve strength in Australia The side that won four out of its first five games could afford to be without Mark Taylor, Mark Waugh and Merv Hughes And a player called Michael Bevan who seems to be leaving talent behind in his footsteps The Australians face an embarrassment of riches and Border admitted he wasn't being cocky when he said that they could easily have two international one-day sides

There was just a bit of cockiness at the start though when the Australians went down to India by 107 runs at Perth. The attitude just didn't seem right from ball one, Border admitted later adding that "we deserved what we got. A kick up the backside Bob Simpson looked at it a bit differently though 'Perhaps it was the best thing that could have happened to Australian cricket this year, he said And ' subsequent events seem to suggest that he was right after all

THAT one-day result could well turn out to be crucial for India when the tournament resumes on January 9 At the moment the Indians are four points clear of the West Indians though they have played one game extra If Australia win both remaining matches against the West Indies, India will only need to win one of their last three matches and from the way things are going, they would need to try very hard not to be in the final

Azharuddin had said after the Brisbane Test that the one-day tournament might just allow the batsmen to play themselves back into form That has largely been



Srinath and Subroto Banerjee: Bright prospects on a bleak tour



Srinath strikes again and Srikkanth and the rest are ecstatic

true and he and Shastri are the only two who have not justified that statement Indeed India has looked far better in the one day games than they did at Brisbane and the one important aspect that has prevented them from doing better is the absence of a solid opening partnership In the first match at Perth, Shastri scored 33 but wickets were tumbling all along at the other end Thereafter he hasn t really stayed long enough to provide a platform for Nos 3, 4 and 5 to build on

Invariably Manjrekar has walked into a crisis and on three occasions out of five so has Tendulkar On the two other occasions, India had a good start courtesy Srikkanth And it wasn t just a coincidence that India won both games

The first of the two games at Adelaide, against the West Indies, highlighted this aspect and showed up another problem After Srikkanth had scored 82 edge-of-the-seat-excitement runs, all the subsequent batsmen walked in without too much pressure on them It suddenly looked a different batting side as Manjrekar scored 55, Tendulkar got 48 and Azhar and Kapil scored their 31 and 21 respectively at faster than run a-ball It's quite apparent that if one factor has to be singled out in quest of a better performance it will be a good opening partnership In spite of the fielding, which has been quite embarrassing at times

Srinath showed the kind of pleasure he normally reserves for his vegetarian food as he combined hostility with accuracy. Observers here have been wondering if he is the quickest bowler to have emerged from India for a long time and one is inclined to agree with them

The other aspect that India will be looking at and which the Adelaide game highlighted, is the absence of a slogger in the side India s last 10 overs have rarely produced more than 50 With Kapil Dev not quite the uninhibited hitter he was and others like Chetan Sharma not around anymore, the last few overs tend to have a pretty polite look to them The man who could change that is Tendulkar who is clearly the cleanest hitter in this side In each of the five games, Tendulkar threw his wicket away when set for many more The Indian plan is clearly to have Tendulkar bat through the 50 overs but each time, he has done

PHOTOGRAPHS KAMAL JULKA AND DEV FEATURES





If Shastri strikes form with the ball, India will be very pleased

the difficult part, and looked extremely polished, but has chosen the wrong ball to clobber.

But he and Manjrekar have now played themselves back into their usual rhythm and that should augur very well for the Test matches at Melbourne and Sydney.

The problem in the middle is that Azharuddin hasn't got going yet and it has been depressing watching him struggle. All of a sudden the strokes that lit up two successive English summers seemed to have been left behind there. Abbas Ali Baig says it is only a matter of time before he finds his touch again. It's vital for India that he does because on these hard Australian wickets, he will be a very difficult batsman to set a field too.

The true gain from this Australian summer has been the Indian bowling. Written off before the tour started, and I was among t[illegible]lprits, it has shone with a [illegible]low. And one man has stood out. Mocking all those who said he was finished, all those who said that his outswinger can only be found in a museum, Kapil Dev is bowling better than he has at any stage in the last two or three years. He had a wonderful Test match at Brisbane and in the one-dayers his first spell has always been outstanding. So far he has had figures of 2-30, 1-5, 0-21, 4-54, and 1-12 and with Ambrose and McDermott he has been the outstanding bowler of the tournament so far. Srinath continues to impress and at Perth he was amazing. He showed the kind of pleasure he normally reserves for his vegetarian food as he combined hostility with accuracy. Observers here have been wondering is he the quickest bowler to have emerged from India for a long time and one is inclined to agree with them. At Perth, he got wonderful support from Banerjee, though a toe injury has kept him out since then.

The quiet achiever has been Manoj Prabhakar who has often played a superb foil to Kapil in the opening overs. But perhaps the most heartening sign has been the return of Ravi Shastri. His five wicket show at Perth and his subsequent bowling efforts must surely convince Shastri how unfair he has been to his bowling arm. It had been a quiet voice all along, but at Perth, the moment the fingers wrapped themselves around the ball, they decided to do the talking. His 5-15 was the best he has ever bowled and what is even more encouraging is that he is willing to throw the ball in the air; and the bounce on these wickets is helping him. And logic suggests that Shastri, the bowler, will be heard of more than he had imagined when he allowed South Africa to leave Delhi without facing him.

THE biggest disappointments of the summer, and the Indians haven't minded that, have been the West Indies. At Sharjah, the chinks in their batting had become apparent but two unbelievable innings by Richie Richardson had thrown the blanket over them. With Richardson joining Azhar and Jones in the brilliant-but-out-of-form category, the reality alas, cannot be hidden any more.





The mainstay of the middle order, Manjrekar and Tendulkar

The biggest disappointment of the summer has been the West Indian batting

Promising though they may be reputed to be, Wallace, Lara and Arthurton don't seem to fit into the great West Indian batting tradition and the bold decision of the West Indian selectors to give Richardson a side without any big egos in it must be looked at carefully again.

Apart from Richardson, Haynes is the only real stalwart and he has been plagued by a series of outstanding balls. Hooper is the other player of real class but apart from a brilliant 77 at the SCG against Australia, he has hidden his talent quite remarkably.

The batting let down has meant that there is enormous pressure on the bowling and for most of the time, it has stood up to the test very well. Curtly Ambrose has been quite fabulous. He clearly isn't bowling anywhere near as quickly as he can, preferring to concentrate on the right line and length. In spite of McDermott's extra pace and Kapil Dev's guile, he must be the bowler.

Unfortunately he hasn't received too much support in the field, as close-ups of that remarkably expressive face testify, but that only enhances the value of his performance.

He has been supported well by Anderson Cummins who, so early in his career, has fitted into the West Indian bowling machine wonderfully. He has shown remarkable control over his line and length and yet, seems to be holding himself back. It will be very interesting to see him going flat out in longer matches.

Marshall has had one outstanding performance but he is clearly not the bowler he was as his dwindling strike rate would show. But on moments, the old magic surfaces and that alone is worth coming to the ground for.

Unfortunately for the quicks, the traditional support in the field has not made itself apparent and at the SCG, in the last game against Australia, the West Indies achieved their first direct hit of the competition! A statistic that reflects their fielding most accurately.●

AUSTRALIAN DIARY

A Melbourne Christmas fairytale: Santa Claus was puzzled when Rudolph and the team of faithful reindeer landed ever so smoothly on the roof of the Melbourne Hilton. The sleigh was unusually light for this sort of trip, and Santa just could not fathom the reason. In the sleigh he had all the gifts that the members of the touring Indian cricket team had asked him for, but it just did not weigh as much as it should have. It was a while before Santa,

Should Azhar stay as captain? The million-dollar question

squeezing his way through one of the chimneys, had worked it out. The team had asked him for plenty of runs, and his elves in the workshop at the North Pole had been unable to oblige.

IT was not until the first day of the third Test in Sydney that his touring side began to show the sort of mettle



INDIA IN AUSTRALIA

THE WRONG CHOICE

Instead of the historic series against South Africa, India should have prepared for this Test series with more play on Aussie soil

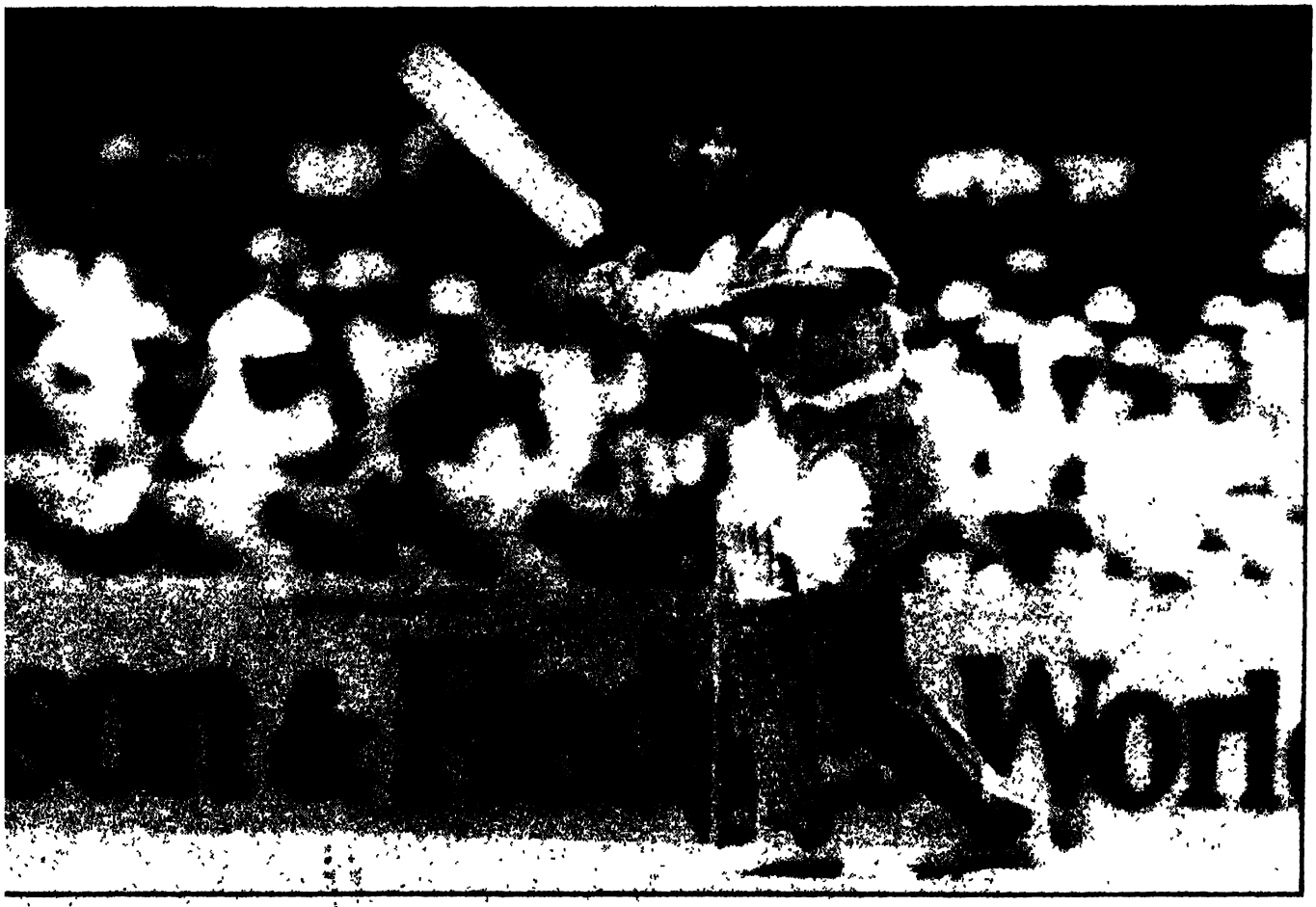
this correspondent had proudly predicted even before Azharuddin and his team had left the shores of India. I, for one, certainly cannot remember the last time India went into a Test match with four fast bowlers. It was a move that certainly brought results, with the Australians looking restricted and shackled for about the first time in the series.

It wasn't so much, you see, that Australia had won the first two Tests, but that India had been routed—nay, verily thrashed. Where were all those sparkling performances we had anticipated from the string of talented frontline batsmen in this squad? Apart from those now-famous rescue acts from the lower-order and tailend batsmen (thank the Lord for gritty cricketers like Manoj Prabhakar and Kiran More), we should remember that both those Test matches would have finished in even more ignominious fashion.

Thus, the decision to drop Venkatapathy Raju for Subroto Banerjee was an all-or nothing gamble, a desperate but bold plan to save face in the next Test match. This was the bold approach we had all hoped for early in the series, and it was compounded by the gamble to send Australia in to bat once the toss had been won. The gamble would have worked even better if David Boon had perished, but at the end of the first day he was still there with 89 runs to his name and a pugnacious expression on the jaw.

Where, then, did this tour go wrong for India? On Indian soil, one suspects, when the decision was made to play the three one-day games against South Africa. The choice of hosting the historic series against Clive

It was a while before Sanjiv, squeezing his way through one of the chimneys, had worked it out. The Indian team had asked for plenty of runs, and his elves had been unable to oblige



Srikkanth was the only one to have a complaint against the umpiring

Rice's men meant, in effect, that there was little preparation on Australian soil for the Test series. The choice, we must conclude in retrospect, was warped. A one-day series against the South Africans was given more emphasis than a Test series against Australia, one of the most talented and certainly the most competitive side in the world.

That, then, was the first fatal error. It was compounded several times in the course of the first two Tests on Australian soil. All the negative publicity during the Melbourne Test certainly did the cause of the tourists no great good. At this stage, let me point out that, no, I was NOT at the MCG the day of the controversial catch. However, I had the benefit of watching the event several times in the course of the day, in slow motion and at normal speed, courtesy Channel Nine's replay facilities. If it was impossible to tell whether the catch had been cleanly taken to dismiss Azharuddin in slow motion, it was utterly impossible to tell, at normal speed, what had eventuated.

Let it also be said that the Indian captain did no harm by standing his ground, but where the Indian team lost my sympathy vote was when the manager complained about the talent or otherwise of umpire Len King. It is a manager's duty to make a fuss if he believes his team has received a raw deal, but King's umpiring did not warrant the complaint. Yes, Srikkanth was the victim of a dubious King decision, but if the Indian management had looked back in less impassioned fashion on the course of the match, they would have realised that things had evened out with the umpire's decision not to rule Azhar out when there was the controversy over that catch.

No one looks kindly on a losing team that makes a complaint about the umpiring; too often it is viewed at the time—and in retrospect—as a ploy



No one looks kindly on a losing team that makes a complaint about the umpiring: too often it is viewed as a ploy to divert attention or shift the blame



The Indian team should demolish all myths about being a four-day Test side

to divert attention or shift the blame from the fact that a Test match has been lost. In this case, lost badly.

The Australian press treated the incident extremely fairly. I can still remember vividly the John Lever incident and I wonder how the Indian press would have reacted if the situation had been reversed and if, on Indian soil, Australia had lost two Test matches by large margins and then taken refuge in whining about the standard of umpiring.

That said, there was even more negative publicity later in the week, over the question of whether Azhar was to be replaced as captain by Kapil Dev and whether Krishnamachari Srikkanth would play in the final Test in Sydney or not. Azhar, a television microphone thrust in his direction shortly after he arrived at Sydney airport, merely said he had not the time to read reports about his being replaced, and added he did not think about such things. To him go full marks for handling the pressure admirably and deflecting the controversy.

On the question of Srikkanth, it was hinted in the Indian press that the Tamil Nadu opener and former Indian captain had approached the team executive to ask if he could be overlooked for the final Test. The cricket manager, Abbas Ali Baig, said he had told Srikkanth "not to take the report seriously", while Ranbir Singh said unequivocally, "the report is without foundation. It is ridiculous and reflects badly on him and the team". The controversy flared, but the question, to my mind, was merely academic anyway. Srikkanth had only scored 24 runs in four Test innings, so what was all the fuss about?

Santa shook his head as he clambered aboard the sleigh again, bound for yet another destination. He was not an avid cricket buff, but he knew his elves would have plenty of runs for the hugely talented Indian side next Christmas. And he had a suspicion that, given the right leadership, this team could, very soon, demolish all the myths about it being a four-day Test side. The twinkle was back in Santa's eyes.

David McMahon, Melbourne

Figures, Lies And Statistics

"Figures don 't lie, but liars figure."
—Anonymous.

TENNIS, a sport historically not known much for statistics, is suddenly being deluged with numbers. I bet you didn't know that unheralded Lars Koslowski leads the world in tiebreakers percentage, 1000, because of his 4-0 tiebreaker record. And, through Dec. 1, 1991 in the IBM-ATP Player Match Standings that many newspapers now carry, we learn that Magnus Gustafsson tops everyone in clay play with an .837 percentage based on a 41-8 record. Stats are available on just about everything from who breaks serve the most often to who wins first serve points most often to who wins most often against lefthanders.

Is all this statistical data—undoubtedly inevitable because of tennis' professionalization, computers and the worldwide obsession with sports—a good or bad development?

Before dealing with that question, we must acknowledge that team sports absolutely need individual statistics. After all, teams have official standings, based on indisputable won-lost records; but their players do not.

Tennis, a sport historically not known much for statistics, is suddenly being deluged with numbers. But do these statistics speak the truth?

By PAUL FEIN

The Chicago Bulls beat the Los Angeles Lakers for the 1991 National Basketball Association championship. No argument there. But did NBA "most valuable player" Air Jordan have a better year than Magic Johnson?

You'll need statistics to make your case. Experts and everyday fans typically scrutinize statistical criteria like per game averages for scoring, rebounds, assists, steals, turnovers, etc., plus seasonal field goal and free throw percentages, and throw in some intangibles like leadership and clutch play. You may put more weight on Jordan's scoring or Johnson's assists, but evaluate the stats you must.

So, what about the individual sport of tennis? Strictly speaking, tennis doesn't really need any statistics—other than singles and doubles rankings, all-time records and the compilation of official tournament and national team competition results.

If Michael Stich wins Wimbledon, it really doesn't matter if his semifinal victim, Stefan Edberg, won more total points, had a higher first serve percentage and committed fewer unforced errors. Your winner is still Stich. End of discussion!

However, since pro tennis does not have any official annual world rankings, that are accepted by all our sport's disparate ruling bodies, media, players and fans, the *evaluation* of tournament records is a game anyone can play. And therein lies the danger



Sabatini was having the best year and was the tournament favourite because she had the best won-lost record in 91

and the challenge.

For example, just before the 1991 French Open, various media people presented us with the conventional wisdom that Gabriela Sabatini was having the best year and was the tournament favourite because she had the best—get this—won-lost singles record in 1991.

The facts that then world-ranked No. 1 Monica Seles had won the only Grand Slam event up to that point, the Australian Open, and the prestigious Lipton International and reached the Italian Open final (which Sabatini won) and made or won the final of every other tournament didn't seem to matter much to these know-nothings. The overall won-lost record—as if this were the NBA or NHL standings where all games count the same—apparently counted more to them than weighing the value of the tournaments. What nonsense!

What's the point here, you ask? It's that increasingly we are bombarded with statistics in a sport that had traditionally been quite unstatistical. And that is already proving to be a mixed blessing.

The average tennis fan may know that Rod Laver is the only player ever to have won two Grand Slams (in 1962 and '69) and that Martina Navratilova captured a record nine Wimbledon singles championships. But he or she likely couldn't even tell you that Margaret Court holds the record for most career Grand Slam titles (62) and that Jimmy Connors is unique in winning the U.S. Open on three different court surfaces.



Gabriela Sabatini: best won-lost singles record

Now figure fanatics can immerse themselves in a plethora of stats. Koslowski's impressive-looking 4-0 tiebreaker record this year is followed by Jaime Yzaga and Jan Gunnarsson at 6-1



(.857 percentage) and Renzo Furlan at 12-4 (.750 percentage).

What we do *not* know, however, is whether Koslowski and the other top tiebreaker performers beat top 10, top 50 or even top 150 players in these tiebreakers; whether any of these tiebreakers decided matches in the final set; how important the tournament was; and the records of his opponents in tiebreakers, etc. Those circuit leading tiebreaker records, in other words, may be terrific or just pretty good pressure play, after all things are considered. The problem is, all things are not con-



TOMMY HINDLEY

sidered. And they never can be—unless you break down the stats and go back to each match, each set and often each game and even each point. And that usually isn't feasible.

Unlike nearly all other pro sports, tennis thus far has chosen not to require (reasonable) minimum totals for statistical inclusion. So we curiously find clay court specialist Martin Jaite listed in first place on grass. Ahead of grass court stars Stich, Edberg and Boris Becker, he has a minute but perfect 1-0 record and a 1.000 percentage. Minimums are clearly obligatory or else undistinguished Jaime Oncins would wind up atop the indoor category with a meager and unrevealing 2-0 record while Becker's truly outstanding 17-3 record would rate only second best.

There are also inevitably misleading statistics. Take total prize money, a category flawed on at least three counts. This weekly statistic combines singles, doubles and mixed doubles earnings and therefore tells nothing about success in each event. Second, the cumulative nature of prize money means that Player A could generally have worse tournament results than Player B but compete in 1 1/2 or 2 times as many tournaments and thus amass more prize money. Moreover, mega-prize money events such as the $6 million Grand Slam Cup, further throw off the earnings numbers. Its winner collects a staggering $2 million, at least triple what the other Grand Slam tournament champions collect.



If Michael Stich wins Wimbledon, it really doesn't matter if his semi final victim, Stefan Edberg, had higher first serve percentage and committed fewer unforced errors. Your winner is still Stich. End of discussion...

Of course, the correct analysis and interpretation of statistics are everything. For example, if you analyze first serve percentage in isolation, you'll miss the point. However, if you judiciously figure in other related, crucial variables and stats—such as points won outright on first serve, the quality and consistency of the second serve, the caliber of the opponent's service return, the frequency of holding serve, etc. —then you'll understand that 65 per cent first serve success for Chris Evert may be so-so, while 55 per cent for Stich may be satisfactory on a given day

The most revealing statistics and sophisticated analyses are often produced by topnotch coaches whose tactical and technical advice to players reflects that knowledge.

The rest of us should enjoy these stats but be careful not to conclude too much from them. Remember: while figures don't lie, they sometimes mislead ●

1992 INTERNATIO



TOMMY HINDLEY

NAL CALENDAR

ATHLETICS

April 12: London marathon
April 20: Boston marathon
May 17: IAAF Grand Prix, Sao Paulo
May 24: IAAF Grand Prix, New York
May 30: IAAF Grand Prix, San Jose
June 6: IAAF Grand Prix, Seville
June 30: IAAF Grand Prix, Helsinki
July 2: IAAF Grand Prix, Stockholm
July 4: IAAF Grand Prix, Oslo
July 8: IAAF Grand Prix, Lausanne
July 10: IAAF Grand Prix, Crystal Palace
July 15: IAAF Grand Prix, Nice
Aug. 11: IAAF Grand Prix, Monte Carlo
Aug. 16: IAAF Grand Prix, Cologne
Aug. 19: IAAF Grand Prix, Zurich
Aug. 21: IAAF Grand Prix, Berlin
Aug. 28: IAAF Grand Prix, Brussels
Sept. 4: IAAF Grand Prix Final, Turin
Sept. 15-20: IAAF World Junior championships, Seoul
Sept. 25-27: World Cup Athletics, Havana
Sept. 27: Berlin marathon
Nov. 1: New York City marathon

BADMINTON

March 11-14: All England Open Championships
May 6-17: Thomas and Uber Cup finals, Kuala Lumpur
May 24-June 6: World championships, Birmingham

CRICKET

Jan. 2-Feb 17: England tour of New Zealand.
Feb. 22-March 25: World Cup in Australia and New Zealand
Jan. 11-22: WSC Triangular tournament-Final Phase
Jan. 25: India vs Australia, Fourth Test, Adelaide
Feb. 1-5: India vs Australia, Fifth Test, Perth
April 13: English First class season starts
June-August: Pakistan in England

FOOTBALL

April 1: European Cup quarter-final group matches; Cup winners Cup and UEFA Cup semi finals, first leg.
April 5: FA Cup semi finals
April 29: UEFA Cup final first leg
May 8: Cup Winners Cup final
May 9: FA Cup final
May 13: UEFA Cup final, second leg



May 20: European Cup final
June 10-26: European Nations championships, Sweden

GOLF

June 18-21: US Open
June 25-28: French Open
July 16-19: British Open
Nov. 5-8: World Cup of Golf, Spain

HOCKEY

Feb. 21-28: Champions Trophy, Pakistan



MOTOR RACING

Formula One grand prix
March 1: South African, Kyalami
March 22: Mexican, Mexico City
May 17: San Marino, Imola.
May 31: Monaco.
June 14: Canadian, Montreal
July 5: French, Magny-Cours
July 12: British, Silverstone
July 26: German, Hockenheim
Aug 16: Hungarian, Hungaroring
Aug 30: Belgian, Spa Francorchamps
Sept 13: Italian, Monza
Sept 27: Portuguese, Estoril
Oct. 25: Japanese, Suzuka
Nov. 8: Australian, Adelaide.
June 21: Le Mans 24-hour race

TENNIS

Jan. 13-26: Australian Open, Melbourne
Jan. 31-Feb. 2: Davis Cup, first round
March 2-8: Indian Wells (men), Boca Raton (women).
March 13-22: Key Biscayne (men and women).
March 27-29: Davis Cup, second round.
March 30- : Hilton Head (women).
April 6-12: Japan Open, Tokyo (men).
April 20-26: Monte Carlo Open (men).
May 4-10: German Open, Hamburg (men); Italian open, Rome (women).
May 11-17: Italian Open, Rome (men) Berlin (women).
May 18-24: World Team Cup, Dusseldorf (men).
May 25-June 7: French Open, Paris.
June 2-7: Direct Line Insurance tournament, Beckenham (men)
June 8-14: Stella Artois, Queen's Club (men); Dow Classic, Edgbaston (women)
June 15-20: Pilkington Glass championships, Eastbourne (women); Manchester Open (men).
June 22-July 5: Wimbledon Championships
July 13-19: Federation Cup, Frankfurt (women); Stuttgart (men)
July 20-26: Canadian Open, Toronto (men)
July 27-Aug. 9: Olympics, Barcelona
Aug. 10-16: Cincinnati (men)
Aug. 17-23: Canadian Open, Montreal (women); Indianapolis (men), New Haven (men).
Aug. 31-Sept. 13: US Open, New York.
Sept. 25-27: Davis Cup, semi-finals.
Oct. 5-11: Sydney (men).
Oct. 12-18: Tokyo (men).
Oct. 20-25: Midland Bank championships, Brighton (women).
Oct. 26-Nov. 1: Stockholm (men).

Nov. 2-8: Paris Open (men).
Nov. 9-15: Birmingham (men)
Nov. 17-22: ATP finals, Frankfurt (men); Virginia Slims championships (women)
Nov. 24-29: World doubles final, Johannesburg (men).
Dec. 4-6: Davis Cup final
Dec. 8-13: Grand Slam Cup, Munich (men).



TOMMY HINDLEY

RANJI TROPHY UPDATE

RIDING THE WAVE

NOTHING succeeds like success, they say, and this was proved right for national cricket champions Haryana in this year's North Zone Ranji Trophy league.

Haryana, who surprised both the lay followers and the cricketing pundits by winning the Ranji Trophy last season defeating Bombay and then a strong Rest of India side to etch their name on the Irani Cup early this season, retained the gloss in their performance despite the absence of their star and mentor—Kapil Dev.

Kapil Dev, doing duty for the country in



The Haryana team which won the Ranji Trophy last year: No guts, no glory.

Australia now, was himself certain that his team would do well and expressed optimism over his team's progress at every stage in the Ranji Trophy, even without him. And the team lived up to his expectations, playing like champions. Led ably by Chetan Sharma, they proved their prowess in all the departments of the game to capture one of the two available slots from the





With the absence of Kapil Dev, Chetan Sharma has provided the Haryana Ranji team with a lot of security

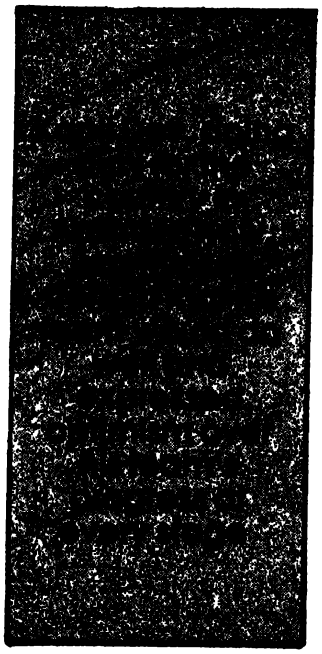
zone in the knock-out phase, along with Delhi.

For the second year running, Haryana slammed the door on Punjab and by this ensured their entry into the second stage of the championship much before the Zonal league was complete.

Haryana's league opener against Services at Faridabad perhaps gave an indication of the form they were in. Played some three weeks after their momentous Irani triumph, Haryana handed down an innings and 212-run defeat to the Services. Much of it was possible due to the two double centuries by Ajay Jadeja (256) and Amarjeet Kaypee (200) who bettered a 47-year-old Ranji record for the third wicket.

Bolstered by such a good start, Haryana continued to grow in stature and an innings victory against weaklings Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh only proved to be cases in point. Haryana's best moment would probably have been when they pinned Punjab's hopes to the ground in the penultimate league match.

A second double century by Jadeja (228) and useful contributions by others enabled Haryana take a massive 266-run first innings lead against Punjab. However, the Punjab batsmen who had earlier collapsed in the first knock batted with greater application and



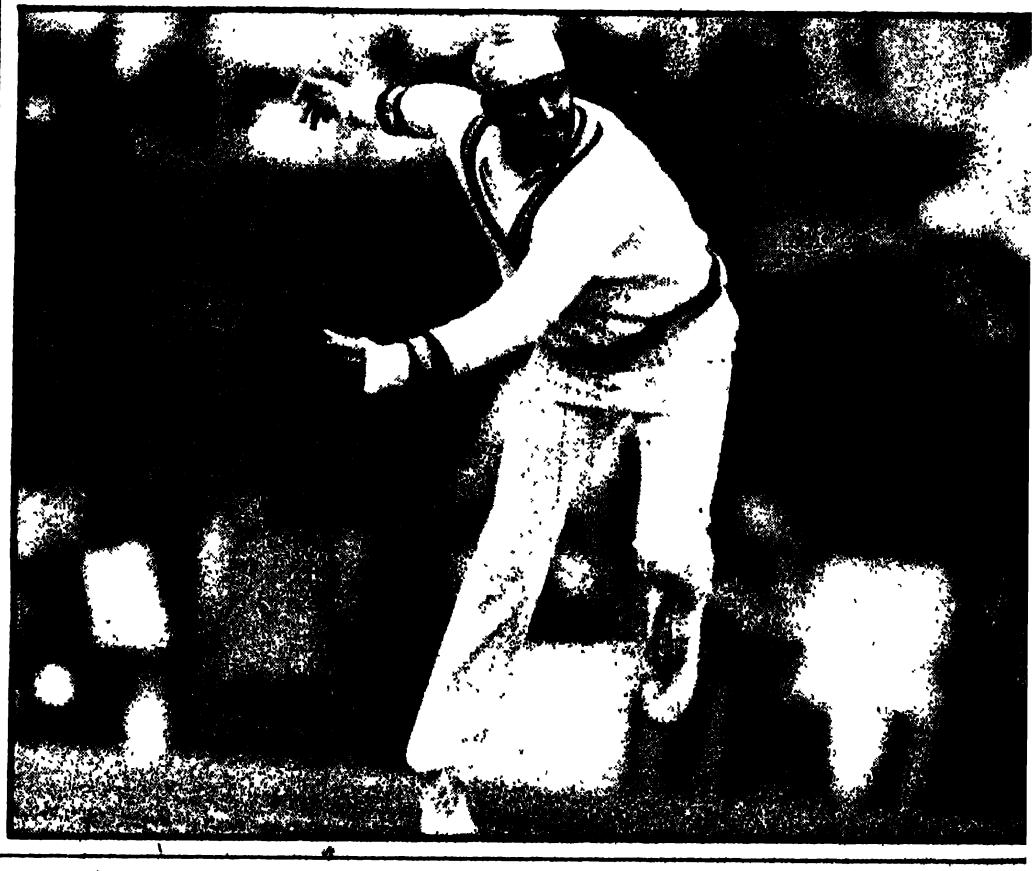
determination to avoid what could have been an innings defeat.

Jadeja who has come to be the mainstay of Haryana's batting, put his class up for display throughout his stay at the wicket. It is this consistency that has helped him accumulate over 800 runs in the Ranji Trophy this season. In fact, it was sheer misfortune that he failed to hit his third double century in Ranji this season when he got out on 199 against Himachal Pradesh.

If Jadeja and Kaypee were the pillars of Haryana's batting, Chetan Sharma took care of the bowling department. Sharma, who is yearning for a recall to the national squad, bowled with vigour on lifeless pitches and worked with the handicap of not having a partner who could share the load on the other end.

The domestic cricket circuit is facing a paucity of talented spinners and this was amply reflected when Yogender Bhandari, who performed creditably for Haryana in the Ranji final last season, struggled to get wickets, while former Delhi spinner Pradeep Jain and Deepak Sharma lacked the incisiveness. The only exception was Maninder Singh who captured 38 wickets in the league phase to underline his contribution to Delhi's progress.

Delhi's batting is its forte and opener Manu Nayyar and discarded captain K.P. Bhaskar performed their roles well. Added to this was two centuries by Ajay Sharma and four plus-50 scores by Sanjay Sharma that helped Delhi move ahead with ease. Of course, there was a minus mark against Delhi's overall score card when Haryana forced them to concede a first-innings



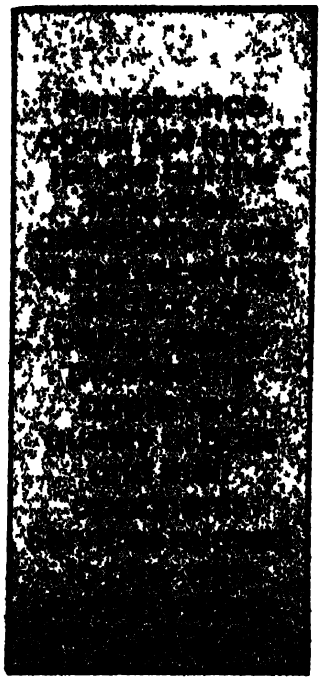
Maninder Singh is perhaps the only domestic spinner to be among the wickets. The pacers get the majority



Ajay Jadeja has come to be the mainstay of Haryana's batting

lead in the final league match, which actually decided the zonal winner

Haryana got one point more than Delhi but could not catch up with the difference to finish as runners-up with 97 points to Delhi's 102 However, the zonal position will not affect Haryana's status in the knock-out phase where they are seeded on the top Once there, Haryana will meet the winners of the East Zone in the quarterfinal while Delhi take on the winners of the pre-quarterfinal



between East Zone runners up and West Zone runners-up The quarterfinals are scheduled to be held from February 28

The third strong team of the zone Punjab continued to languish for the second year in succession Last year, they lost on points but then the thankless tangle over a technical point that ended up in court, only earned them few friends

On the field this year, Punjab fared miserably in the league match against Delhi and lost it by an innings and 40 runs and that too on home ground Their second most important fixture against Haryana, could have well gone against them but for some last-day heroics by their batsmen, who otherwise went through a lean patch

Punjab once again got into a tangle but this time their association was at the receiving end for not being able to provide the approved quality of balls and their opponents Services refused to play with another variety The match was called off but the entire episode was handled rather shoddily with the umpires reversing their own decision of awarding equal points to the rival teams after the intervention of the Cricket Board The match was finally replayed

The problem initially arose with the ruling of the Cricket Board to use a specific quality of cricket balls in the Ranji Trophy a move made to standardise the equipment throughout the country However, logistics came in the way and surprisingly Punjab which is one the major centres for sports goods manufacture in the country fell victim to this malady

A senior official of the Board at whose instance the umpires reviewed their decision, was critical of the approach of the association concerned, and wondered why Punjab could not plan for the match However one hopes the Ranji Trophy will proceed smoothly although there appears to be something brewing in the Central Zone this season

K.P. Venkat.

FORMULA ONE NEWS

THE MARQUE



Luca di Montezemolo's takeover of Ferrari, the automobile giants, could help to boost its sagging fortunes on the Formula One racetracks. Alan Henry explains why

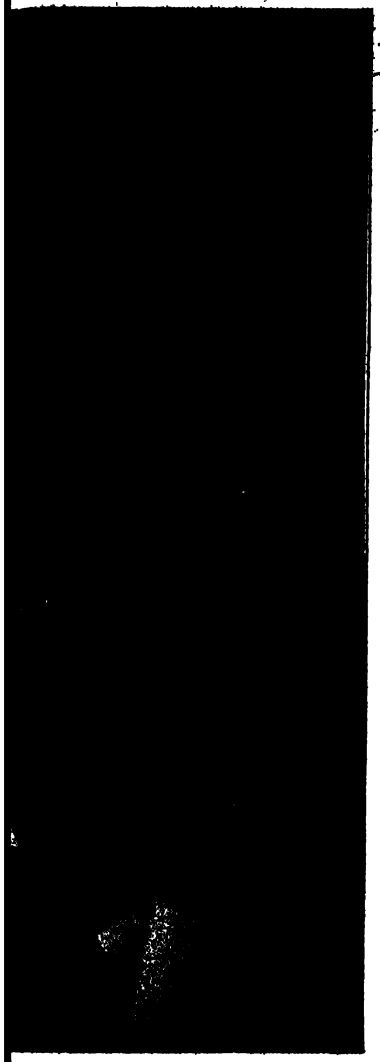
THE MARQUESE LUCA CORDERO di MONTEZEMOLO is a Roman aristocrat who, like the noblest Roman of them all, must now beware the Ides of March, McLaren-Honda and all the rest. To him has fallen the most daunting job in the sport, for the challenge of managing the Ferrari Grand Prix team has a tradition of overwhelming anyone bold enough to attempt it.

The famous Italian racing-car makers have such vast technical resources that when Niki Lauda first visited their factory he remarked that he could not understand why they did not win every race they entered. But the internal political machinations which are another legacy of their founder, Enzo Ferrari, have regularly reduced Italy's sporting pride and joy to disorganised also-rans.

The 1991 season was one of their very worst. During the year, the team manager Cesare Fiorio and the No. 1 driver Alain Prost were dismissed, the team failed to score a single win, and chaos and uncertainty prevailed in every aspect of their operation.

It is a measure of di Montezemolo's status that even dyed-in-the-wool sceptics believe he has a good chance of reviving the fortunes of the Prancing Horse in 1992, for the same man had presided over Ferrari's resurgence in the mid-1970s, building the platform from which Lauda won his first world championship for them in 1975.

The Austrian driver repeated that triumph in 1977 but left them for Brabham the following year and when he



SE

Di Montezemolo is perhaps the only man who can bring Ferrari back to the front

president of Ferrari and the message went out on the Formula One grapevine: "Luca is back."

His job is thought to be worth at least £300,000 a year, but to di Montezemolo, scion of a wealthy family, that is of secondary interest. Lean, athletic and endowed with filmstar looks, he gained a law degree from Rome University and continued his studies at Columbia University in New York. During this period he toyed with the idea of competition driving and briefly joined the Lancia rally team before completing his legal studies.

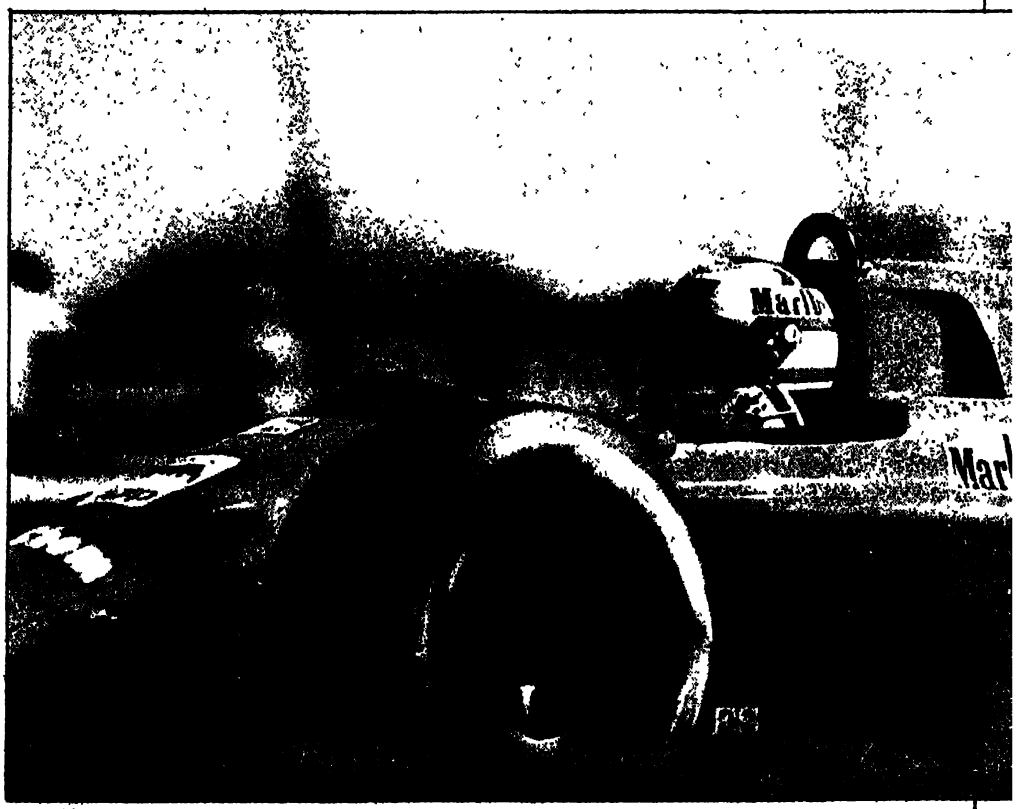
His entre to the Fiat empire came through a close friend who was a nephew of Gianni Agnelli, and in June 1973, with the Ferrari team out of the winner's circle for more than a year, he was recruited as Enzo Ferrari's right-hand man.

"Once I got to know Luca, I quickly realised how valuable his contribution was over the winter of 1973-74, before I joined the team," Lauda recalls. "He was very good at telling the old man precisely what was happening at the circuits. He did that with a totally impartial mind, which was very good because maybe the lines of communication hadn't been too good before."

Ferrari team managers had traditionally reported whatever Enzo Ferrari wanted to hear. Isolated in his Maranello fortress, never travelling to the races, he had become vulnerable to biased titbits of information which inevitably reflected well on the team managers and less so on the drivers. Factions and strife developed as a result.

Di Montezemolo cut

It is a measure of di Montezemolo's status that even dyed-in-the-wool sceptics believe he has a good chance of reviving the fortunes of the Prancing Horse in 1992



The Ferrari Formula 1 model on display. Good looks, unimpressive performance

claimed his third title, in 1984, it was behind the wheel of a McLaren. Jody Scheckter, in 1979, was the last Ferrari driver to win the world drivers' championship.

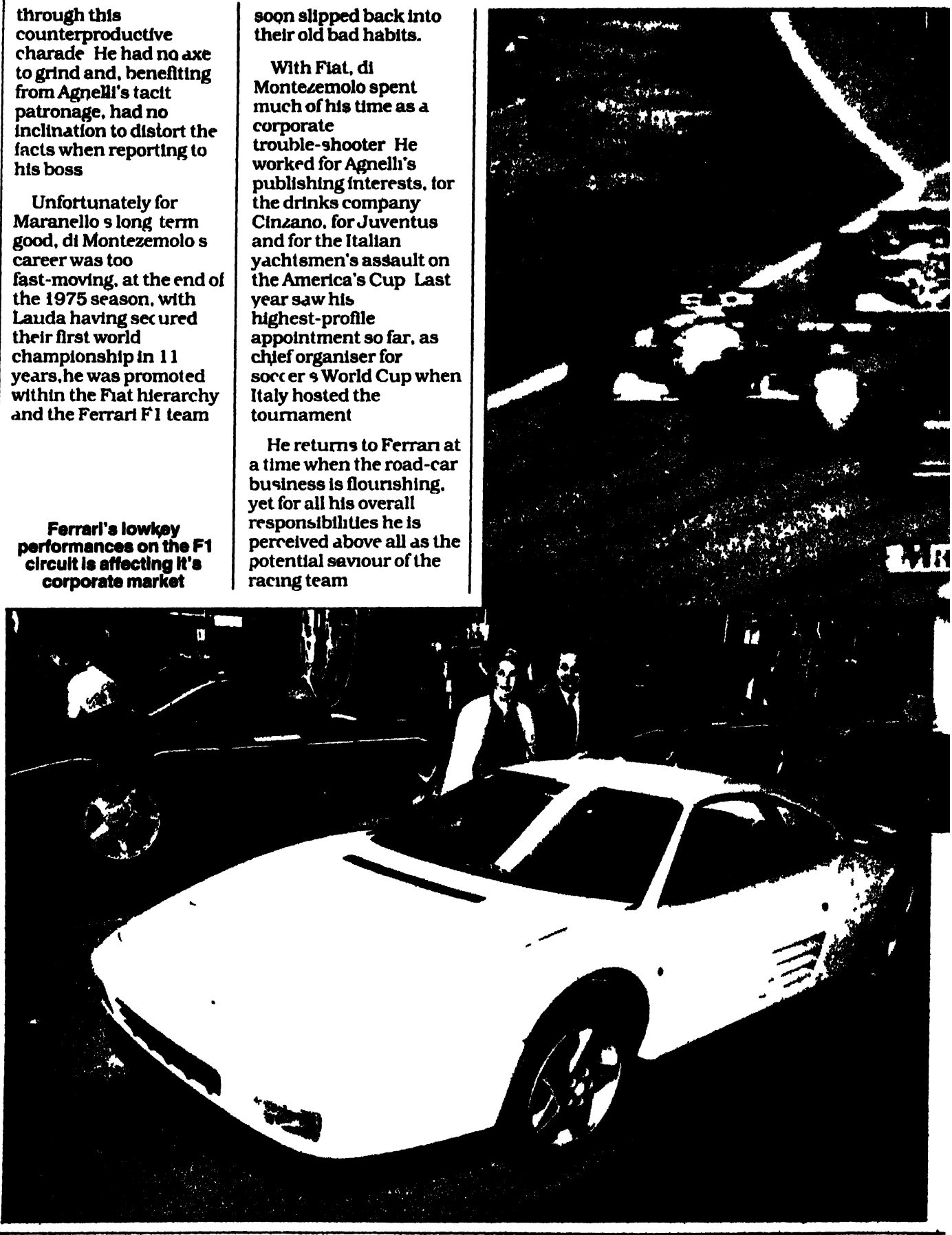
Late last month, the now 44-year-old di Montezemolo replaced Piero Fusaro as

through this counterproductive charade He had no axe to grind and, benefiting from Agnelli's tacit patronage, had no inclination to distort the facts when reporting to his boss

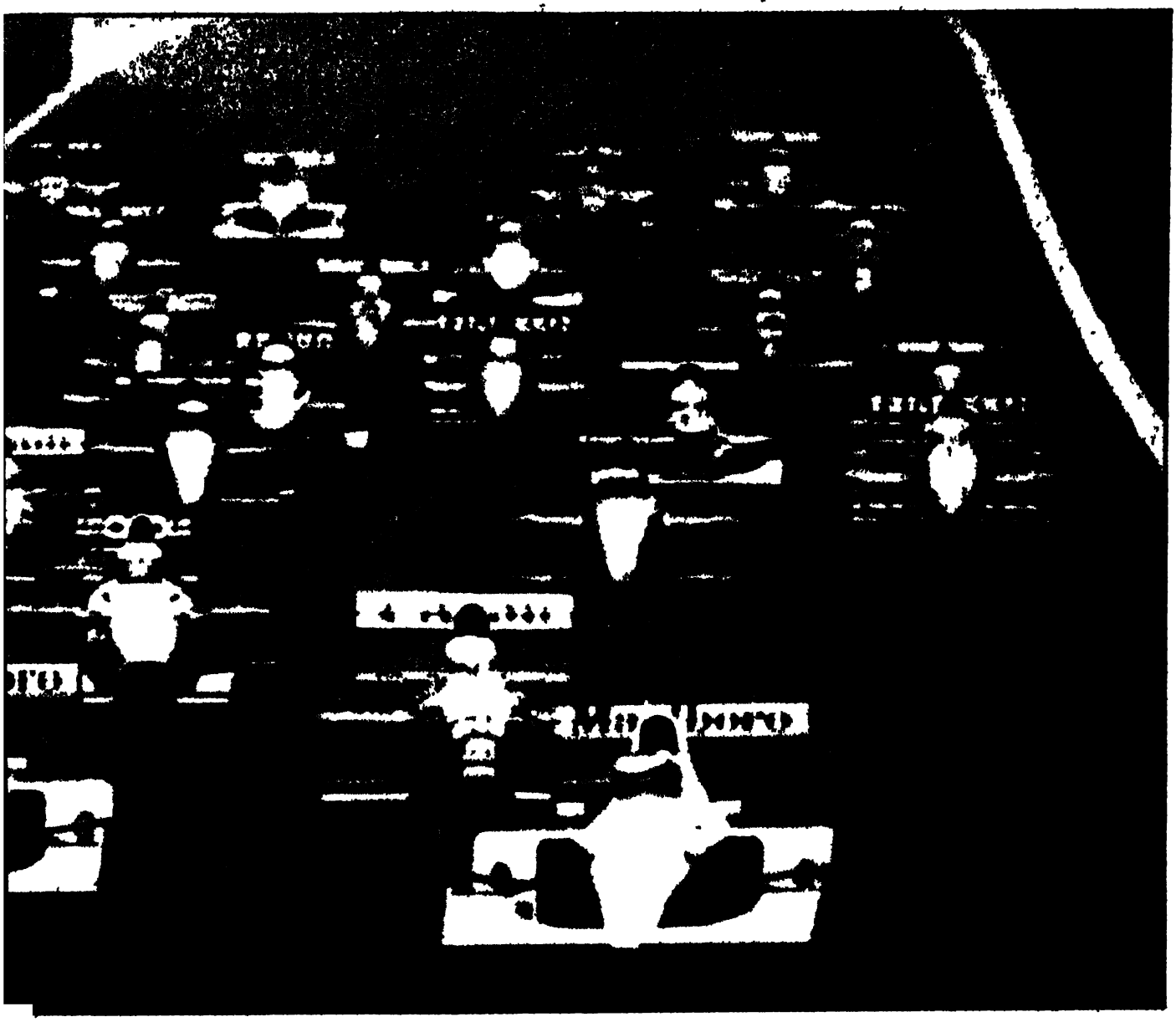
Unfortunately for Maranello s long term good, di Montezemolo s career was too fast-moving, at the end of the 1975 season, with Lauda having secured their first world championship in 11 years,he was promoted within the Fiat hierarchy and the Ferrari F1 team soon slipped back into their old bad habits.

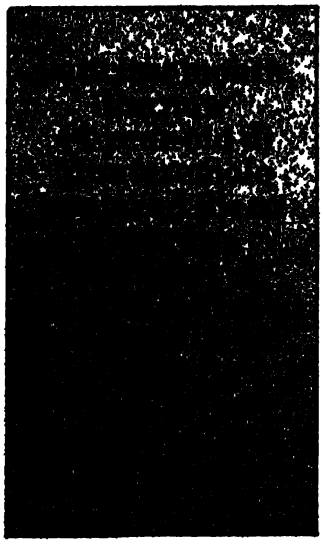
With Fiat, di Montezemolo spent much of his time as a corporate trouble-shooter He worked for Agnelli's publishing interests, for the drinks company Cinzano, for Juventus and for the Italian yachtsmen's assault on the America's Cup Last year saw his highest-profile appointment so far, as chief organiser for soccer s World Cup when Italy hosted the tournament

He returns to Ferrari at a time when the road-car business is flourishing, yet for all his overall responsibilities he is perceived above all as the potential saviour of the racing team



Ferrari's lowkey performances on the F1 circuit is affecting it's corporate market





"He is an Italian with the type of well-discipline mind who could well make a significant difference and bring order to Ferrari," says Peter Collins, managing director of the Lotus F1 team. "I think he could transform Ferrari."

With Ivan Capelli and Jean Alesi the drivers, however, di Montezemolo regards next season as a holding year. Yet he does not have unlimited time on

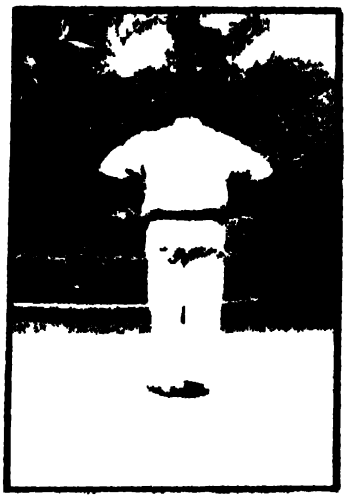
They're off! But where's Ferrari? Can Montezemolo handle the pressure from McLaren Honda and Williams Renault?

his side, and he knows he cannot trade on his past reputation. Gianni Agnelli has stated his aim to sign Ayrton Senna for Ferrari in 1993, and di Montezemolo is charged with the responsibility of transforming the team into something the reigning world champion would be only too pleased to join.

That eventuality must be a source of some concern to Senna's current employer, Ron Dennis, but if the McLaren team chief is worried he is not prepared to admit it. He knows that, to have any hope of signing Senna, Ferrari must beat McLaren in 1992. And even for Agnelli's golden boy, that looks a very tall order. ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND





CONTINUING with the kata, this week keep in mind that all the movements demonstrated are actually performed in the other direction It is just for the sake of clarity that we are showing it to you from the front

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

1. Turn 180° and stand with the fists held near the belt. (For your convenience, we are demonstrating all the following steps facing the camera but they are actually done in the opposite direction)



2. Perform a right jodan-maigiri, landing with the right foot forward



3. Go into kiba-dachi and perform an empi-uki or elbow block

4. In the same stance, deliver an uraken-tsuki or back fist strike at face height



Picture of the week



The bare truth. To what limits can men go to say those three magic words! A streaker got his message across to his girlfriend Sara in this fashion during the Nat West cricket final.

STILL LIFE



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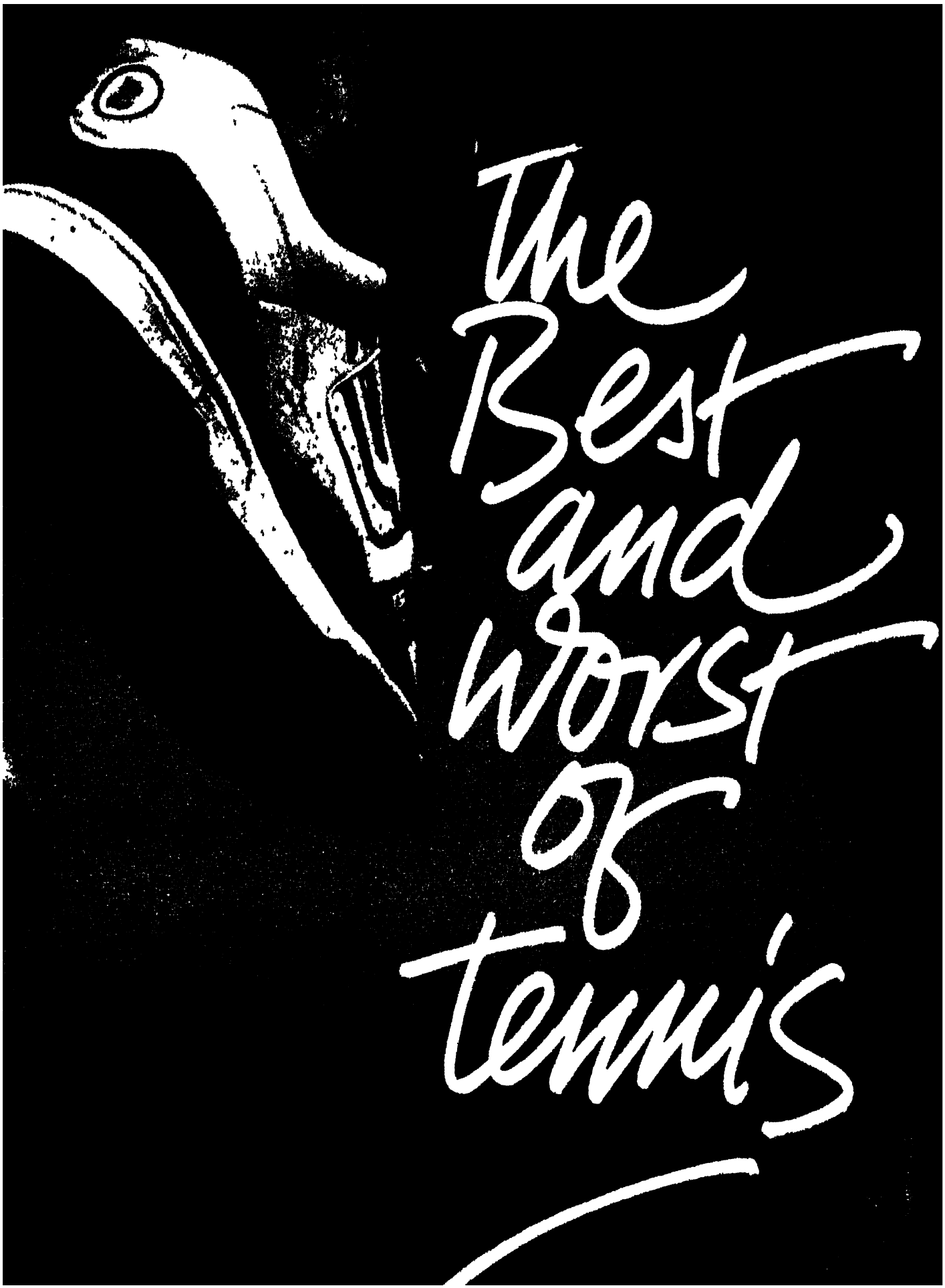
- **UNIQUE DUAL TONE COLOUR SCHEME**

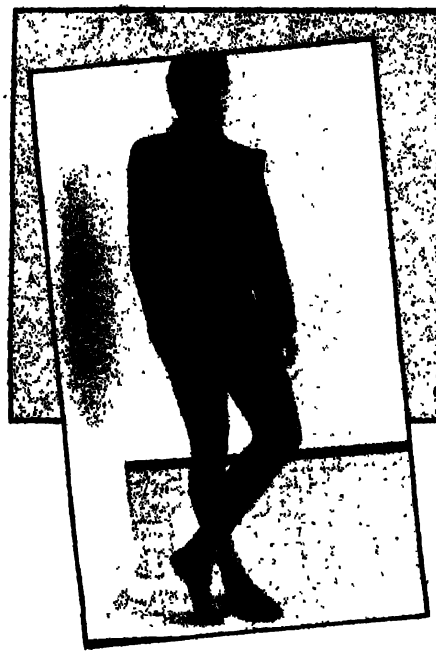
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Strap up your helmet for safety!

1991




The Best and Worst of tennis



BEST SEX APPEAL—After beating Steffi Graf at the Virginia Slims of Florida, glamorous Gabriela Sabatini showed up for a post-match photo session in a black-knit top held together by metal rings down the middle that bared much of her front. "It's the most revealing outfit I've seen at a press conference in 30 years on the women's tour," said referee Lee Jackson.

BEST "TAKE THAT!"—After Jim Courier and Andre Agassi pounded out impressive four-set victories over Michael Stich and Boris Becker to set up the first all-American men's final at the French Open in 37 years, Courier lashed out: "I'd like to slap around the people who asked where American tennis was about five years ago. This says, 'Here we are.'"

BEST RETORT—Responding sharply to *Sports Illustrated's* unflattering French Open article, French champion Jim Courier wrote this letter to the editor. "It's a real shame that two Americans reached the finals of the French Open for the first time since 1954 and not one good thing could be said about either."

BEST "SURVIVAL OF THE STRONGEST"—"The game has grown up and is a lot more physical. You can't win anymore by playing dainty shots—the others will just beat you up," stressed Guy Forget who rose to a career-high No. 4. "You have to push the other guy to show that you are stronger. It's like a boxing match. You hit him once, twice, three of four times and then you have a (service) break, and then the guy just gives you the match."

BEST "NO ONE IS PERFECT"—After breaking Margaret Court's record as the youngest Australian titlist, 17-year-old Monica Seles honestly admitted, "I have to improve my serve a lot. It's really very bad. I can win a lot more matches if I could serve and volley better. And I don't know how to lob."

BEST DREAM COME TRUE—After pro tennis nonentity Mark Keil shocked ninth-ranked Pete Sampras at the Stella Artois Championships and then survived the Wimbledon qualifying rounds, he said: "It's been everything you dream of. If someone had told me when I was at USF (University of South Florida) that I would beat the U.S. Open champ and make the Wimbledon maindraw, I would have laughed in their face. But, you know, if you work hard, dreams come true."

BEST CLUTCH PLAY—The most telling statistic in Steffi Graf's 6-4, 3-6, 8-6 final victory over Gabriela Sabatini for her third Wimbledon title was her converting *all seven* break point chances she had.

WORST ETIQUETTE—Rancorous, flag-waving groups of Serbs and Croats taunted each other between points during Yugoslavian Goran Ivanisevic's first-round victory over Spain's Sergi Brugera at the Australian Open, and violence erupted during Yugoslavian Goran Pripic's second round match when a group of teenagers wearing pro-Croatia T-shirts attacked two men and stole their Yugoslavian flags.

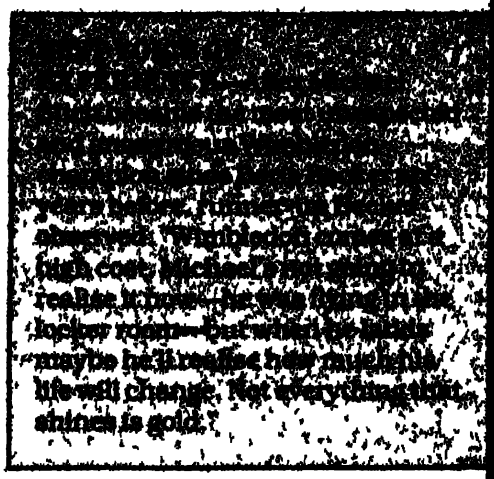
BEST SPORTSMANSHIP—At the Dow Classic in Edgbaston, England, Japan's Maya Kidowaki volunteered that she had touched a ball going out. Her opponent Martina Navratilova said she was "shocked" and that nine out of ten players would not have admitted it. "Sportsmanship is still alive," she said.

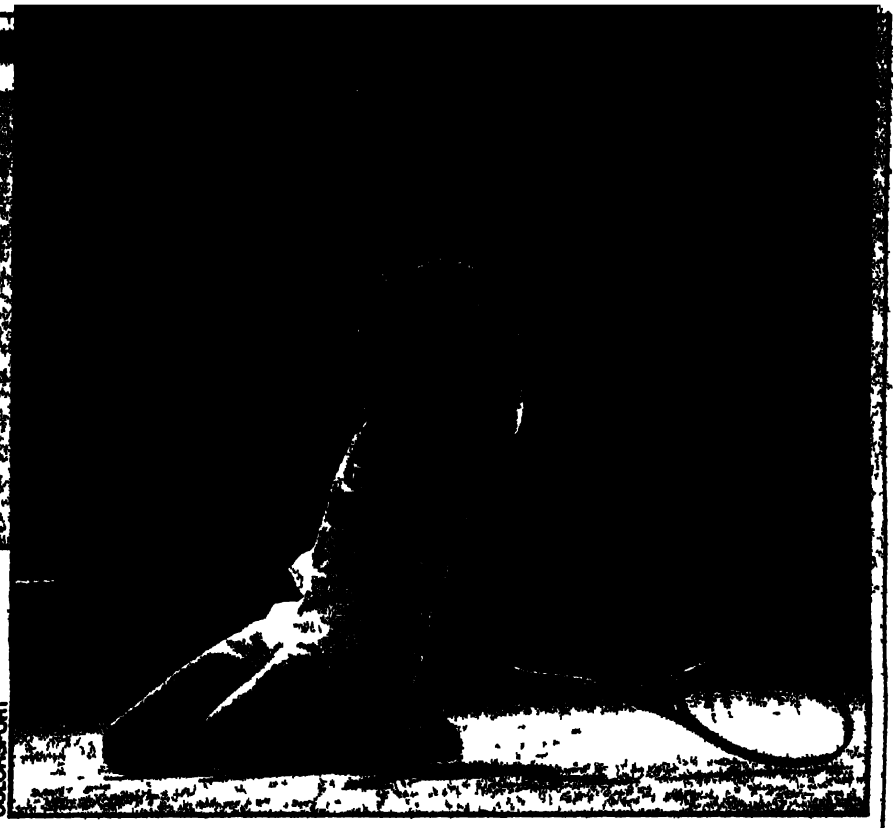
BEST NAME—Anna Smashnova. The 15-year-old Soviet immigrated to Israel and won the French Open junior title.

BEST TENNIS MUSICIAN—Yannick Noah. His "Saga Africa," a mixture of African, pop and reggae styles, reached No. 2 in the French charts.

BEST LETTER TO THE EDITOR—"...Witnessing the disgusting behavior of Jimmy Connors and the overwhelming jubilant support of those fans was a tribute to the [illegible] sportsmanship and utter contempt for fair play. How can we show our youngest people that we can tolerate more [illegible] disrespect for authority [illegible] is 39 years old..." [illegible] in the Los Angeles Times after Connors' U.S. Open [illegible]







COLORSPORT

WORST QUOTE ABOUT PRESSURE—After losing in three lackluster sets to Jim Courier at the U.S. Open, 1990 champion Pete Sampras, strangely, was more relieved than disappointed. "Maybe I can go back to my normal lifestyle now," he said. "I'm not reigning U.S. Open champion anymore. The monkey is off my back a bit."

BEST REJOINDER ABOUT PRESSURE—"How much pressure does Pete have? He will never have to work another day in his life. He has got millions in the bank. He is 20 years old. I really think he should be able to go out there and swing freely and have fun with the game. Everyone in the world would trade positions with him." (Jim Courier, after hearing Sampras's comments.)

BEST MATCH—Monica Seles's 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 U.S. semifinal victory over 15-year-old whiz kid Jennifer Capriati. The riveting, 1-hour, 56-minute battle produced ferociously hit baseline bullets on virtually every point. Seles, who survived by breaking Capriati twice as she served for the match, afterwards confided, "(I) can't slug out there at full power for 30 balls, 'cause I'm going to die."

BEST QUICKIE ANALYSIS—"She smacks them as hard as she can and they usually go in." (Martina Navratilova, on Monica Seles.)

BEST TRIBUTE TO A COACH—After reaching the French Open final, eventual champion Jim Courier praised Jose Higueras, his astute coach. "Jose opened my eyes up to how to play tennis. He helped me use the talents I have, much more sensibly. He taught me that tennis is much more than hitting the ball hard."

BEST PHYSIOLOGICAL FEAT—After Jimmy Connor's glorious but gruelling five set, four-hour U.S. Open post-midnight win over Aaron Krickstein where Jimbo twisted his knee and later needed two liters of rehydration fluid, Dr. Gary Wadler, the tournament physician, said: "Jimmy gave new meaning to the age of 39. I don't know if anybody realises what an incredible physiological feat this is."

BEST SELES-ISM—"Maybe I'm just growing up. One day I can be Madonna and be crazy. The next day I can be so reclusive, so into myself. The third day, I can be somebody so different. I'm just really shifting every day or week or hour," explains tennis' new No. 1, multi-faceted Monica Seles.



BEST NUTTY QUOTES—The first

at the U.S. Open



BEST RISQUE OUTFIT—Sexy Steffi Graf's bright red and extremely low-cut dress that revealed much of her breasts at the Champions Dinner during Wimbledon, particularly when she bent over to sign autographs.

BEST VALOUR—Finally surrendering to intense back pain after fighting valiantly for 3 hours and 35 minutes against equally relentless Michael Chang, half his age (38), Jimmy Connors retired at 4-6, 7-5, 6-2, 4-6, 0-15. Hitting a winner on the last point, a limping Connors said, "I had to try to quit when I was ahead."

BEST TENNIS LEADER—Philippe Chatrier served as president of the International Tennis Federation for 14 crucial years with great vision, distinction, diplomacy and integrity. He resigned in May and handed the reins to Australia's Brian Tobin. Major achievements during Chatrier's presidency included the huge growth in ITF development programs now running at more than $2 million a year, the massive increase in the number of people playing tennis, the increasing prestige of the Davis Cup (sponsored by NEC) and the exciting return of tennis to the Olympic Games

TOMMY HINDLEY

BEST BECKER QUESTION—Is Boris Becker's back injury career-threatening? On September 18 at a news conference in Essen, Germany, his manager, Ion Tiriac, said, "All the signs are that Boris's back injury is chronic. Boris can hardly walk without pain, never mind play tennis. He's constantly got these physical weaknesses going around in his head. That makes him tense and increases his chances of getting injured. Boris is caught in a vicious circle."

BEST OFF-COURT SOAP OPERA—As Steffi Graf absorbed a 6-0, 6-2 pounding from Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in the French Open semifinals, her father Peter allegedly whacked former Graf friend and benefactor Jim Levee in the head in the VIP area. Levee, a wealthy tour groupie, had switched his allegiance to Monica Seles and other women players

WORST ALLEGATION—"If the ITF says they care for Africa they lie like a rug," charged veteran Nigerian Davis Cup player Nduka Odizor. "We don't see the money. The money is distributed in Europe." In truth, the ITF's Grand Slam Development Fund distributed $700,000 to Africa during 1986-90 and $610,000 in 1991 alone as a direct result of the funds from the Grand Slam Cup.

BEST "TALK IS CHEAP"—"I want to move to Los Angeles in four years and try acting by the time I'm 25 and finished with tennis. I don't have a good voice, which is why I'll have to settle for acting." (Monica Seles, on her life after tennis.)

BEST RAPPROCHMENT—Although India does not maintain full diplomatic links with Israel and refused to send a team to Tel Aviv for a Davis Cup tie in 1988 (and faced a suspension), it gave Israel's under-16 tennis team a warm welcome in Bombay where unseeded Israel won the Asia-Australia zone in the NEC World Youth Cup.

BEST "YOU FIGURE IT OUT!"—Jana Novotna and Gigi Fernandez gained the final of three straight Grand Slam tournaments, won one of them, and then broke up. The year before, Novotna and Helena Sukova came within one match of capturing a Grand Slam in doubles, and then they broke up.

BEST GIANTKILLER—No. 114 Patrick McEnroe became the first player with a 100-plus ranking to reach a Grand Slam semifinal since 1978 when he did it at the Australian Open. Little Mac, after beating Cristiano Caratti, quipped to the media: "It's just like you all expected: Edberg, Lendl, McEnroe and Becker."

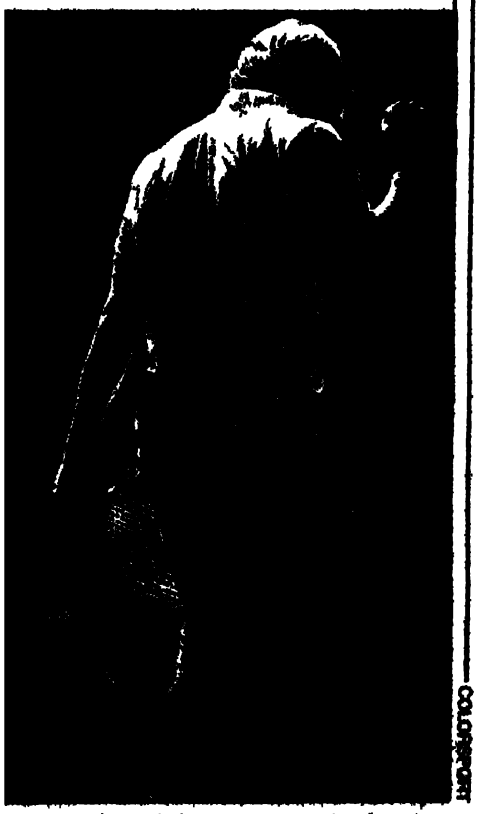


WORST LOSER—Instead of sportingly giving his Australian Davis Cup conquerer Richard Fromberg credit, Frenchman Guy Forget made excuses for his 6-7,7-6, 6-3,6-3 upset loss in the quarterfinal tie. He blamed the hard, fast clay surface, his tired, cramped legs, and scheduling the matches outdoors in early May, and rationalized, "He was just so lucky, that's why I was angry."

WORST RIPOFF—A slice of pizza cost an outrageous $4.95 at the U.S. Open.

BEST NICKNAME—"Puppet on a String"is what they call Finland's effective but ungainly Veli Paloheimo.

BEST BECKER-ISM—"It became 24 hours a day. When I slept, I suspected a secret camera under the sheet. More I worked to live up to my nationalistic obligations, the more harassed I became. It's tough to handle at age 23, but much harder at 17 and 18." (Boris Becker, on the oppressive burden of being a German hero.)



BEST AMERICAN AT HEART—American fans like Boris Becker and he thinks he knows why. "I would describe myself as not a typical German, and maybe that is a reason why people come out and have a good time when I play. It took a couple of years until they got to know me. Really, the last two or three years, it feels like playing at home in America."

BEST DISILLUSIONED CRITIC—Complaining about the scheduling and the courtside monitor displaying service speed at the U.S. Pro Indoor tourney, John McEnroe complained, "It's supposed to be the ATP Tour, but it's a tournament directors' tour ...When I was young,I thought I was going to change everything, change the whole rulebook. But when you bang your head against the wall enough times, it starts to hurt. When I was younger, my head was so hard and so big that it didn't hurt; now, it hurts."

BEST FORGOTTEN STAR—Only three years ago Mats Wilander won three Grand Slam events In 1991 he and his six-member band, Wilander, went on a 17-city Swedish rock-concert tour. Wilander, the band, did not get rave reviews,to put it gently,and Wilander, the player, was ranked mostly in the unspectacular 50s and 60s.

BEST TV INTERVIEW—Martina went on the offense to dispute the palimony suit filed against her by her former lover, Judy Nelson, in a fascinating televised interview with Barbara Walters on ABC's "20/20." Asked if their cohabitation-partnership agreement, the crux of Nelson's lawsuit,was premeditated golddigging by Nelson, Navratilova replied: "Either she was going to have me or a lot of money."

BEST PERFECTIONISM—"I want to reach absolute perfection. And I think I can reach it," confided Steffi Graf to German journalists in January.



BEST SHOCKING ADMISSION—Andre "Image is Everything" Agassi provided an excellent but sad insight into why he's been an underachiever (now ranked No. 8) with this shocking statement: "I'm starting to view competition as a challenge instead of an inconvenience."

BEST VICTORY GESTURE—After acing Andre Agassi, his former Bollettieri tennis academy roommate, on match point to capture the French Open, 20-year-old surprise champion Jim Courier ecstatically threw himself flat on his back and covered himself in red clay.

BEST SPORTS SCIENCE SHOCKER—Vic Braden's research found that a ball hit with an old Jack Kramer wood racket travels faster than a ball hit by eight new widebody rackets—provided the ball hit the racket's center of percussion or "sweet spot."

WORST COMEBACK—Determined but misguided Bjorn Borg had the wrong coach (inexpert Tat Honsal), wrong racket (an obsolete wood one) and the wrong tournament schedule (he should have phased in slowly with satellites). So, not surprisingly, he gave up his mystifying (to many observers) comeback, for 1991 anyway, after a disappointing, hapless first round loss at the Volvo Monte Carlo Open.



TOMMY HINDLEY

BEST AUTOMATIC LINE-CALL SYSTEM—The TEL (Tennis Electronic Lines) system invented by Dr John Baxter and Dr Bruce Candy of Australia, has electric cables laid beneath the court surface that transmit and receive signals, a courtside box containing computers, a small hand-held computer operated by the umpire, and tennis balls containing a small amount of iron oxide powder which disturbs the electromagnetic field to detect the ball s path The anticipated cost is $80 000 per court

BEST RACE RELATIONS RELAXATION—Treating ATP players as individuals and not representatives of their country, the Japanese government softened their policy towards South African players Veterans Gary Muller and Christo van Rensburg were thus allowed to play in a Japanese tournament (the Suntory Japan Open) for the first time in their careers Sweden and Canada however, have not changed their policy prohibiting South African players

WORST QUESTION—In a news conference after Mexican Leonardo Lavalle lost to favored Brad Gilbert in the second round of host Mexico s Davis Cup tie with the U S , a female writer from Mexico stupidly asked him, "Were you bothered by the fact the crowd hated you?

BEST "SECOND OPINION"—Miscreant John McEnroe got some unexpected support from the local police when he was fined $10,000 for swearing—a record sum for verbal abuse —during his fourth-round Wimbledon loss It's all a bit out of perspective, commented chief inspector Des Wyke operation police commander at Wimbledon 'The worst of driving offenses is unlikely to prompt that level of fine It's what you d get for several burglaries, Wyke said

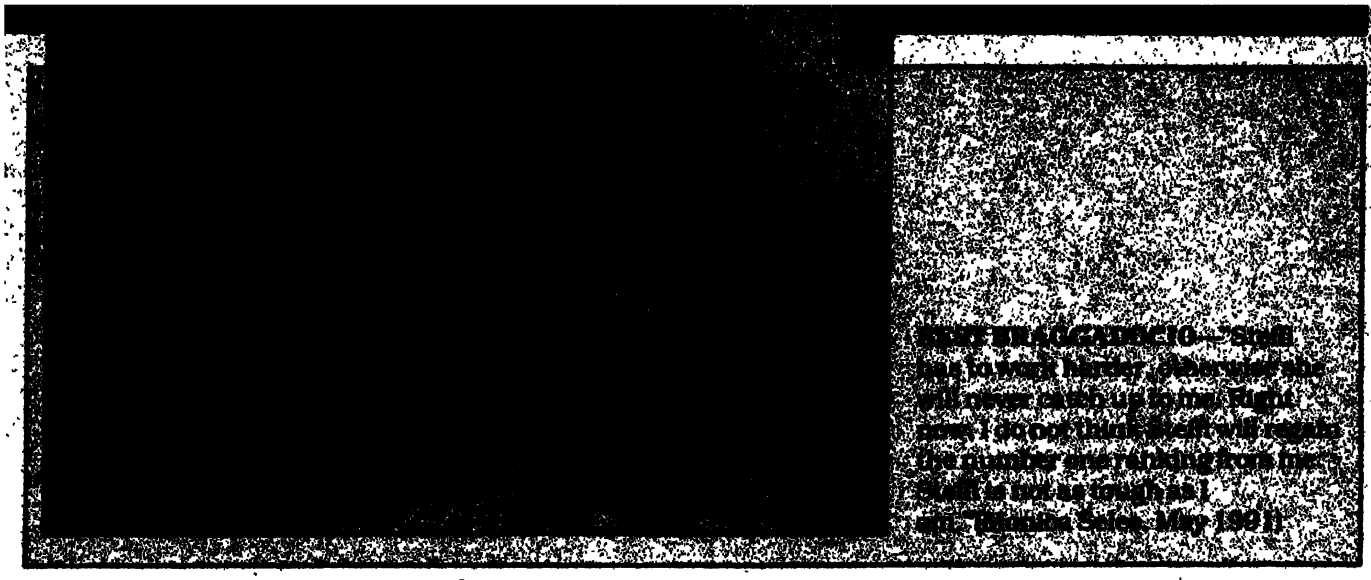
BEST COUNTERPOINT—"If Seles was healthy enough to play that Sunday (exhibition at Mahwah, New Jersey) for big money (a reported $250,000), then she should have been healthy enough to play Monday for her country She thumbed her nose at the rules, at the ITF, at the Women's Tennis Association and at her fellow players by saying, in effect, 'I can do whatever I want and get away with it ' This time she was wrong (Tennis writer John Feinstein)


SPORTS FILE/SCOTT SMITH

BEST CRITIQUE OF EDBERG I—"Edberg is like an unwritten book. At least Wilander plays the guitar as well as tennis. But, Edberg? I could neither say anything bad nor anything pleasant about him," said archrival Boris Becker.

BEST CRITIQUE OF EDBERG II—"In life he's an introvert. Out there on the court, he's an extrovert," Tony Pickard, Stefan Edberg's coach since 1986

WORST LINGERING DISCRIMINATION—Unequal distribution of Wimbledon prize money resulted in the men receiving $3.7 million and the women $3.1 million. The men's champion received $408,000 while the women's champion got $367,000.



BEST DISTRACTION—Near the end of Boris Becker's Australian Open second-round victory, a woman at courtside lifted her top, bared her breasts and shouted, "Hey, Boris, look at this!"

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES—Wilson Sporting Goods and Penn Racket Sports started to distribute collection bins in south Florida and Phoenix, respectively, as part of a nationwide recycling program for the plastic containers used to package tennis balls.

BEST WIMBY-U.S. OPEN CONTRAST—Three-year absentee Andre Agassi, who only recently had dismissed Wimbledon as "just another tournament," warmed up to Wimbledon faster than anyone could have expected, and the feeling was mutual. "I fell into the excitement and classiness of it all," related suddenly all-white attired Agassi. "You don't experience the fans here anywhere else. Very classy. At the U.S. Open in the first round I am used to people swearing at me."

BEST CONFESSION II—Ending his year-long silence, Peter Graf admitted full responsibility for his daughter Steffi's demise as the world's top player. "Steffi would still be the world number one if she had not been distracted by lurid newspaper coverage of the affair with the topless model," he said. "A brief affair without much feeling. That was it. Without this whole story Steffi would still be number one in the world."

BEST POINT WELL TAKEN—John Newcombe cogently argues that the ITF is cutting off its nose to spite its face by banning Monica Seles, Gabriela Sabatini and Martina Navratilova from the 1992 Olympic Games because they didn't compete in the 1991 Federation Cup.

BEST HEARTFELT WORDS—When asked on the "20/20" TV programme how she felt about Judy Nelson, who recently had filed a multi-million dollar palimony suit against her after their seven-year relationship ended, ever-honest Martina Navratilova responded: "Totally betrayed. You know, my failure is that I don't love her anymore. Well, should you pay for that?...I don't have that kind of money. I mean, I give her that and I'm broke. I might just as well start all over again, 18 years of playing tennis down the drain."

BEST DOUBLES TEAM—Australian John [illegible] and Swede Anders [illegible], who had a sensational year, [illegible] three of the four Grand Slam tournaments—the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Fitzgerald lost [illegible] Australian Open final to Stefan Edberg, [illegible] Edberg and Tony Roche [illegible]

TOMMY HINDLEY



BEST STICH ADMISSION—After calmly disposing of favored but frustrated Boris Becker in a straight sets Wimbledon final, Michael Stich confided: "If anyone had told me at the start of the year I would win Wimbledon, I would never have believed it."

LIFE IN A CAGE

Indoor cricket is slowly establishing its international presence. Played inside a net cage, runs are scored by hitting the side netting. And when a wicket falls, five runs are deducted from the total

A SUNDAY afternoon's cricket at Rochdale in mid-December may not be everyone's cup of tea, but that was the venue for the Indoor Cricket Federation National League game between Rochdale and Aston Villa's Stumps

This is the first serious attempt by the professionals of the outdoor game to move inside and there are 17 county and international cricketers playing for teams around the country.

Stumps are the team the rest want to beat They are captained by Asif Din, of Warwickshire, and also include his county colleagues Andy Moles, Neil Smith and Tim Munton, Neal Radford, of Worcestershire, and Mike Gatting, captain of Middlesex.

Neil Foster, of Essex, and Derbyshire's Kim Barnet are with Ipswich, while Middlesex bowler John Emburey, the seam-up and not spinning version, is with Edmonton and Gladstone Small, of Warwickshire, turns out for Wellingborough.

The professionals are the amateurs at indoor cricket. A team such as Rochdale, made up mainly of local lads, with the occasional hard-bitten Australian thrown in, have been playing the game for around six years and are, shall we say, streetwise

Indoor cricket is a marvellous game, offering fast action, great running between the wickets and breathtaking fielding. It looks tailor-made for television, with the game being all over in 90 minutes

Asif Din believes the professionals are learning fast but says fielding is the big difference. "The pros will not dive," he said

To prove that this is a serious game, England beat South Africa 3-0 in a recent Test series. The return series will take place in South Africa in April, with the World Cup in Australia next October.

Explaining the game makes it sound as complicated as the description on the tea-towels that can be bought from Lord's—You know the ones that the Americans and Japanese read, which say: "When you are out, you are in and when the side that is in is out, you go in, etc, etc." The American usually laughs loudly and shouts to his wife: "Say, Martha!, these goddamn Limeys allows the pitcher to bounce the ball."

The indoor version of the game, very briefly, is played by teams of eight [illegible]

high-tension net cage. The batsmen operate in pairs and runs are scored by hitting the side-netting and can be increased by the pair running. The non-striker stands halfway down the pitch and so half a run is, in fact, one

Wickets are taken in the same way as the outdoor version, but five runs are deducted for every wicket that falls. You can also be out caught off the side of the cage. Each team bowl 16 eight-ball overs with each batting pair at the crease for four overs. At this point I should think all the Japanese will have reached for the Scotch.

Next season sees coloured clothing introduced into the Sunday League and in Rochdale we had a taste of it as the home side entered the cage in [illegible] blue and gold [illegible] while Stumps [illegible] decked out in green, black and white.

Each player [illegible]

razzmatazz, as he ran the length of the cage and waved.

Before the game started both teams huddled round in a circle at opposite ends of the cage and went through their pre-match chants.

Rochdale, who were top of the league and undefeated, batted first. The atmosphere was electric, with the crowd up against the cage.

After every over, the fielders got together in a huddle and then returned to their positions after the chant of: "Who are we? Stumps." Rochdale scored steadily and, when their last pair came in, their total stood at 60. England players Neil Riddiough and Ian Walker were very alert and pinched runs at random, which prompted me to think that from my era Clive Radley and Roger Tolchard would have been brilliant at this.

Equally, I thought of people who would have struggled Colin Milburn came to mind, along with Jack Simmons Yorkshire's Geoffrey Boycott and Northants' David Steele. There would be a chance of a runout with those two off the last ball of every over.

The pace of the game was now frenetic, with Stumps doing everything to stem the flow of runs. The pros were rattled and Rochdale ran up a total of 89.

Stumps started brightly with the first pairing of Neil Smith and Gary Steer putting on 31. The heavy gang came in next in the shape of Andy Moles and Gary 'Sumo' Williams Two outs quickly dragged down the score and though Radford and Munton recovered the situation somewhat, it was left to the star pairing of Din and Gatting, both England internationals, to try to move the score from 50 to a winning 90.



Mike Gatting grimacing during an indoor cricket match

Din has been at it for years and played brilliantly, the fielding was quite outstanding and with Gatting caught in the penultimate over, 15 runs were required off the last.

It was absolute pandemonium as eight were scored off the first four deliveries. Gatting was caught off the fifth, which put Rochdale in the driving seat. A seven was scored off the next ball, followed by a single. Four to win off the last ball seemed nigh impossible but a hit into the side-netting, a shy at the stumps, a scramble through for a third run with fielders, batters, spectators and journalists diving everywhere, meant that the game finished in a tie at 89-89.

Delight for Stumps, disappointment for Rochdale, you would not believe the scenes as the gnarled old pros were dancing and celebrating as if they had won the NatWest Trophy, Benson & Hedges Cup and Sunday League all in one afternoon.

Indoor cricket is a marvellous game, offering fast action, great running between the wickets and breathtaking fielding. It looks tailor-made for television, with the game being all over in 90 minutes.

When 'Gatt' arrived from the showers I asked him how he would normally spend a Sunday in December. He paused before answering: "Probably lying on a beach in Sydney." Rochdale or Sydney—time for me to reach for the Scotch.

David Lloyd

Courtesy The Daily Telegraph



SECOND TEST, MELBOURNE

UMPIRING BE DAM ON WITH THE JOB!

PETER ROEBUCK has some advice for the touring Indians



KAMAL JUKYA

India has to learn to take the good decisions with the bad

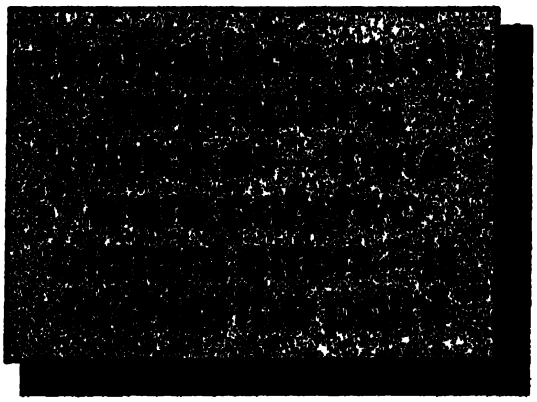
...NED... GET



KAMAL JUKYA

SO far as themes go, this column may resemble a jazz trombonist on speed, darting from idea to idea. Mountains and molehills fought hard for attention throughout these four days of edgy cricket, so perhaps it is best simply to follow the mood

First things first. Had Solomon and Abraham Lincoln been umpiring this game, Australia would still have won; they were the stronger side. Certainly India, and especially Kris Srikkanth, were unlucky, but they were also outclassed To dwell too much on umpiring mistakes—there were only two blatant



errors—is to miss the point India need not pack their bags, as Australia threatened to do in reverse circumstances a few years ago. Instead they should give credit to their opponents and correct their own faults.

Australia did not, in fact, play particularly well. Not until extra time on Saturday evening did their juggernaut begin to roll—but once it did, victory was certain. Before that, Bruce Reid apart, their bowling had been inaccurate, straying wide in the first innings and feeding India's 'Chapati' leg-side shots in the second.

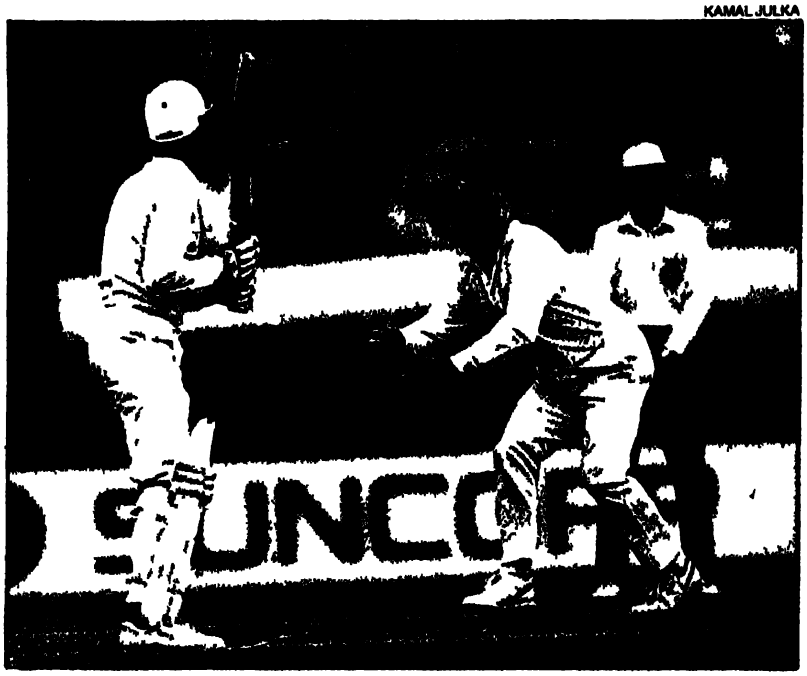
Suddenly, after drinks at six, Mervyn Hughes and Craig McDermott burst in to bowl fast and short, as if just informed by Corporal Jones that these fellows "don't like it up 'em". For an hour, the pair bowled magnificently, showing that even under the new rules bowling can be fierce and legitimate. India hung on for 43 minutes, but once Manjrekar fell to a snorter they were doomed.

And unless they can find an answer to Reid, India's prospects hereafter are

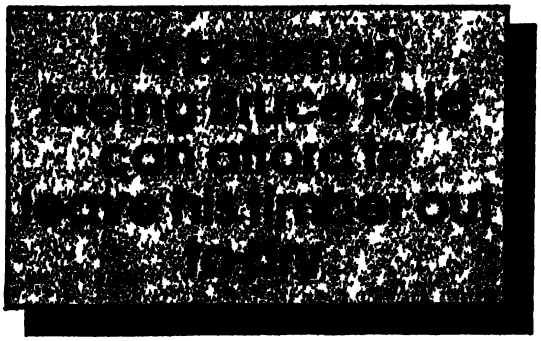
Front foot forward and across, Marsh countered everything the Indian bowlers tossed up

PATRICK EAGAR

KAMAL JULKA

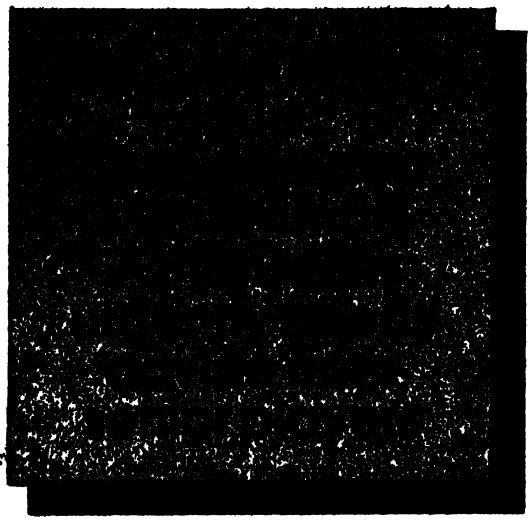


If it's 'caught Boon, bowled Reid', it's got to be Srikkanth



gloomy. He was formidable in Melbourne, and seems a better bowler since his various operations forced him to open his shoulders. Nowadays, Reid bowls in-swingers at will, a delivery sowing seeds of doubt in the batsman's mind. Accordingly, India has fallen into the same trap as England did last year of scratching at everything around the off stump.

With his height and deceptive length Reid is a handful, but no batsman facing





him can afford to leave his timber out to dry In their second innings, Sanjay Manjrekar and Sachin Tendulkar showed what could be done with discipline and concentration Their colleagues should forget about umpiring decisions—only one batsman had grounds for complaint—and instead concentrate on their techniques and how to fight back in Sydney

Mind you, as I wrote earlier, Test cricket needs independent umpires of a high standard, a view supported by events in Melbourne India could ask themselves several questions Why did they bowl so wildly to Australia's tail? On such a pitch as this, length is enough, yet they blasted away, allowing Hughes to cut and carve at will Manoj Prabhakar, a doughty cricketer, was especially culpable, bowling too short after his excellent first spell He serves India well save when impersonating Ian Botham

Ravi Shastri could bowl more, too, for he seems the best spinner currently on Australian soil Also, India set unduly aggressive fields four slips and gully for Srinath, a veritable war party around the bat for Raju's spin and hardly ever a third man It was not that sort of wicket, aggression and patience can be friends, not enemies.

Being out of form and inexperienced, Mohammad Azharuddin urgently needs advice from senior players, and such points can be raised at a meeting Notions of dropping him must be abandoned, and if he endures this rocky patch he will emerge with character strengthened, a consideration also applying to his team. India must roar like a lion, not miaow like a pussycat.

For their part, Australia gave a spluttering performance by their current



high standards Reid, of course, was superb, and so was Geoff Marsh, willing himself to runs, pride evident in every moment Here was a message to his challengers—catch me if you can, boys! Marsh's method against Kapil was intriguing and effective, front foot forward and across, goading Kapil into bowling so straight, allowing runs to be taken through square leg

Yet it was not these stirring efforts which will linger longest in the mind Rather it was the cussed, crotchety determination with which Allan Border hung on to his steepler, and the bold contribution of Ian Healy, a fine cricketer whose prickles are less evident Rather it was the swing bowling of Kapil Dev—who reckons he is being helped by recent improvements in cricket balls—and the marvellous batting of Manjrekar, Tendulkar (until his rush of blood) and even of Dilip Vengsarkar, whose stoicism in adversity has won widespread admiration

(This article was written just after the Melbourne Test)

THE MELBOURNE TEST

ATTITUDE

MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE



'The King is dead. Long live the King'.

THE Indians must have been saying that to themselves after the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) announced that umpire Len King would stand again in one of the India games.

HARSHA BHOGLE, on tour with the Indian team, was witness to the devastating eight-wicket defeat that puts India 0-2 down in the series and believes that a change of attitude is what Indian cricket needs.

Shastri's deathwish in the slip cordon reminds one of the moth and the flame

He's an amazing person, Len King. Before the second Test, he had said that his ambition was to stand in a Boxing Day Test match at the MCG. And he's ensured that his debut Test will be remembered for a long time: for some of the things he did. And for a lot of the subsequent actions they stirred.

Indeed, King and Prue had a major role to play in the match Yet that is not to say that India don t need to show the ghost the door, brush aside the smokescreen and try to see why they are 0-2 down after two Tests When the Indians landed here it was widely believed that the batting would have to work overtime to make up for the bowling, that the batting was arguably the best in the world, that Kapil Dev was nearing the end of his career as an international class bowler

Brisbane hinted at it Melbourne turned these theories upside down and it is embarrassing to read some of the things we wrote in early November

The batting has collapsed Like those beautiful sets in the movies when the hero gets into the act And four innings so far have seen the scoreboard reading 83 6, 87 6 109 6 and 141-6 (the last figure an improvement from 79 for 5!) On wicket that have been bouncy and against an attack that has been hostile and persistent a certain hollowness has showed up

Like at Brisbane, the start eluded India at Melbourne And India were on the wrong foot right away Unfortunately Srikkanth who had virtually become a household name here in 85 86 is not the player he was and it has been a sad cricketing sight to see the turmoil in his mind reflected in his strokeplay Unsure of whether to play a Rambo or a Gavaskar, he has floundered And nothing illustrated that better than his first innings For 23 minutes he was as correct as say a Srikkanth can be They he went into a pull shot with the enthusiasm of a child going to school and the ball ballooned off a leading edge Unfortunately for him, in the second innings Terry Prue gave him an lbw decision that Shakoor Rana would have been proud of and his last death-or-glory innings remained stillborn

If time spent at the wicket could be a success criterion, Shastri would have been the hit of the tour He spent almost eight hours in the middle, significantly more than any of India's top order batsmen. But he hasn't yet aggregated 100 in the series In fact, at Melbourne, that was the major problem with the Indians They threatened to get set, and then either a rash shot or a good ball got them In the first innings, four out of the top six got past 20 believed to be the most difficult part of innings building but didn t reach 30 Shastri, Manjrekar and Vengsarkar got good balls, Azharuddin and

When the Indians landed here it was widely believed that the batting would have to work overtime to make up for the bowling

If only Kapil Dev the batsman could excel like Kapil Dev the bowler





Azhar must be waiting for this nightmare to end

SCORECARD

INDIA (1st innings):

R.J. Shastri c Healy b Reid	23
K. Srikkanth c Boon b Reid	5
M. Prabhakar b Reid	0
S.V. Manjrekar c Waugh b Reid	25
D.B. Vengsarkar c Reid b Hughes	29
M.A. Azharuddin c Jones b McDermott	22
S.R. Tendulkar c Waugh b Reid	15
K. Dev c Hughes b McDermott	16
K.S. More not out	47
V. Raju c Border b Hughes	21
J. Srinath c Border b Reid	14
Extras (b-1, lb-8, nb-4, w-6)	19
Total (all out)	268

Fall of Wickets: 1-11, 2-11, 3-61, 4-64, 5-109, 6-109, 7-128, 8-161, 9-228.

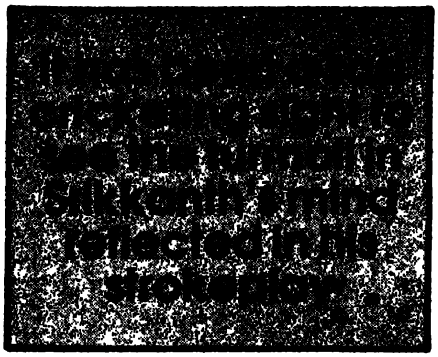
Bowling: C. McDermott 30-6-100-2; Reid 26.7-7-66-6; M. Hughes 23-6-52-2; M. Waugh 8-1-16-0; P. Taylor 6-0-20-0.

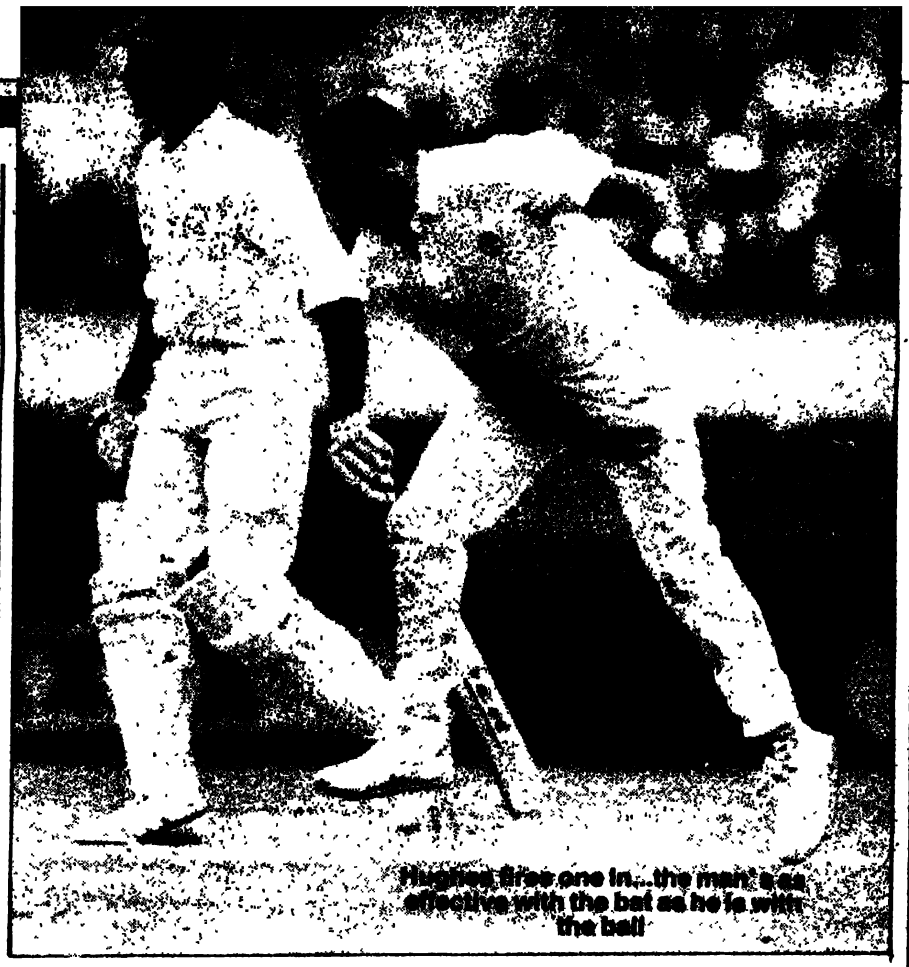
Second Innings:

Tendulkar threw it away.

What India needed was a couple of long partnerships and at least one innings that could anchor the side; as Geoff Marsh did, unglamorously but effectively, for Australia.

Still, if one has to look for positive signs, there were a few at Melbourne. In both innings Manjrekar looked the world class batsman he is and it required great bowling to get him. Reid bowled him an absolute beauty in the first innings and in the second McDermott produced the ball of





Prabhakar drives one in...the man's as effective with the bat as he is with the ball

SCORECARD

Second Innings:

lbw b Prabhakar	1
stumped b Raju	50
not out	44
not out	5
	9
	128

...Reid 13-3-28-1; Sriram

Mid-smile catcher — Snapper

Snapper Cameras

Sweet kiss trapper — Snapper

Snapper Ready when you are

Snapper Camera
Easy Snapper Dependable Snapper

Snapper Cameras

Snapper 35

the match Towards the end of a long and humid day, he produced the bounce that only incredible physical strength, and determination from another world could have brought about Manjrekar is becoming the symbol of defiance of the Indian team and his dismissal in that hour of death' saw the match saying goodbye to India

In the second innings, Vengsarkar batted just under five hours As a show of solidity it was great stuff and if he can repeat the duration, for a few runs more, he will provide the thread that could well join the side together

But what was potentially the innings of the match, and to my mind, the innings of his career came from Tendulkar He had scored 40 of the classiest runs you will ever see when the impetuosity of youth ruined the increasingly solid young man That shot off Peter Taylor must have been a longer chapter in Tendulkar s education than all those hours at Shivaji Park

If Vengsarkar, Manjrekar and Tendulkar can take the tiny step that separates them from long innings, India might still win a few points in this series It will be interesting to see them perform with the relative freedom that a good start provides At the moment, their backs aren t leaving the wall

It will also allow Azharuddin, to whom this must be a nightmare, to walk into a better position At the moment, and this is a crucial issue, he is just not spending enough time in the middle

Luckily for India the lower half has outscored the top half each time In the first innings, the last quarter scored more than half the runs! It's a great strength but that should only be the reserve rather than the main force it now is

It's the bowling that has looked better each time. And Kapil Dev has been outstanding He's enjoying bowling here (he says the quality of the balls has greatly improved) and the legendary outswinger looks better than it has been for years. He's reached 385 now and 400 Test wickets, which looked like it would require a

Captain Fantastic. Border can sit out if he so feels... and still win!

Boon's tenacity is matched by his alacrity





Elation for India as Kapil strikes...but such moments were few





Australia is fast becoming the springboard for the return to strike bowler status

prolonged fight to reach, seems round the corner. There's the old familiar flutter of the heart when he performs again and for Kapil Dev the bowler, Australia is becoming the springboard for the return to strike bowler status. Gavaskar even believing he could be the best allrounder in the game.

Prabhakar and Srinath have been impressive too and it is largely this trio that has provided the Indian opposition (even if two fourth day finishes can be said to have provided opposition!)

The Indians have been unfortunate to have run into Craig McDermott bowling better than ever before. His off stump line is a delight to watch and the outswinger bowled at such great speed has been a potent weapon. Here, he was joined by Bruce Reid whose love for the MCG must rival his hatred for the surgeon's table. He had 12-126 in his return Test match and they weren't even his best figures there. It was incredible bowling as, over after over, he slanted the balls right across the batsman and experienced observers reckoned this was among the quickest spells he has bowled. With Hughes keeping the pressure on, the Indians face a torrid time ahead. Yet, that is basically a three man attack and as More and Raju showed in the first innings, can be conquered when tired.

But the basic difference is attitudinal. The attitude that allows Marsh to battle for six hours, that keeps Bruce Reid going, that makes Healy stretch further, that makes Dean Jones chase just as hard at 6 pm as at 11 am.

Border's boys are a great amalgam rather than a salad. That makes them one of the great sides of the game. Irrespective of whether it is King and Prue in the middle. ●

PHOTOGRAPHS: DEV FEATURES

Will Rijkaard Return To Glory?

FRANKLIN EDMUNDO RIJKAARD, according to Carlos Bilardo Jack Charlton and many others the perfect modern player has returned from his international wilderness of 16 months

Exactly 16 months after his unceremonious dismissal against Germany in Italy 1990, the great Dutch player was coaxed out of retirement by Rinus Michels, once known as the father of pressing football who again took up the managership of the national squad after 15 months in the shadows

Rijkaard has thus created a stir At 30, the shy and unassuming, but renowned and brilliant player proved his worth in a 1 0 win over Portugal in a crucial European Championship qualifier on October 16 1991 Now he is determined to demonstrate his worth not just in the European finals in June 92 but also possibly in the 15th World Cup in the United States

At 17, this fan of rock music played for DWS Amsterdam alongwith Ruud Gullit Till then and before his Italian venture eleven years later in 1988 with AC Milan, music was his passion. Soccer was not the be-all and end-all of life then, though this was to change later. Said Rijkaard then, "The marvellous sight and touch of music brings me back down to earth again I often remember songs after the second hearing, adding Sometimes it seems that my ears are speedialised in picking up special songs

But when approached by Ajax Amsterdam in 1977 Gullit played it cool while Rijkaard joined his new club Gullit joined FC Harlem instead and after eleven years the two were united at AC milan

The musically inclined Rijkaard however rose rapidly to play his first international against Switzerland in September 1981 And as the months rolled his fame grew too

He had matured from a player superb on the ball and effortless in winning aerial balls to an intelligent, tactical team player



One whom the best continental clubs could not ignore

Meanwhile, PSV from Eindhoven was emerging from the shadows of Ajax and Feyenoord at the domestic and international levels, thus stimulating Dutch soccer

Rijkaard s contribution to Dutch football now became phenomenal He was now a menacing part of the Dutch quarter of Gullit Basten- Rijkaard-Koeman, which at its best was virtually unstoppable

The same year he joined AC Milan with Gullit and Van Basten

Initially, the Italian craze for soccer nearly dazed him But he soon came to terms with the land where players are worshipped like demi-gods, and stardom, an accepted way of life For he was more a player, than a star

I noticed how many lives are touched by soccer , he said, adding When you walk through the poor quarters of Rome and Naples, you realise that you cannot underestimate the impact,'

The lavishness of AC Milan, and a city where only soccer, music and business are discussed shocked him. But gradually he appreciated the inner workings of a vast industrial and soccer establishment.

By PALLAB MUHURY



Yet, he remained a little shy and aloof, a little hesitant about stardom and in signing autographs He concentrated on his game, and played scintillatingly for three seasons with Milan, which is now a part of the soccer folklore

But ironically, the Dutch national team was having problems After becoming the kings of Europe, Rinus Michels stepped down as manager, only to be replaced by Thijs Libregts, who unfortunately was unpopular, particularly with Gullit for making racist comments about him. Several key players were against Libregts, and the whole team was affected They could not play to their potential, even though they qualified for World Cup 1990

Then three months before the championship, Leo Beenhakker replaced Libregts, while the players yearned for Johann Cruyff, almost resulting in revolt.

Rijkaard felt humiliated, as his favourite position of playing as a midfielder was repeatedly misused before and during the World Cup. Rijkaard felt his talents were not being given the recognition they deserved, Rijkaard was instead wasted as a defender, with his influence in the match against Germany made minimal 'Instead of using my qualities as a midfielder, I felt like a Yo-Yo," complained Rijkaard

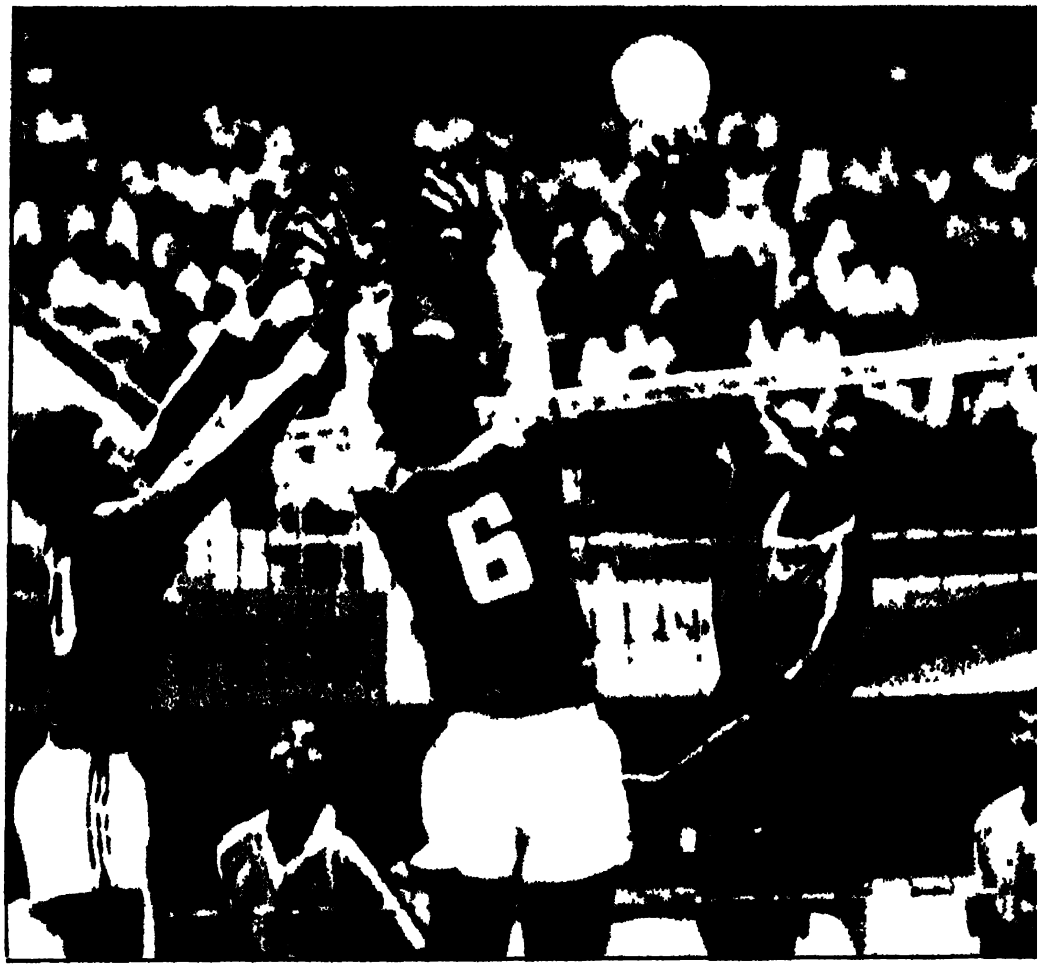
After that elimination game which they lost 1-2, Rijkaard was so humiliated, that he retired A few months later, he shook hands with Voeller and forgot about the incident

Then luckily for the Dutch, Rinus Michels was reinstated as the manager after 15 months And he talked sense to Rijkaard, thus bringing him back, while Koeman, Gullit and Van Vasten were yet to regain their touch The obvious question now is whether we will be seeing a rejuvenated Rijkaard after a 16-month hibernation, or a pitiful caricature of his brilliant past?

Past Glory Cannot Cope With Present...

...DISGRACE!

Inspite of India finishing on top of the medals table at the just concluded SAF Games in Colombo their overall standard is falling...and fast!



Volleyball was one of the few disciplines were India redeemed themselves

SEVEN years ago, when the South Asian Federation Games were first conducted in the Nepalese capital, Kathmandu, the underlying theme for the basis of these games, were to foster and regularise sporting relationships between the Saarc countries. Sporting contacts between these countries despite their close proximity was rather limited Also, India had in some senses gone too far ahead of their neighbours as far as sport was concerned. The SAF Games were in principle an attempt to help raise the standards of the other Saarc countries and for that, India's help was absolutely necessary.

For the first four editions in Kathmandu in 1984, at Dhaka in 1985, at Calcutta in 1987 and the last time in Islamabad in 1989, India dominated theseGames. In fact, apart from the 1989 essay when Pakistan showed signs of giving India a challenge, the other countries were embarrassingly left behind But all this led to a negative attitude and India, became complacent. So much so their preparations and attitude towards the SAF Games have been worse than casual. It was only a matter of time, before India's neighbours caught up with her, and that was precisely what happened in Colombo, which played host to the fifth Games.

Never before had India been reduced to such helplessness as they were in Sri Lanka. For the first two days, Sri Lanka actually led India in the medals tally. India finally did manage to get away, thanks to disciplines like weightlifting—which provided India with 18 gold medals out of the 30 available in the ten weight categories—and mainline disciplines like athletics, India was pushed to the second spot by Sri Lanka. In swimming, India trailed for four days and finally on the fifth, Sebastian Xavier's efforts took them to the top spot, but only just. Boxing brought India just one gold medal.

Shooting, which was introduced for the first time proved to be a disaster, more so in the women's section. T.C. Planagappa and Ashok Pandit saved India from humiliation in the men's section. Bangladesh compounded India's woes by winning gold medals in the women's section.

But as far as good competition and meaningful victories were concerned, they came in the volleyball and basketball finals on the last day of competition. Both of them were achieved against Pakistan and quite convincingly too. While the victories in volleyball and basketball provided the highpoints of the Games, the football campaign was a total disgrace. There was a goalless draw against Pakistan, who went on to win the gold, and a most painful defeat against Bangladesh. This meant that India were out in the league stage itself. Not being able to qualify for the SAF Games football final must rank as the worst ever achievement in India's footballing history.

With India finishing on top of the heap with 64 golds, the records will show that they managed to keep its position of eminence in the region. But the real fact is that India is no longer the major sporting power in the sub-continent. Its sporting grip has relaxed considerably and it is only a matter of time, before it will be relinquished. This will be imminent, unless of course Indian officials decide to learn valuable lessons from this unforgettable experience at Colombo. It is the same lesson that they ought to have picked up earlier at Islamabad.

Two years ago, Pakistan had showed the virtues of planning ahead. This point was hammered home by the Sri Lankans, who had been at it for almost a year. Their biggest success was the athletics competition The aims here were clearly spelt out. Less than two months before the SAF Games, Sri Lanka's athletics campaign at the Asian Track and Field (ATF) championships had been condemned a disaster. But the results at Colombo only proved that the peaking was planned for the year end. For their preparations, Sri Lanka ironically enlisted the same man, the Indian officials had cast aside—Harry Wilson. Wilson was in Sri Lanka three months prior to the Games. Before that he had spent eight weeks there already. These periodic doses of training took Sri Lanka to commendable heights. India who were unbeatable in athletics once upon a time, had been relegated to the second spot in the sub-continent! Sri Lankan athletes not only produced medal winning performances, but in fact showed that they are capable of making a mark at the continental level.

For the hosts, sprinter S.A. Dissanayake was their biggest name, having won a medal each in the 100m and the 200m at the Asian Games in 1990 at Beijing. But at the last Asian Track and Field championships he failed to reach even the finals of the same events. He proved the critics wrong by bouncing back for the SAF Games and achieving the sprint double. In the women's section, Sri Lanka have a talented sprinter in S.V. Dharshasri, who clocked an incredible 11.72 seconds in the heats of the 100 metres. She went on to win the finals in 11.93 seconds. At 17, she is a girl who is only in her second year of athletics. Her time of 11.72 seconds is something which no other Indian athlete, barring P.T. Usha can boast of, in the sub-continent.

> Never before were India reduced to such helplessness as they were in Sri Lanka. For the first two days, Sri Lanka actually led India in the medals tally

Dharshasri would surely rank as a potential medallist at the Asian level in a year or two. Then there was Sriyani Kulawansha, who after winning the high jump, clocked 13.65 second in the 100m hurdles. This was the fastest ever race run by an athlete in the region. India's national record for the event is 13.9 seconds by M.D. Valsamma.

Jayamani Illeperuma, who beat Shiny in the 400m, is good but it was poor race tactics that cost Saramma the gold, when Shiny herself was in no shape to win a medal.

In the men's section, Sri Lanka have a good athlete in the making in the 1,500m. Ranjith Subasinghe, ran a life best of 1:47.99 and finished second to Pakistan's Nadir Khan, an Asian Games silver medallist. K.A. Karunaratne was too good for the others in the 10,000m and the marathon.

The Indian reputation was in small ways redeemed by Reeth Abraham, who won the long jump and clocked her life best in the 100m hurdles. Jossey Mathew finally won a big race in his athletics career in the 800m and of course Bahadur Prasad, who ran the 5,000m instead of the 1,500m but still managed to win it. Shakti Singh continued to be the most consistent athlete in the country by winning the discus.

Athletics quite naturally takes the prime spot in a multi-event Games. But in swimming, Sri Lanka excelled themselves through the combined efforts of cousins, Julian Bolling and Dipika Chanmugam. Between themselves they won 12 individual—five and seven—gold medals besides silver and bronze. It was virtually them against the rest of the field.

In the weeks to come, there will be a more in-depth analysis of these failures by the Indians, but the recurring question is: will the Indian officials recover from their slumber?

A special correspondent, Colombo

ADRIAN EZRA:

The Whiz Kid Of

FAIR, short and handsome, almost stocky, with those powerful legs and shoulders, Adrian Ezra—the national squash champion for the last four years—is just 20 and already thinks he is too old for the game. He had created history four years back when at 17 he had won both the junior and the men's national titles. Since then, he has gone from strength to strength winning the national crown with consummate ease.

What places Adrian Ezra a cut above the rest of the top Indian squash players? For one thing, he has probably worked the hardest on his fitness, on his technique and strokes. In addition, his motivation is very strong too. "Well, there was one year when I worked particularly hard—six hours a day, with three hours of extremely strenuous workouts. But now I can only devote three hours a day," he said modestly. Currently graduating in Economics at the famous Harvard University in the USA, that is understandable.

Isn't it tough, keeping up with the academic curriculam with such high level squash? 'Yes, it's tough! But there's no option if I must continue with squash,' Ezra said.

Ezra is probably the fastest man on the squash court in India. That, combined with his physical fitness, makes his court coverage quite remarkable. He can seldom be wrong footed. He has what all champions have—time to make strokes. And that enables him to disguise his shots, frequently sending his opponents in the wrong direction.

He did not have this deception, rather it was not as effective, a couple of years ago. So how has he acquired it? 'I've worked hours practising and perfecting the delayed shots," quipped Ezra, stressing the fact that it does not come easy.

With the advent of the large head racquets, requiring muchless power to crack the ball harder, it has become a trifle easier and he has taken full advantage of it. His forehand, particularly, can be lethal.

How lethal he can get, was



"Six times my nose has been smashed, and an equal number of times my shoulder has been dislocated"- Adrian Ezra



Indian Squash



The two national champions (Bhuvaneshwari and Ezra) having a chat

apparent at the recently-concluded Nationals and Inter-State Squash Championships, when lesser known players struggled to get a point off him and top players literally found it difficult to put up some semblance of resistance. Not a single game did he drop, and the manner in which he won the title left no one with any doubt as to who was in the driver's seat.

Has Ezra suffered any injuries? Grinning impishly, he said: "Six times my nose has been smashed and an equal number of times my shoulder has been dislocated." On a more serious note,he added that he has breathing problems because of his nose having been smashed so many times.

Despite the hard grind and injuries, Adrian Ezra retains that zest for life. Behind the boyish charm that he radiates dwells a matured young man who knows where he's going. Squash is fun, but top priority is studies.

For the next two and a half years that he remains at Harvard, he intends to be back to defend his national crown. And why not? Everytime he comes and plays a tournament in India, it's like a whiff of fresh air for the game!

Raj Manchanda



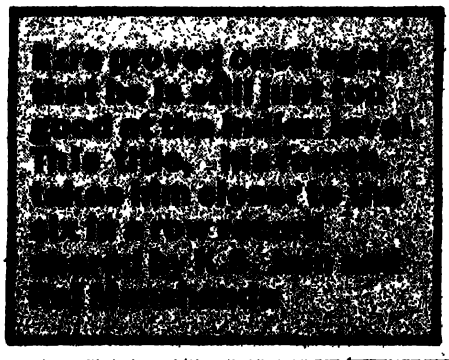
Ezra with the glittering trophy



Stars of yesteryear, the present and the future all gathered to make it the squash event of the year

WOMEN'S squash in India hardly arouses as much interest as the men's simply because there is so little competition. But not so this year. When the DCM Sriram National Squash championships got underway at the Delhi Gymkhana Club squash complex there was an expectancy in the air. Would Bhuvaneshwari Kumari (Candy), who has dominated Indian women's squash so completely for over a decade, retain her crown, or would the young pretender Misha Grewal, who had upset her at the Maharashtra State Squash championship a few weeks ago, finally break Candy's unbroken string of 15 national titles?

The National championships continued to be the star event of the domestic circuit with stars of yesteryear , the present, and the future, all gathered to make it the squash event of the year. From old stalwarts like Narjit Singh, 'KJ' Vohra, Yogendra Singh, Raj Manchanda, there was the current cream of Indian squash—wonder boy Adrian Ezra, Daruwala, Arjan Singh and Malik, Brar, Rahul



STAR SHINE

Nayar, Gaurav Bhushan and juniors Rishad Pandole, Rishad Billimoria and Gaurav Murghai.

Ezra, who is a student of Economics at Harvard, does this annual pilgrimage to the Nationals to defend his title, and how he does it!

There were some early upsets. Qualifier Gaurav Bhushan upset KJ, while Dushyant Jamwal (Shorty) had 'Jamaica' Malani stretching which pulled his hamstring. Veteran Raj Manchanda caused the biggest flutter when he turned the tables on Services colleague Brar after being down two games. But that was all, as all other matches were on course.

Adrian Ezra's speed and deception were a revelation. As he stormed into the semi-final, he hardly dropped a point, sending his opponents in the wrong direction all the time. Not used to Ezra's game, Ravinder Malik found himself losing the first game at love. After that he rallied splendidly to take seven points in the next game, but the effort proved too much and the third was a one-sided affair.

The other semi-final was a sizzling affair between Daruwala and Arjan Singh, the tall lanky Sikh from the Services, probably the hardest hitter of the ball and also famous for his nicks and relentless attack. The first game was a marathon affair with both players holding game point several times. It was a crucial game and Daruwala won. The other two games were close, but not quite, and Daruwala's speed, agility and consistency carried the day over Arjan's powerful but error-prone game.

So when the two southpaws met in the final, it was their fourth clash for the National title. After some incredibly long rallies in the opening game, which seemed to take their toll on Daruwala, Ezra forged ahead. The story was repeated in the second game. Whatever Daruwala did, Ezra did better, and he also had a greater repertoire of strokes. His biggest asset was deception. It was not as if Daruwala was not fighting hard. The third game raised hopes of a comeback when Ezra was forced into uncharacteristic errors, but then he steadied his game and from 1-6 down clawed his way to a 9-6 win. Ezra once again proved that he is still just too good at the Indian level. This title, his fourth, takes him closer to the six in a row record shared by K.S. Jain and Raj Manchanda.

Women's squash in India hardly arouses any interest in India as the men's simply because there is so little competition. But not so this year



THE women's final was a different story. It was a typical battle of experience versus youth. Candy's matured and controlled game against Misha Grewal's power and speed. Since Honey Sherman and Lala Talwar did not take part, it was a virtual walkover to the final for both Candy and Misha.

Candy started nervously, not quite finding her rhythm, and Misha capitalised with hard hitting drives, superb court coverage and those occasional winning drop shots. But Candy came back with authority, her strokes flowing freely, and there was nothing much that young Misha could do in the next two games.

She tinned repeatedly in her attempts to take Candy to the front. When Candy led 7-2 in the fourth game, it seemed over, but not quite. Misha fought back gallantly, but there was no stopping Kumari as she romped home 9-7 in the fourth, to a record 16th title. Some record! Reminds one of Heather Marley's record of 16 'world' titles.

Raj Manchanda, New Delhi

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. She won the Wimbledon ladies' singles title in tennis and the All-England badminton title the same year. Who is she?

2. What has been Ramesh Krishnan's best achievement in the ATP rankings?

3. Which unseeded player won the Wimbledon title?

4. What do the five rings in the Olympic flag represent?

5. Bombay and Johannesburg are the two cities to have staged a Test at three grounds. Which is the third city?

6. Who are the three Indian men to have qualified for the final of an Olympic track event?

7. Who is the only bowler to have dismissed Sir Don Bradman hitwicket, during a Test match?

8. Who is the first overseas cricketer to have been signed by English County, Yorkshire?

9. The 1956 Olympics were held in Melbourne, barring one event which was held in another city. Name the event and the city.

10. What was the Grand Slam previously referred to by the American Press?

11. Which famous Indian sportsman is nicknamed 'Guga'?

12. From 1973 to 1979, Chris Evert won 125 successive matches on clay. Who ended this run and where?

13. Which tennis player after losing in the first round of the U.S. Open in 1985 said, "I hate coming to New York. I hate the city. I hate the tournament and I hate Flushing Meadows...they should drop an Atom bomb on this place?"

14. In which sport are there ranks and files?

15. About whom did Muhammad Ali say, "I have seen him shadow boxing and the shadow won."

ANSWERS

1. Kitty McKane (Mrs. L.A. Godfree)
2. Twenty three shadows in the early 80's
3. Boris Becker in 1985
4. The five continents
5. Calcutta
6. Milkha Singh, G.S. Randhawa and Gurbachan Singh Randhawa
7. Lala Amarnath
8. Craig McDermott
9. The equestrian events were held in Stockholm because of Australia's strict law against importing horses into the country.
10. The Impregnable Quadrilateral
11. Gopi Salgi
12. Tracy Austin at the Italian Open
13. Kevin Curren
14. Chess. The vertical columns (from one opponent to another) are files and horizontal columns are ranks.
15. George Foreman

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

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CUTTACK 753 003

An Exciting 1991

LOOKING back, the year 1991 has definitely been a most exciting one, from the sporting point of view, as the most unpredictable things have happened to almost all the prime sports—especially tennis, chess cricket and football.

In chess, for instance, fortunes have fluctuated as never before; cricket has provided some of the most thrilling moments of the year, and *Sportsworld*, like an old faithful, has all along been bringing all the excitement closer and closer to us throughout 1991. I would like to congratulate you all for a good job and an excellent year.

This year the Grand Slam tennis coverage was extensive, as Rohit Brijnath provided us with all the excitement. Kudos to Pradeep Paul for the exclusive interview with Muhammad Ali, and also to Robin Chatterjee for the 'Hero' Kapil story. The Sharjah issues, thanks to Harsha Bhogle came out splendidly too. And, above all, Tiger Pataudi's interview with the 'Haryana Hurricane' Kapil Dev came as a pleasant surprise towards the fag end of the year. It was great.

SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry

ON behalf of my friends who are interested in karate I would like to congratulate you for the wonderful karate column, carrying on for the last three years. The coverage you provided for the karate World Championship was also splendid (*Sportsworld* 29 Nov—3 Dec). Hats off to you.

RAMACHANDRAN,
Madras

THE fitness pages in your magazine are really worth reading. Keep up the good work, but please print photographs of Indian bodybuilders like Premchand Degra, Raymond D'Souza or of the past masters like Manohar Aich, Manotosh Roy, instead of only foreign bodybuilders. Let our own champions also get some publicity through your magazine.

OSWALD RICHARD MENEZES,
Bangalore

Kapil's back

IT is heartening to see the old faithful of Indian cricket regain his magic touch as India's main strike bowler. Just when people were starting to attack him for his rather unimpressive performances in the recent past, branding him as a passenger in the Indian squad, Kapil Dev has now silenced his detractors by proving his class once again. This is what true genius means. It can be never snuffed out by jealous criticism, and Kapil Dev is not going to be finished just like that. He is a hero cricketer and his class will always show.

SHUBHANKAR DEY,
Burdwan



Kudos

CONGRATULATIONS for the story on Javagal Srinath, India's newest pace sensation. In fact, it is a good omen that after a long gap we have found a regular partner for Kapil. With Kapil Dev still going strong, Srinath will be a wonderful understudy for the great all rounder, and given the hard working sportsman that he is, Srinath stands to gain enormously from his close proximity to Kapil.

ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack

Disappointing

CONSIDERING the poor performances of the Indian cricket team in Australia, I think it is high time we started seriously thinking about replacing Azharuddin as skipper with someone more competent to motivate the team and take the right decisions strategically.

In fact, it may not be unfair to suggest that Azhar himself should offer to step down, instead of clinging on to his captain's mantle when it is clear that the whole team is in doledrums, and Azhar no longer possesses the magic touch to redeem it from the mess.

Even strategically, he has made a number of blunders, ever since this tour began and there is no escape from the fact that these mistakes did play a big role in bringing about the Indian downfall. Well, one may expect me to explain all these mistakes to make my point, but that would take a lot more space and time than a letter. But the fact remains that success and competence should be the only criteria for everyone to find a place in the side, and from that point of view Azhar has certainly forfeited his right to remain the skipper. And there is no denying that even as batsman he is in very poor form. So, may we expect a sporting decision from a sporting captain?

MADHUMITA CHAKROBORTY,
Baranagar

NEW DELHI

Sports Meet

DELHI University Staff Club organises inter staff sports tournaments annually in various events for promoting talent and interaction amongst employees of the University and its attracted a large number of participants but also added to the quality of performance. For instance, the performance of N. C. Mehra, a newcomer, in chess is worth mentioning. Mehra is likely to improve with more exposure to levels of competition in chess. He has now started playing national level tournaments.

Athletics, an event recently introduced for the employees to stay fit, just failed to receive the kind of response that it deserved mainly because of extreme heat. Yet, Bhopal Singh, Pervinder and Jagat Singh excelled winning two events each.

However, the competition in table tennis and badminton witnessed some close matches Jagat Singh and T. K Arun Kumar emerged winner and runner-up in table tennis while S P. Singh retained his singles title in badminton.

Cricket, as usual, the glamorous 'sport of the meet, witnessed keen competition. This year, the matches were played on a-knock-out basis unlike in the past when they were played on a league basis.

The first match itself proved a set-back when Combined XI beat the more powerful Examination Wing for whom Vijay Verma slammed a century, thus becoming the first batsman to do so in the competition.

His feat was emulated by Mohit Soni who made exactly 102 runs and helped Central Office topple last year's winners Ramjas College. The defending champions failed to rise to the occasion and were shot out for 108 runs facing a difficult task of scoring 204 runs in 30 overs. Gurcharan Singh and S. K. Soni did the damage claiming four wickets each.



The Delhi University Staff Club arranges inter-staff tournaments every year

On the other hand, teams from Science Faculty and Kirori Mal College clashed in the first semi-final and the former emerged winners to challenge Central Office for the title. For Kirori Mal College, Praveen Kumar excelled with both bat and ball but his valiant efforts could not prevent Science Faculty from reaching the final. The performance of Suresh Vig and Bhopal Singh ensured the entry of Science Faculty for the third successive year.

The final, played at Khalsa College ground, provided all the features of the one day game. The glorious uncertainties' of the game were all there in the match right from the first ball. Science Faculty batting first scored 142 runs in 38 overs with useful contributions from Jagat Singh (24), Suresh Vig (16) and Ishwar Singh (19). The bowling of Gurucharan Singh (3/24) and Rajinder (3/24) ably supported by Vijay Kumar who bowled a tidy line, restricted the batsmen from scoring freely. Chasing a none-too-difficult task of scoring 143 runs in 40 overs, Central Office began disastrously losing 3 wickets quickly with the scoreboard reading 20 runs only but Vinod Sharma (26) and S. K. Soni (53) had other ideas as the two played sensibly and picked up singles and twos early on and when the bowlers pitched short or loose, the two batsmen went for their shots. However, two batsmen went for their shots. However, two brilliant catches off the bowling of Raju John turned the tide of the match and the match seemed to slip away. However Gurucharan Singh mastered the situation and guided his team to its maiden triumph with two overs to spare.

Thus the annual sports meet provided keen competition amongst the participants and new champions emerged. Such sports meets also help in the interaction of younger members of the laboratory, clerical and teaching staff.

Novy Kapadia

HYDERABAD

Motor Rally

LEELA KRISHNAN of Coimbatore along with his navigator Mahendran in their Maruti Gypsy won the Charminar Challenge motor rally with 21.45 penalty points. Nikhil Taneja of Delhi in a Maruti Gypsy with Sandeep Lal, came second with 25.05 penalty points, while Dilip Desai of Pune steering a 1 18NE ended up third with 27.39 points.

The top favourite, Farhad Bathena and navigator Farokh Commissariat (Bombay) took the fourth position with 28.11 penalty points.

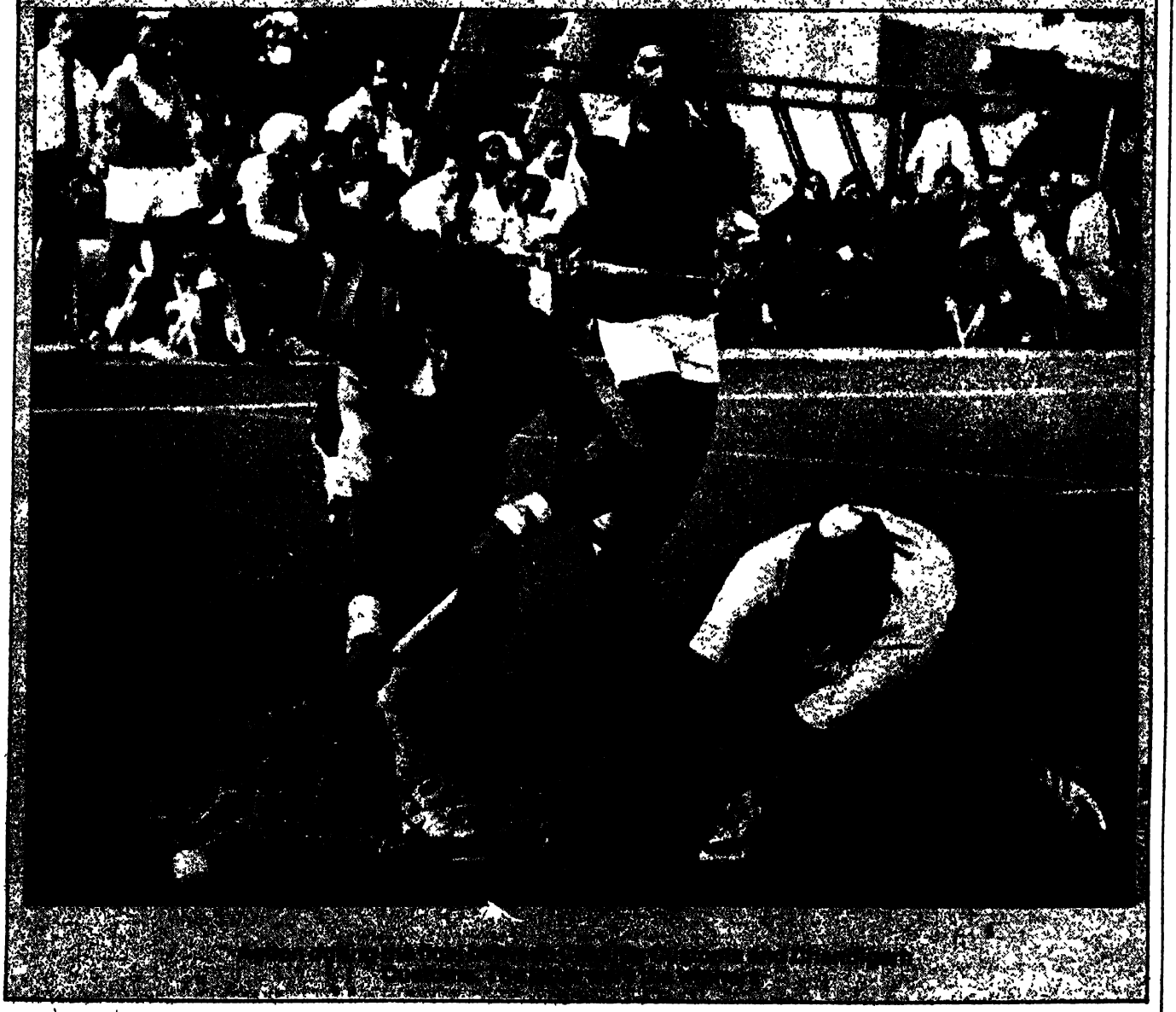
At the end of the last leg of the Indian rally for the year 1991, Leela Krishnan and Farhad Bathena ended up sharing the top honours for the Federation of Indian Rally Drivers championship with 80 points each.

The rally which was revived after a lapse of three years owing to problems saw for the first time one hundred percent tarmac roads. And another interesting aspect of this rally was that the whole course was done by night. Of the 22 competitors, 16 finished the event.

L. Ashli

CALCUTTA

Central Revenues Hockey



HYDERABAD

Women's National Hockey

INDIAN RAILWAYS lifted the Lady Ratan Tata Trophy by beating Bihar by a solitary goal in the final of the 45th senior women's national hockey championships. After a barren 85 minutes of play Rajwinder Kaur in tandem with former international Madhu Yadav worked their way up and finally the latter managed to sound the boards (1-0).

The Railways who had ten internationals in their team had a tough time against the plucky and spirited Bihar team who are trained by the Sports Authority of India. Earlier in the semi final Bihar defeated Air India by a solitary goal while Railways defeated Indian Universities.

Incidentally the nine day championship witnessed 358 penalty corners out of which only 39 were converted.

L. Ashli

The Indian Railways team were the winners of the national women's hockey championships

New Sports Quiz Books



Leander Paes, Chima Okorie and Arun Lal get together recently at Calcutta to launch the Dunlop Sports Quiz Book and the Dunlop Cricket Quiz Book. With this trio, Ashwini Nachappa and Leslie Claudius presenting the sports quiz, and M.A.K. Pataudi, M.L. Jaisimha, Gundappa Vishwanath, Dilip Vengsarkar and Sanjay Manjrekar doing the honours for the cricket quiz, the books are co-authored by Derek O'Brien (seen between Okorie and Lal)/Pradeep Paul and Derek O'Brien/Andy O'Brien respectively. Get your copies fast!





MAHMOOD HUSSAIN

DEATH BY NEGLIGENCE

THE way BCCP has treated past Test cricketers for the services rendered by them in making Pakistan a pivotal force in international cricket is best illustrated by the illness and death of the former fast bowler Mahmood Hussain who had his left leg amputated in London after it developed gangrene because of his diabetes This sad news hardly seemed to ruffle the feathers of the Cricket Board as it basked in the aftermath of another triumph in Sharjah.

He died in a London hospital last week at the age of 59.

Ironically, Mahmood Hussain was one of the beneficiaries who was honoured by the CBFS along with another Pakistani Wasim Hasan Raja Because of his condition Mahmood could not travel to the Emirates to receive his cheque of US dollars thirty-five thousand which eventually came extremely handy to him in affording his medical expenses One of the many causes of his illness was the stepmotherly attitude of BCCP towards the services rendered by him

Born in 1932, in Lahore Mahmood was a doughty cricketer and a lion-hearted fast bowler who first came into the limelight during the 1949 intervarsity final against the Sindh University when he captured a match bag of 16 wickets for the Punjab University His performance won him an automatic place in the Pakistan team for their inaugural tour of India in 1952 which marked the entrance of the newly independent Muslim country into the international cricket fraternity

Mahmood in tandem with Fazal Mahmood played a great role in Pakistan s memorable innings and 43 runs victory over India in the Lucknow Test after the tourists had lost the opening Test in Delhi He had figures of 23 7 35 3 and 19 5 57 1 In four Tests he claimed 12 wickets On the 1954 tour of England he again played second fiddle to Fazal where the pair s exploits earned the tourists a famous 24 runs victory While Fazal captured 12 wickets for 99 runs Mahmood also had enviable figures of 21 3 6 58 4 and 14 4 32 1 in the second knock

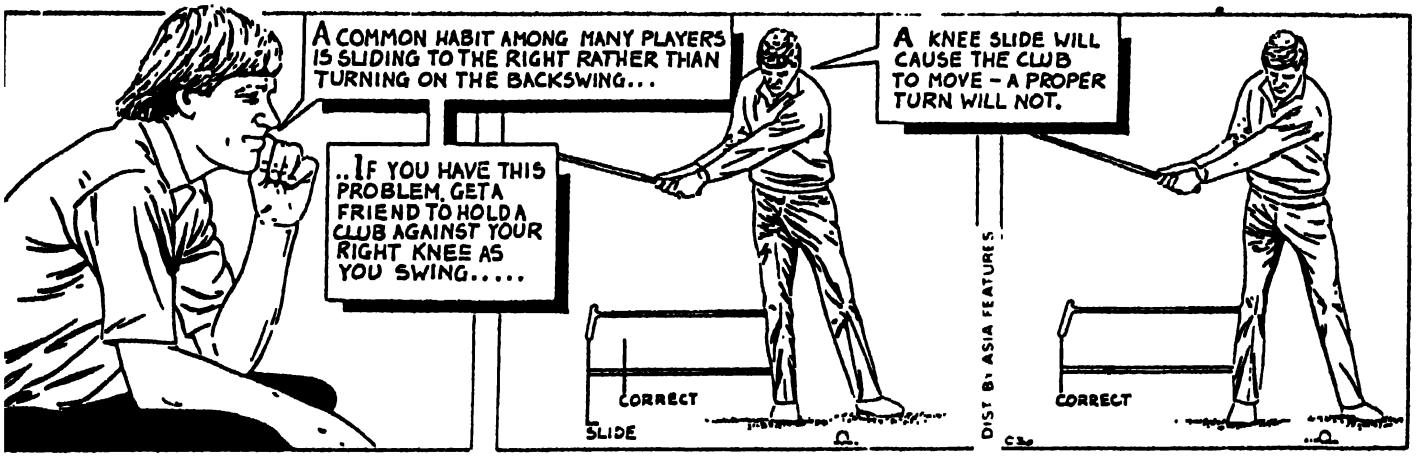
But it was in Dacca during the 1954 55 series against India that Mahmood had his finest hour After Pakistan had made 257, he simply ripped the heart out of the Indian batting by returning excellent figures of 27 6 67 6 and these remained his best bowling in the 27 Tests he played for Pakistan In the third Test in his home town he displayed another good spell of fast bowling and claimed four for 70 from 26 1 overs

His captain and contemporary Fazal Mahmood describes Mahmood Hussain as One of the fastest bowlers produced by Pakistan and more accurate than the present lot The emphasis on accuracy may raise a few eyebrows because in the 27 Tests that he played for Pakistan, Mahmood took only 68 wickets with a high aggregate of 38 64 runs per wicket He would have surely improved his performance had injuries and Pakistan s reliance on spinners not come in his way Mahmood Hussain was nevertheless one of those pioneers of Pakistan cricket who contributed immensely in the rapid development and promotion of the game and certainly deserved better honour and reverence by the BCCP ●

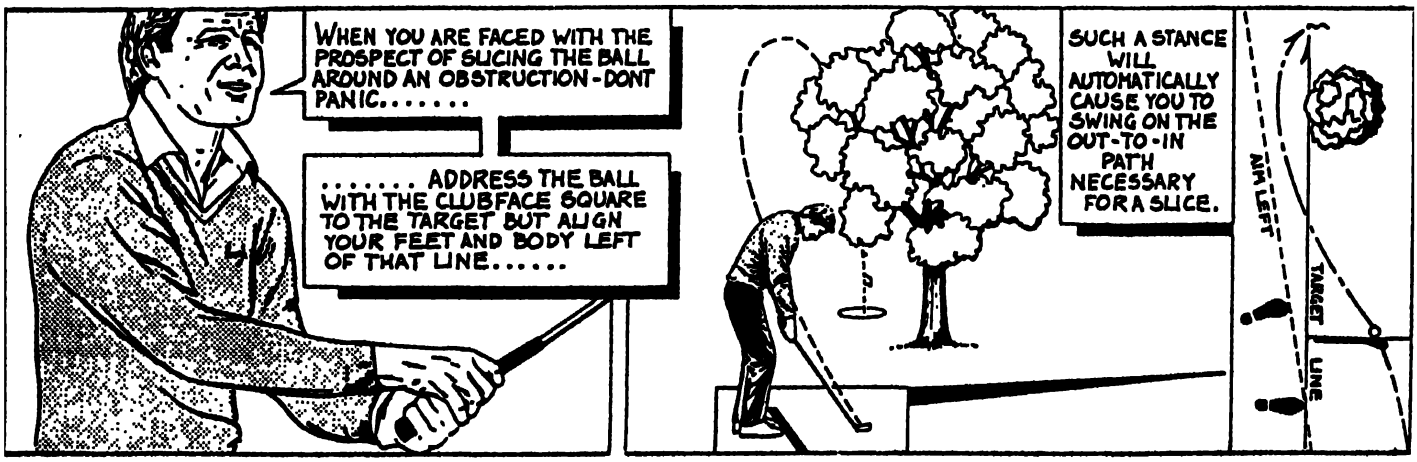
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

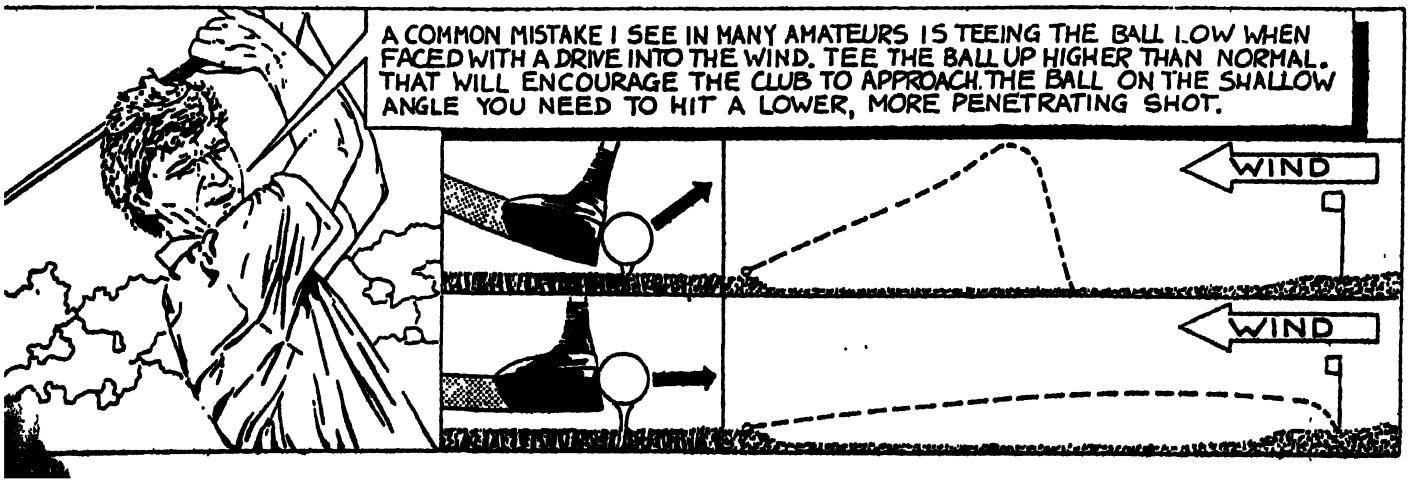
Turn Don't Slice



Deliberate Slice



Tee Higher or Lower in Wind



SPORT SHORTS

By Fred Hull

TANIA AEBI

The youngest skipper to sail around the world singlehanded



In May, 1985 Tania Aebi, age 18, set out from New York to see the world aboard her 26 foot sloop "VARUNA".

It took 27 months to accomplish her single handed voyage She logged 27,000 miles during the 2 1/2 year odyssey She battled storms, heat, and loneliness, as she navigated seas treacherous even for ocean steamers. Her boat survived being struck by a freighter and capsizing!

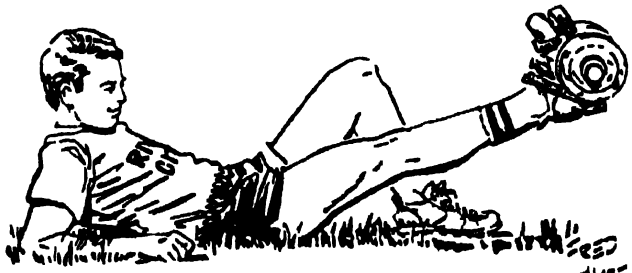
Tania arrived in New York to a hero's welcome on November 6, 1988. THe 21 year old sea-weary skipper was the youngest person ever to accomplish a single handed around the-world voyage!



OUCH! RUNNER'S KNEE

Joggers often complain of knee pain In most cases the pain is the result of the outside thigh muscle being stronger than the inside thigh muscle. The stronger muscle pulls the kneecap to one side, mis aligning the knee joint and causing inflammation of surrounding ligaments and tendons

The best exercise to strengthen the inside thigh muscle to eliminate "RUNNER'S KNEE" is the weight lifter's "STRAIGHT LEG LIFT"!

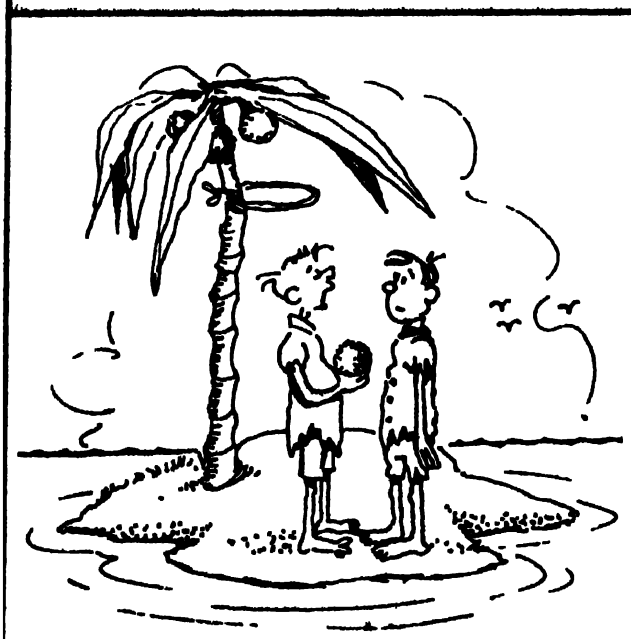


1 - Lie on back, start with a light weight on your ankle
2 - Take the strain off lower back by bending good leg
3 - Lift sore leg a foot from ground, hold 5 seconds
4 - Start with 8 repetitions and work up to 12.
5 - Increase weight when you can do 3 sets of 12 repetitions.

Note: It is a good idea to see a sports doctor and have your legs measured. Uneven leg length can cause "Runner's Knee" A prescription shoe insert can cure this problem

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"How about a game of one on one?"



"I understand the chef was a fencing champ."

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the first woman from the erstwhile U.S.S.R. to be crowned world chess champion?
2. Which was the first 100,000-capacity stadium of the erstwhile U.S.S.R.?
3. Which Spartakiad of the erstwhile U.S.S.R. was dedicated "to the fiftieth anniversary of the Revolution"?
4. Who was the first woman athlete from the erstwhile U.S.S.R. to become world champion at the World Athletics Games?

ANSWERS

1. Lyudmila Rudenko (in 1950).
2. Kirov Stadium (Leningrad).
3. The IV USSR Spartakiad.
4. Tamara Bykova (Helsinki, 1983).

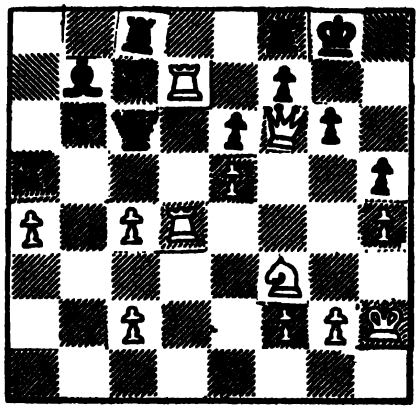
CHESS

NIGEL SHORT, the world no 4 has a very simple attitude to chess. "Forget about pawn structures--checkmate is the best way to end a game." Here he finds an amazing way to deliver the goods. Remember that Jan Timman is a super GM and modern super GMs don't normally get roasted in this fashion.

White: Short Vs Black: Timman Tilburg '91.

1 e4 Nf6 2 e5 Nd5 3 d4 d6 4 Nf3 g6 5 Bc4 Nb6 6 Bb3 Bg7 7 Qe 2 Nc6 8 0-0 0-0 9 h3 a5 10 a4 de5. In Practice 10-d5 or 10--Bf5 may be more solid.
11 de5 Nd4 12 Nd4 Qd4 13 Re1 e6 14 Nd2 Nd5.
Short Vs Hennigan '87 went 14-Bd7 15 c3 Qc5 16 Nf3 Bc6 17 Be3 Qe7 18 Bg5! Qc5 19 Nd4 with a bind.
15 Nf3 Qc5 16 Qe4 Qb4. Black is afraid of something like 16-Bd7 17 Qh4 Qe7 18 Bg5 Qc5 19 Bd5 Qd5 20 Rad1 Qc6 21 Bf6 with an attack. Short refuses to sell out his initiative for an extra pawn with 17 Bd5 etc.
17 Bc4! Nb6 18 b3 Nc4 19 bc4 Re8 20 Rd1 Qc5 21 Qh4 b6 22 Be3 Qc6 23 Bh6 Bh8? Black has to try 23--Bc6 24 Bg7 Kg7 with better defensive prospects though white still possesses attacking chances in that line.
24 Rd8 Bb7 25 Rad1 Bg7. The tempting 25--Be5 loses to 26 Qe7!! Bg7 27 Ra8 Ba8 28 Rd8.
26 R8-d7 Rf8. If 26--Be5 27 Rf7!
27 Bg7 Kg7 28 R1-d4 Rae8 29 Qf6 Kg8 30 h4 h5 31 Kh2 Rc8
Black's total helplessness stems from his dark square weakness and the fact that the queen file can't be challenged. He cannot try 31--Bc8 32 g4! Bd7 33 gh5 for instance. However, (See Diagram) it is not obvious how white can increase the pressure since all his unit are optimally placed-well all except one!
32 Kg3!! Simple really but unstoppable. **Rce8 33 Kf4 Bc8 34 Kg5!** (1-0).
The king marches up to h6 and then its mate. If 34-Kh7 35 Rf7 Rf7 36 Qf7 Kg8 37 Kh6 anyway.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Terence Reese, the British star of the fifties, gave up competitive bridge long ago but still continues to take active interest in the game and in writing about it. For his age, he is very agile both mentally and physically, travelling to international events and reporting on them. Along with David Bird, he has compiled a record of this year's European championship, "Brilliancies and Blunders in the European Bridge Championships, published by Maxwell Macmillan Chess & Bridge Ltd., England.

Nothing, especially not bridge books, comes cheap these days and this 136-page paperback costs £7.50 (over Rs. 300/-). However, written in the authors' usual witty style, this book is entertaining reading as well as educative. The Open Teams was won by Britain, Mrs Sandra Landy (npc), Tony Forrester, Graham Kirby, Tony Sowter, Andrew Robson, John Armstrong and Roman Smolski. Here are the winners in action against Spain:-

Dealer East **E-W vul.**

NORTH (dummy)
♠ AQJ107
♥ KB8765
♦ AJ4
♣

WEST
♠ 953
♥ Q2
♦ 1083
♣ Q10742

EAST
♠ 62
♥ A
♦ K92
♣ AK98653

SOUTH
♠ K84
♥ J10943
♦ Q765
♣ J

WEST	NORTH Robson	EAST	SOUTH Forrester
—	--	1♠	1♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

A rather emaciated overcall, leading to a poor slam. Even though declarer escaped a fatal diamond lead, it is not simply a matter of placing the hearts—the spades will supply only two discards. Forrester adopted a clever line of play to make—he won the opening spade lead in hand, ruffed his sole club on the table. Then, reading the hand perfectly, he with his singleton ace of hearts, he cashed (a second spade and played a third round of the suit. If East ruffed) would be end-played but his actual discard only delayed he inevitable as he was promptly thrown in with the ace of hearts at trick five, forced to lead a diamond away from his king or give declarer a ruff-and-sluff by playing back a club.

Santanu Ghose

Voices

IT'S been a good year, I've had a lot of fun but I'm definitely a burnt out cookie. Then again, I'd prefer to be burnt out than heading for the Tour school. There is so much money to be won that I'd have been stupid to turn down all the offers I got.
JOHN DALY, the U S PGA Champion, who had an eventful year, reviews 1991

I'M able to get to a level where I'm ahead of myself; maybe a fifth of a second, who knows? When my car goes into a corner I'm already at the apex.
ARYTON SENNA on what makes him a winner in Formula One racing

I THINK we have seen the red flag for the last time.
IOC President, JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH, after Soviet Union crumbled as a state.

MY goal now is to win as many tournaments as possible. Yes I would love to win a Grand Slam. Wimbledon or Paris ... it's like trying to decide between a Porsche and a Ferrari. I'll say Wimbledon for the prestige and Paris for the heart.
GUY FORGET after the Davis Cup win is confident of the future

I CAN'T give my son the doubles lane.
JIMMY CONNORS when asked if he would give Monica Seles the advantage of the doubles lane should the two ever play in 'the battle of the sexes'

One of "the three best balls bowled consecutively" has Dean Jones adding to Kapil Dev's tally



THE COURT JESTER

The England cricket team touring New Zealand will be minus one important member: Ian Botham. But he is to join them just as soon as he finishes his acting commitments





TOTAL WORKOUT XIV

CURL INTO SH



FITNESS

FINALLY it's over. The marathon workout has come to an end. But it's worth every [illegible] that we've put through.

APE



WRIST CURL WITH PALMS UP

Emphasis: This exercise strongly stimulates the muscles of your forearms.

Starting Position: Sit at the end of a flat exercise bench with your forearms resting on your thighs so that your wrists are hanging over your knees. Take a grip on a barbell with your palms up and your inside fingers eight to 10 inches apart. Alternatively, you can take a grip of the same width with your palms down.

The Movement: Flex your wrists, curling the barbell upward as high as you can. Return to the starting position and repeat.

Training Tips: Doing wrist curls with your palms up [illegible]

[illegible]

The Movement: Curl one dumbbell in a controlled manner up to your shoulder. Then, as you slowly lower that dumbbell, curl the other dumbbell, alternating the movements.

Training Tips: Some champions like to start this movement with their palms down, turning their palms up as they go through the motion to better activate their biceps.

REVERSE CURL

Emphasis: This exercise works the large muscles at the top of your forearms, particularly the brachioradialis.

Starting Position: Stand, holding onto a barbell with your arms down and extended in front of your thighs, the bar across your thighs.

The Movement: Keeping your elbows as fixed as possible, curl the weight up to your shoulders slowly and evenly. Lower and repeat.

Training Tips: Avoid [illegible]

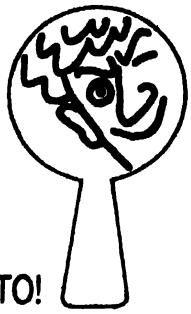
Starting [illegible] a moderate [illegible] dumbbell in [illegible] and stand with [illegible] arms hanging at your [illegible]

The Movement: [illegible] across the [illegible] [illegible] being sure to [illegible] as high as possible [illegible] your toes with [illegible] step. Continue [illegible] walking [illegible] you will [illegible]

[illegible] your [illegible] slightly [illegible] [illegible] are at [illegible] level. Lower [illegible] and repeat [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] the bar.

Training Tips: If you use [illegible], try [illegible] them with [illegible] curled up and [illegible] them in this manner in order to [illegible] the front [illegible] even more.

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK
WHERE
WE'RE NOT
SUPPOSED TO!

IS MERV ACTING?

No, just hamming

THIS might come as a surprise, but Merv Hughes is one of cricket's greatest hams.

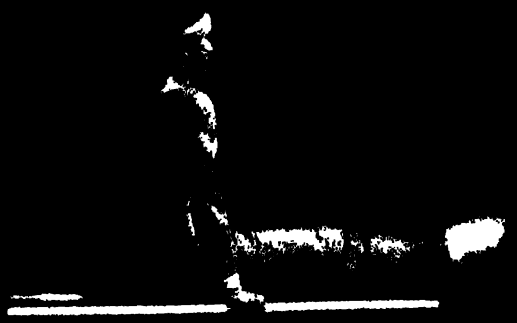
Why, there are people who actually believe that he sticks on his great moustache in the dressing room!

Looks like Merv has taken them seriously too. The Beserve is turning into a pro actor! No, it's not as big as Botham is doing, but a TV sitcom Hughes appears in one of the episodes of the "Flying Doctors" and he is obviously quite thrilled with how he's acted. "Everybody was so friendly on the set and made me feel at home," he burbled.

In the sitcom, Merv plays a cricket coach. The programme is sold to around 43 countries, so the director had to simplify a few of the cricket references. But as Merv says... Just watch it. You might find it interesting.



LET THE PASSION



HERO HONDA



HAVING A BABY

Sssh! It's a secret

THE fact that Chris Evert and Andy Mill had a baby boy is old hat, but perhaps no baby in America was ever born amidst such a tight ring of security and secrecy.

The son, Alexander James Mill was born at Broward General Hospital, Fort Lauderdale. This, incidentally, was the same place where his famous mom was born 36 years ago.

Evert—for security reasons—was registered in her mother's maiden name; Colette Thompson Not a soul was allowed to enter into the same floor as Evert without a special pass and workers were told by the authorities that if they revealed that Evert was in the hospital, they would be fired. No photos of mom or baby were allowed either, as Chris had signed an exclusive deal for photos with *People* magazine

Welcome to the lifestyles of the rich and famous

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Hick's lying low

SO what is the Great White Hope, or rather Graeme Hick doing this winter? Chances are that he's gone heavily under cover. Not surprising considering the battering his confidence had taken last summer-when his much trumpeted entry into Test cricket yielded a mere 75 runs from four Tests at an average of 10.71.

Hick now uses a very familiar word when he talks: "I'm looking forward to the future," he says. Actually this phrase is a copyright of Mickey Stewart's, the English cricket manager. And now, Stewart is apparently educating Hick in the art of tackling questions at a press conference, whispering instructions from the side of his mouth. Lying low key might just help Hick now.

Hick's failures have ensured that he lies low for a while

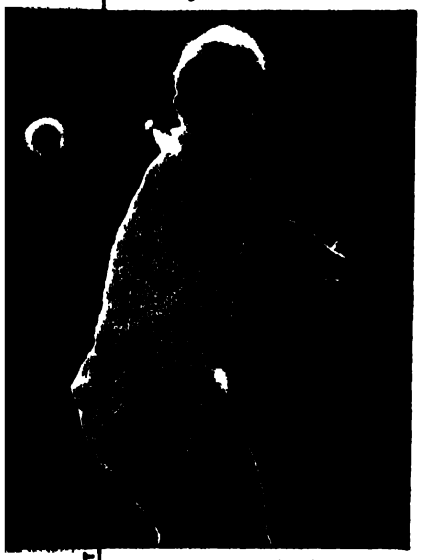


freewheeling

WHAT did you get from Santa this time? Anything useful? Should be, considering the aptness with which the red reindeer-riding hood from the North Pole chose his gifts for the sportspeople of the world

MIKE TYSON A glossy hardbound book on etiquette Word is the man's on the lookout for someone to read it to him!

ALLAN BORDER He got a book too One that teaches people the knack of handling victory without



COLORSPORT

Becker's quite happy with his gift: Zen and the Art of Tennis Excellence

appearing too smug On the opening page itself 'say the opposition fought hard'

MONICA SELES A year-long all-paid programme with a leading psychiatrist in the US. One day she's Madonna. The next Greta Garbo. And the very next plain, old Monica. Think she's confused? Imagine Santa.

DIEGO MARADONA: A six-month multiple entry visa to the North Pole. Italy doesn't want the guy Argentina doesn't either Guy's gotta go someplace, right?

IAN BOTHAM Yet another who ended up with a book the advanced manual of acting, co-authored by Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger Santa figured the only way Botham's acting career can go is up

STEFAN EDBERG For the angel, a virgin Gotta ask Santa now he managed to get Madonna into Stefan's stocking though What are the odds now on Edberg winning Wimbledon 1992 and grabbing his crotch?

KATRIN KRABBE A mask Highly needed, considering she's got no face after Kornelia Ender pulled the plug on East German sport

CARL LEWIS A titanium rattle The guy's such a crybaby—remember Powell's jump?—even Santa can't handle it anymore

NICK FALDO A new golf set Since he couldn't hit a single stroke correct in '91, there's gotta be something wrong with his clubs After all, Faldo's perfect Right, Nick?

JIMMY CONNORS A turbo-charged wheelchair If the old geezer's gonna hang around on court any longer, he'll need it.

RAVI SHASTRI Took him a little while, but Santa finally figured out the perfect gift for this guy. A bat with no edges!

MAGIC JOHNSON: The comprehensive volume on safe sex Guess Santa figured better late than never!

GRAEME HICK A South African passport England waited England watched in anguish England don't want him any more

BORIS BECKER Zen and the Art of Tennis Excellence Maybe this book will help the man fathom out the hazards of being so talented

VIV RICHARDS A wig. The Master Blaster's new hairstyle makes him look like Marvin Hagler And play cricket like that guy too!

STEVE DAVIS A pair of spectacles. Missed sitters like they were going out of style. Are the eagle eyes finally losing their focus?

SAID AOUITA: The Beginner's Guide to Distance Running. The way he ran last year, even that might be a little too complicated for him.

IMRAN KHAN A free appointment with a plastic surgeon. Age is catching up, but sex symbols still gotta look good

JOHN McENROE Life membership to the Malibu Beach Mental Asylum After all, he's the one who said at Wimbledon they're all insane I'm insane The tournament is insane Everything's insane

LINFORD CHRISTIE A dose of Stanazolol Just to stop him from moaning about the wages of sin making Ben Johnson a happy man'

JON DRUMMOND Fluorescent underwear The 200m gold medalist at the World Student Games split his pants during the race and had the grace to say later 'That's what I call running'

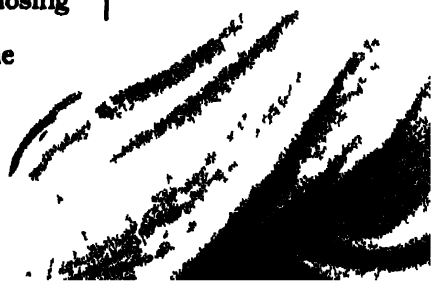
Pradeep Paul



COLORSPORT

Linford Christie wanted part of "the wages of sin". Santa gave it to him





Viv Richards got a wig from Santa. Hope it improves his cricket!

In a world full of surprises...



thank goodness you can count on

Boroline

Antiseptic Perfumed Cream
Ideal for dry skin and minor nicks and cuts

G D Pharmaceuticals
Calcutta 700053



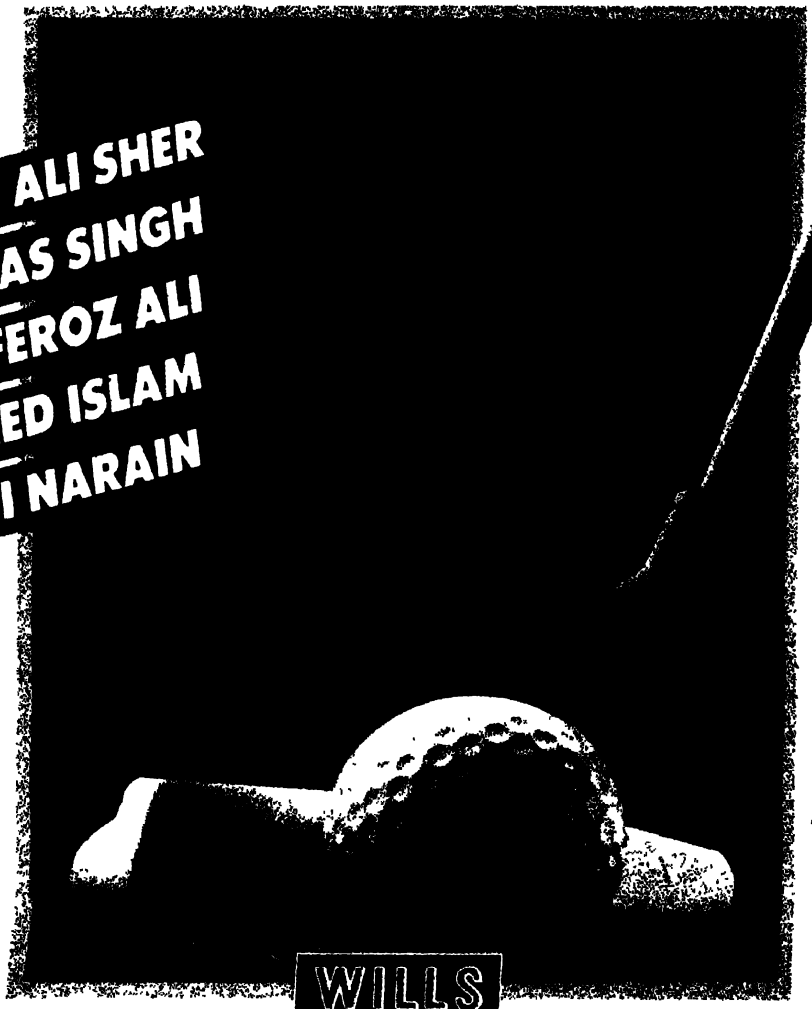
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TO THE MEN WHO CONQUERED THE COURSE

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ROHTAS SINGH
FEROZ ALI
MOHAMMED ISLAM
RISHI NARAIN

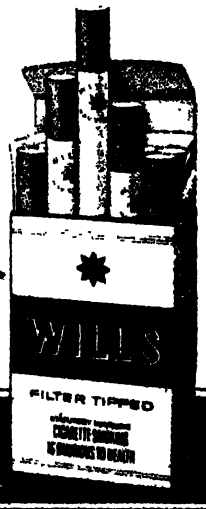


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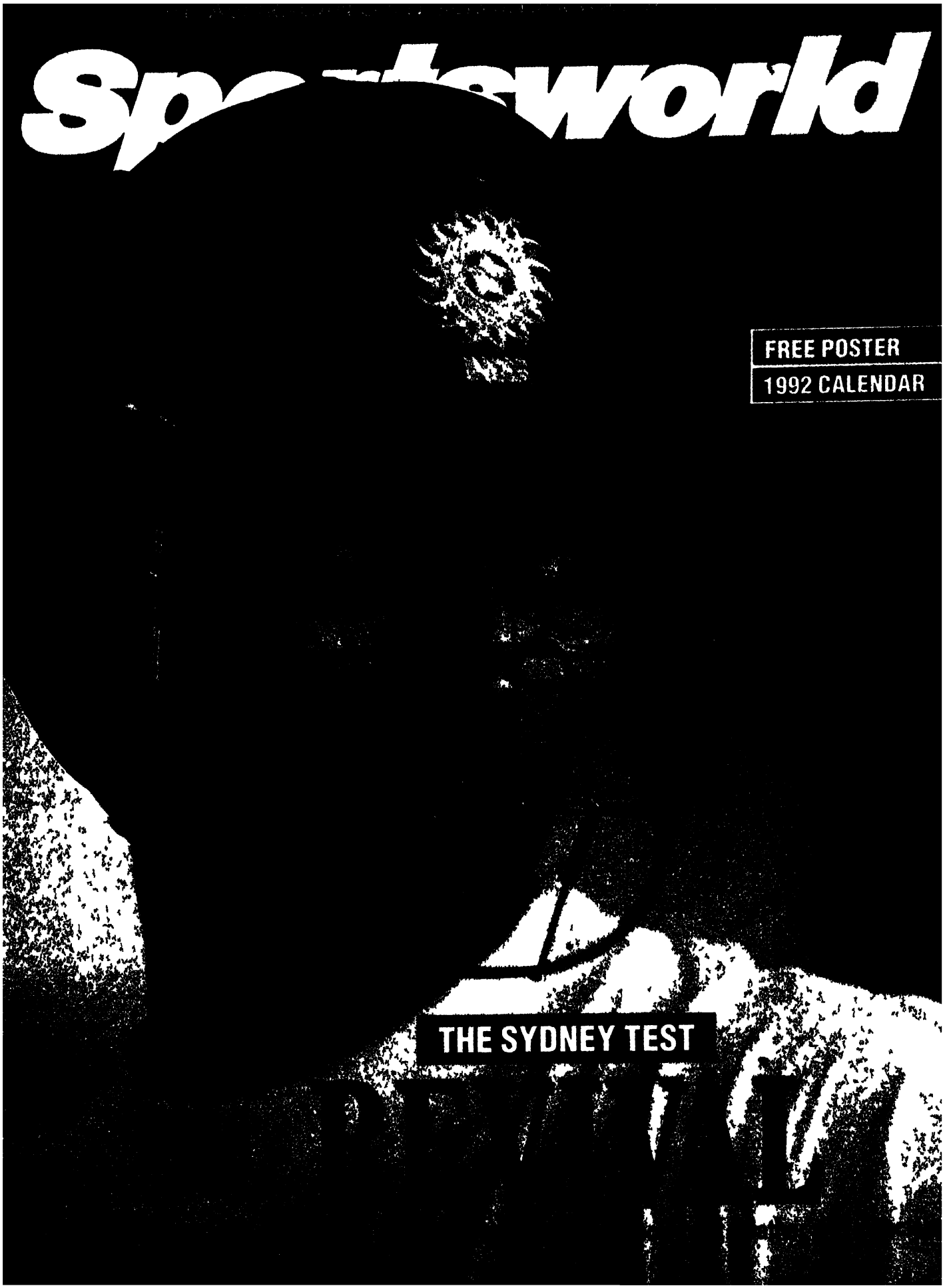
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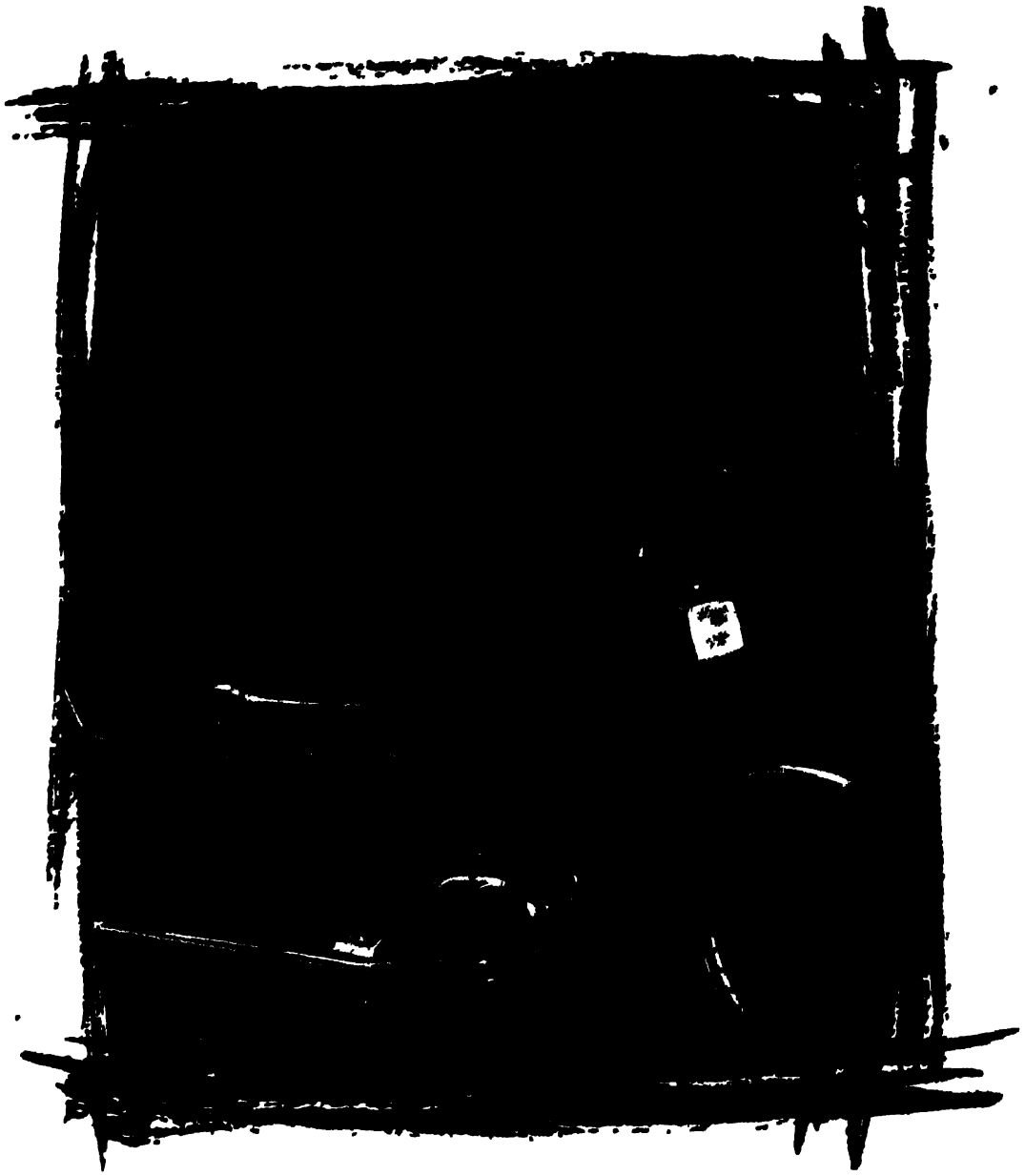
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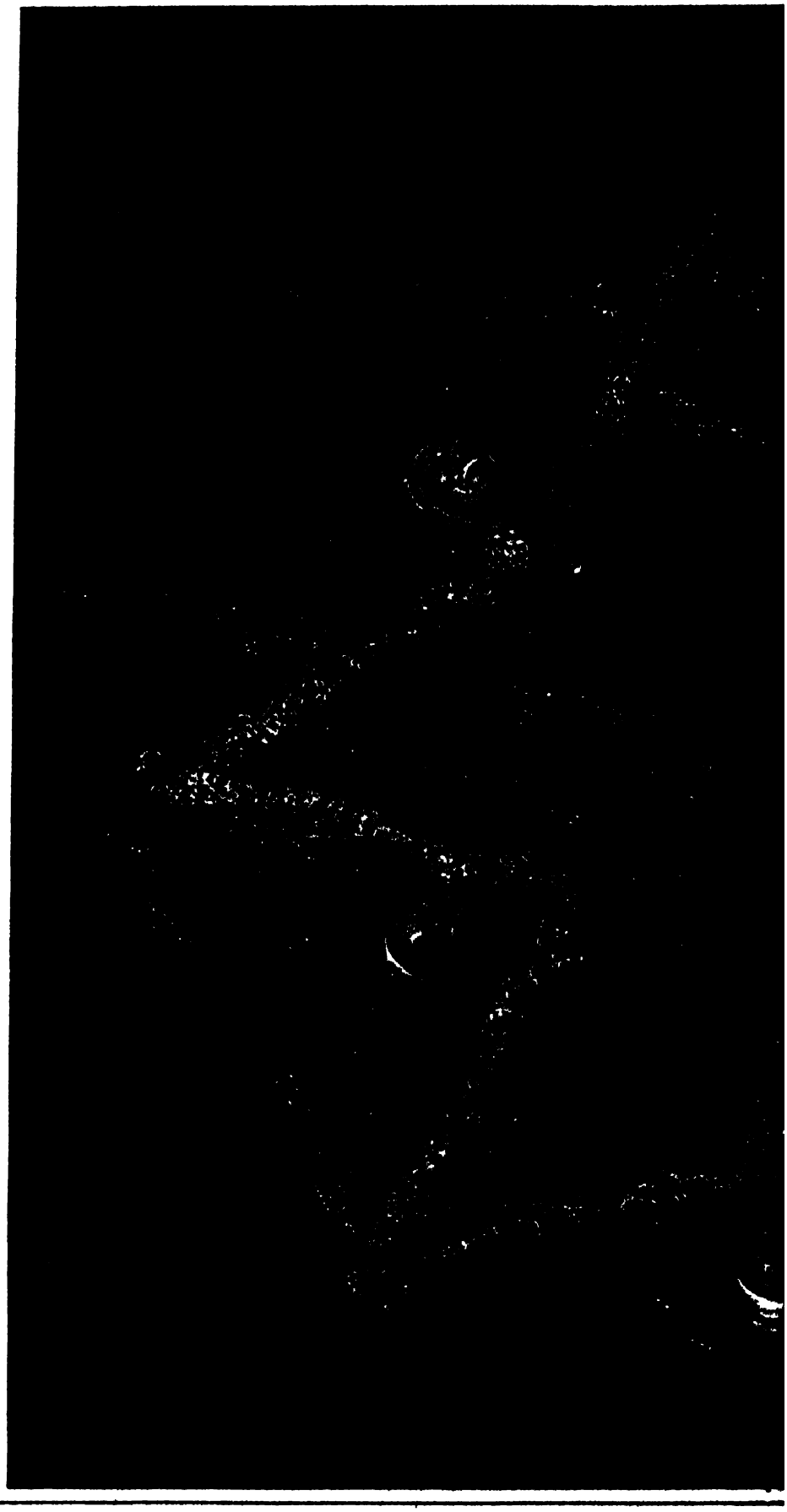
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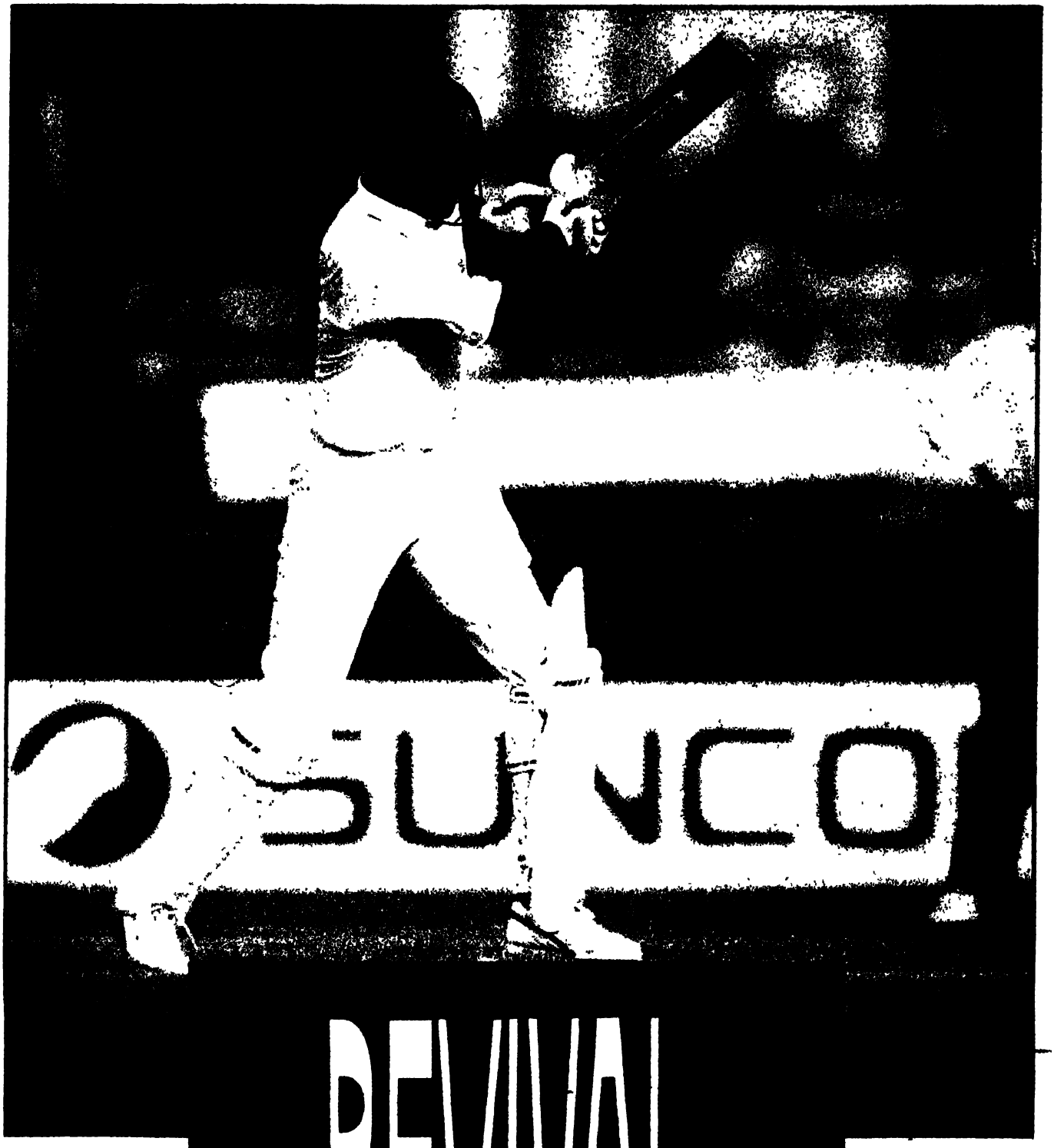
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REVIVAL



Ravi Shastri: a romantic episode in Indian cricket

Merv Hughes: great gusto

They were hunted in the bushes; they were hunted in the plains. But six weeks after arriving here,with their backs almost merging into the wall they were pinned into, the Indians gathered weapons, put on the warpaint and screamed into action....HARSHA BHOGLE reports from Sydney

THEY were hunted in the bushes; they were hunted in the plains. But six weeks after arriving here, with their backs almost merging into the wall they were pinned into, the Indians gathered weapons, put on the war paint and screamed into action.

And if the city of Sydney hadn't invited

the showers that took away just over five hours, the scoreline in the series would almost certainly have been 2-1

It was the most discussed Test match in recent times simply because the microscope, and its big brother, the television camera were working overtime Every decision was widely analysed, more often criticised and every day threw up a new twist

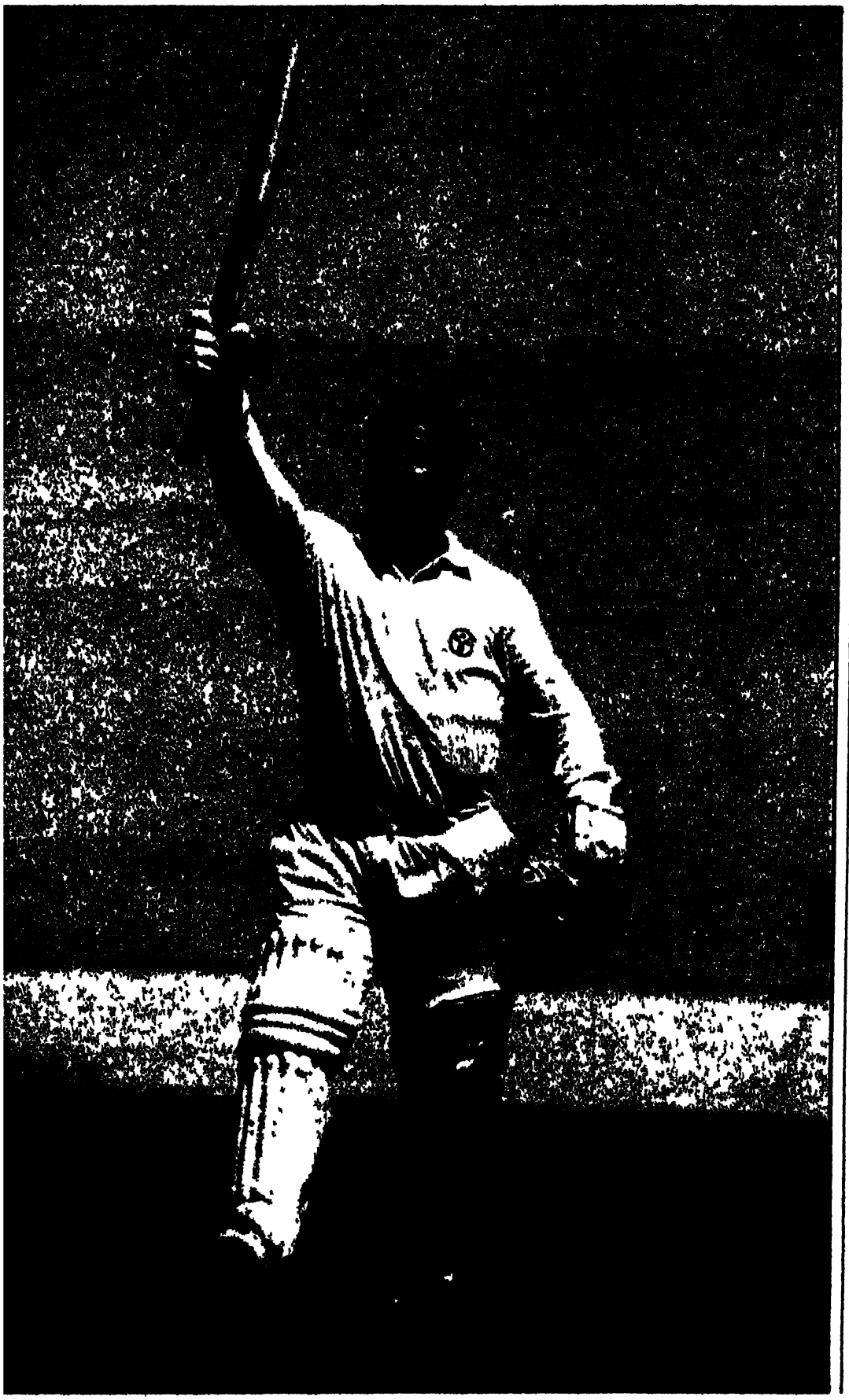
After the drama surrounding Umpires King and Prue at Melbourne, the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) had two of its seniormost men standing at Sydney But Peter McConnell and Steve Randall only justified the increasingly held view that Australian umpires seem unable to stand up to the pressure: which in these days has come to mean the television replay and the Tony Greig/Bill Lawry School of Hysteria

The day before the game was when the action began. The Sydney wicket had an unusually thick layer of grass which led people to believe that it may not quite be the



PATRICK EAGER

Azharuddin during a moment of confusion: confounded strategy



David Boon: the star of the Australian show

turning-at-right-angles Sydney wicket. The two captains read it differently though. Border thought it would turn late in the game and would be bouncier than most Sydney wickets he has played on. Azharuddin thought it would be an ideal batting track with just a little bit for the seamers Yet, it seemed fairly certain India would go in with the regular two spinners. In fact, the list of fourteen players announced the day before did not include the name of Subroto Bannerjee

The first surprise of the Test was the inclusion of Bannerjee. The second was the decision to field after winning the toss. Both were roundly condemned It was widely believed that Azhar's decision to field was a defensive posture: that India didn't want to

The Aussie star was David Boon. Playing one of the three memorable innings in the match, Boon batted as solidly as he looks. He's scattered a bit of his heart all over the SCG for nobody can love the ground as much as he does...



play the Aussie pacemen on what could turn out to be a lively track. That alone, if true, was justification enough. But Azhar also believed that the Indian attack, so enormously impressive, might be able to do something.

It did. Australia ended the day at 234-4 but sharing the honours with Boon was Bannerjee. Like Srinath, his first Test wicket was Marsh. And there were two very impressive ones to follow with Taylor getting a beauty.

The Aussie star was David Boon. Playing one of the memorable innings in the match, Boon batted as solidly as he looks. There's a bit of the rock in him. Braving the weather at most times and looking like he is at others! And often talking as much as a rock would too. He's scattered a bit of his heart all over the SCG for nobody can love the ground as much as he does. He had an average of 85 at the ground going into this match and is now the joint holder of the record for the maximum hundreds at the ground. Twice he was lucky, depending on which side you are watching from! Once a ball from Kapil Dev thudded into his pads with the stumps the obvious destination. Not out, said Randell and everybody's jaw dropped. The replays showed Kapil Dev having a word with Randell. "Oh dear, not again" the voices around the ground said. The game went on, but it provoked a strong reaction from Sunil Gavaskar. Sure as ever the story found itself back in Sydney, courtesy Reuter. McConnell and Randell had begun to look like reincarnations of Prue and King and it hadn't helped that on the second morning, Healy was given out caught off his pads. It was as bad a decision as any you can expect. Boon got away with another one and for a while it seemed that the

Kapil Dev is bowling like someone ten years younger and it is a measure of the impact he has had on the series that people are not longer asking whether he will break Hadlee's record.

The Australians discuss their faltering tactics

INDIAN TEST AVERAGES

(After 3rd India-Australia Test 1991-92 series)

RAVI KANT SRIVASTAVA

BATTING

	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F
Shastri	3	5	—	300	60 00	206	1	-
Tendulkar	3	5	1	226	56 50	148*	1	—
More	2	4	1	99	33 0	67*		1
Prabhakar	3	5	1	124	31 00	51*		1
Vengsarkar	3	5	-	136	27 20	54	-	2
Manjrekar	3	5	–	111	22 20	34		
Srinath	3	5	2	48	16 00	21		—

BOWLING

	OVER	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Banerjee	18	4	47	3	15 66	3 47
Shastri	48	11	114	5	22 60	4 45
Kapil Dev	142	33	331	13	25 46	5 97
Tendulkar	7	1	31	1	31 00	1 2
Prabhakar	148	40	348	11	31 63	4 84
Srinath	89 1	17	261	4	65 25	3 59
Raju	57	9	172	2	86 00	1 17



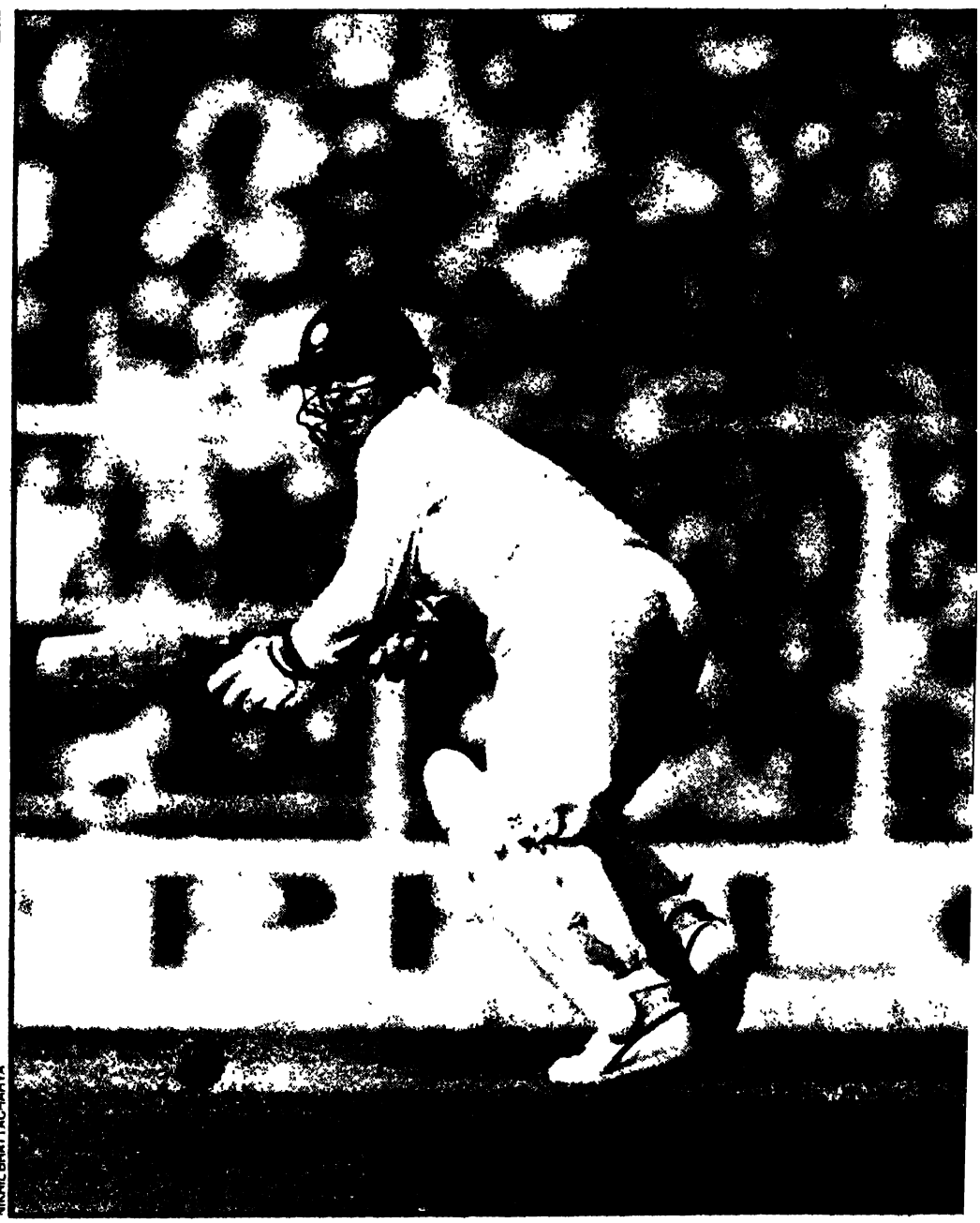
Then began one of the most romantic episodes in Indian cricket; Sachin Tendulkar walked in to join Shastri. Throughout his career Shastri has his courage evident at all times; here his patience came out of a vault but his aggression came like a breath of fresh air

umpires would take the spotlight away from the Indian bowlers who had once again done a magnificent job. (Border said later that Boon had edged the ball, onto the pads. "As I know the game it's not out. In your ground, is it"? he asked the media who had gone to town over it).

Kapil Dev is bowling like someone ten years younger and it is a measure of the impact he has had on the series that people are no longer asking whether he will break Hadlee's record. Kapil's brilliance has tended to put Prabhakar in the shade a bit. Which is unfair, for Prabhakar has bowled with the heart of a man twice his size. Yet somehow the tearaway in him surfaces and should Prabhakar shed the spirit of Curtly Ambrose residing somewhere within him, he will almost certainly do far greater justice to his talents.

Australia's total had confirmed that their batting weaknesses had been glossed over by the result of the series. It was something they had to acknowledge when they came in, the second time around.

But, by then, they had seen the Indian team get off to a familiar start, bounce back and then give a peep of the brilliance that had stayed bottled in. For Sidhu though it was a nightmare. His presence had all the ingredients of a movie script except the happy ending. The Indian team is in trouble, an emergency meeting decides to ask for his services, he receives a midnight call, dashes to Delhi, undertakes a sapping flight....But the copywriter slipped up there.



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Sachin Tendulkar: aggressive all the way

Shastri and Manjrekar put on what was the highest partnership of the innings and everybody heaved a sigh of relief. Can you imagine the record books five years from now? Highest partnership for India in 1991-92. K. More and V. Raju. 77 for the 9th wicket!

Luckily for India, that



number was to be surpassed three times in the innings and a hosts of batting records emerged. Manjrekar continued to bat like only an unplayable ball could get him. But this time it wasn't needed and Manjrekar beheaded the air with his bat in self-admonishment. Vengsarkar got a good fighting innings again.

though one can't help getting the feeling that the sleek racer is beginning to look a bit like a pick-up van Still as valuable as ever (he should hold his place for quite some time to come), but not quite the latest model His dismissal at 54 was to bring the match alive For a variety of reasons

The first was due to a man called David Boon Azharuddin walked in his form still under lock and key in Banjara Hills glided one for four and flicked McDermott with the style that has characterised him The eyes turned towards the boundary wondering what a short round man was doing over there Then David Boon completed one of the most remarkable catches you will ever see With a reflex motion he pushed his left hand out and then dived to his right to complete a stunner

Then began one of the most romantic episodes in Indian cricket as Sachin Tendulkar walked in to join Shastri Throughout his career, Shastri has responded when the cries have been the loudest They were certainly picking up on this tour but this innings should silence them for a long time When the need was for caution and innings building Shastri staked his life When quick runs were needed he pressed the trigger

His courage was evident at all times his patience came out of a vault but his aggression came like a breath of fresh air And he showed he had a touch of cruelty to him as he dissected Shane Warne's debut With little in the wicket, and not the greatest control the young leggie got carted all over the field And the annihilation complete, Shastri added a touch of courtesy by giving him his first wicket

The 206 was not only Shastri's highest Test score it was the highest by an Indian at the SCG and in fact, in Australia And his partnership with Tendulkar was a record for the fifth wicket in India Australia Test history

But while Shastri played the long central role Tendulkar was the show stealer Throughout the tour he had hinted that a great innings was on the way At Melbourne one thought it was it But then as Allan Border said If you are 18, you must think like an 18 year old Tendulkar had thrown it away then and it hurt like few things had This time he held himself under check and allowed himself to captivate Australia

He's now the youngest century maker in Australia and the man whose record he broke, Neil Harvey was generous in praise They made a fabulous picture together Day before yesterday's spin up boy and today's

Australia were without Bruce Reid and it showed After bowling only four overs he walked off and the Great Breakdown had opened to new audiences Reid has now played 26 Tests and missed 27 and nothing can say it more starkly than that The attack struggled in his absence and brilliantly as India batted 483 may have been a bit difficult with him around

Ravi Shastri followed up his 206 with some first rate spin bowling and apart from almost winning the match for India raised the question of whether it had been wise to go in with only one spinner

The match has had observers wondering whether the Australian batting is as strong as it seems There has only been one century so far and a top score of 349 Neither Jones, nor Waugh or Border have batted with the consistency one had expected and on a wicket which wasn't doing too much the Indian bowlers showed they had greater expertise ●



Kapil's brilliance had tended to put Prabhakar in the shade a bit. Which is unfair, for Prabhakar has bowled with the heart of a man twice his size. Yet, somehow the tearaway in him surfaces and should Prabhakar shed the spirit of Curtly Ambrose residing somewhere within he will certainly do far greater justice to his talents

TOUR

Harsha Bhogle provides the gossip from Australia...

PSST! WHAT'S THE WATCHWORD? MARKETING!

MARKETING is the name of the game here in Australia. It's been so since Kerry Packer showed Australia a vision of the game that looked a bit different from the view that the ivory towers afforded. It was in realising that cricket would get into a competitive situation that Packer's contribution lay. He realised that cricket would not only have to compete with football, rugby and racing in drawing power but with the movies and soap operas on TV too. And now that Australia is in a recession, and the traditionally happy go lucky Aussie is looking at the options his dollar will fetch him, that vision has been proved right.

Audiences at cricket matches are tumbling, and it is increasingly becoming a television sport. And the organisation that did its long term planning earlier is reaping the benefits. It could cost a family of five around a hundred dollars to watch a day's cricket now. Naturally they are wondering whether a little more money to buy a microwave instead of buy clothes for Christmas from the sales going wouldn't be a better idea. And Channel 9's viewership figures are looking increasingly healthy. After the one dayers began two of the top three rated programmes were cricket. West Indies vs Australia at Melbourne was at No. 1 and India vs Australia at Adelaide was at No. 3.

It is believed that Channel 9 still loses a bit of money on its Test cricket commitments but rakes it in during the one dayers when for an avid watcher the commercials can get excruciating. One of the other reasons for Channel 9's success is that it is technology led. Better marketing and higher revenues are the objectives and technology is the obvious tool. I guess that is a logical conclusion when you are trying to be viewer friendly.



You want glitzy cricket? Channel 9 gives it to you

RADIO GA GA!

It is not just Channel 9 that is blazing the trail in cricket coverage. In its own field the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) is doing a fantastic job too. The ABC is not now the sole broadcaster of cricket in Australia. There are several more localised private channels and this competitive situation was explained to me on my first day in Brisbane. "We have to make our commentary attractive and easy on the ear," the producer explained to me. "Otherwise the listener is going to listen to something else." Hence the highly informal style, the occasional jokes and a lot of value addition and listener involvement. Phone in conversations are extremely popular and indicative of the great interest in radio broadcasts here. The interviews are carefully planned and played at the right time. For example, the moment Tendulkar broke Harvey's record of being the youngest person to score a hundred in Australia, Harvey was there to talk about it. The moment the umpiring controversy erupted, a Test umpire was on hold.



DIARY

to talk about it If rain was forecast a couple of interviews were pre recorded some archival material was kept ready everything to ensure that the listeners interests were looked after

SPONSORSHIP: THE OFFICER'S CHOICE

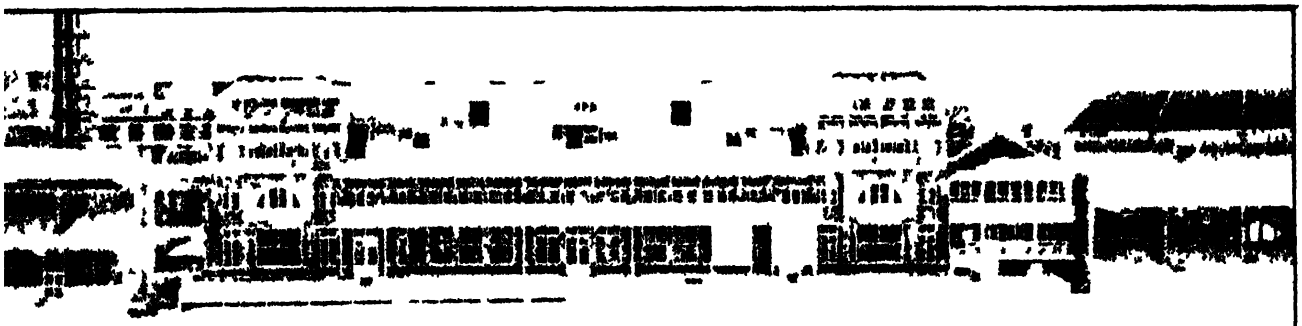
With such great media efforts it is not surprising that sponsorship is flowing in In India sponsors are given the impression that they are being done a favour by allowing them the sponsorship Here the sponsors requirements are fully met Even in the Kanga Cricket that is played during the lunch interval Boys and girls of around 6 8 years of age play with soft balls and plastic wickets But the announcement invariably mentions the contribution of the Coca Cola company and all the children wear the sponsors clothing

There are sponsors everywhere The Australian team is indebted to Diadora the equipment for the one dayers is sponsored by Kookaburra (Made in India for Kookaburra!!) Kanga Cricket is with Coca Cola the Classic Catches are sponsored by Schweppes and there is even a best banner competition promoted by Fuji

RING OUT THE OLD BRING IN THE NEW

Not surprisingly tradition is taking a bit of a beating here The Sydney Hill is of course part of folklore now and it is only the Members Enclosures that stand as the last bastions of formality and tradition Dress regulations are rigidly followed as Shane Warne's girlfriend discovered She was wearing a T shirt and shorts No said the gatekeeper You have to be better dressed and in the end Merv Hughes fiancee who had been through similar situations before came out with a track suit bottom from one of the players At the Sydney Cricket Ground even journalists are not allowed into the Members Enclosure But the SCG is the last surviving relative of Lords And hopefully very soon Lords will remain the last horror story of modern cricket

Lords: the last surviving bastion of 'tradition' in cricket The SCG is a close second



"IF YOU CAN'T DREAM, DIE!"

Says America's fittest grandfather and a serious contender for the world boxing title...George Foreman

CERTAIN ramifications on the heavyweight front might have given encouragement to George Foreman the benign old preacher from Humble Texas. The bout between Evander Holyfield the world heavyweight boxing champion and Mike Tyson has been tentatively rescheduled for spring but the inconvenience that Tyson's rape trial



George Foreman (right) pits his power against the skills of Evander Holyfield

While on the comeback trail, Foreman beat many of his opponents with the help of his sheer weight



causing could pose certain complications. The awful thought begins to occur that, depending on the outcome of the courtroom bout, there might not even be a Holyfield-Tyson fight. And thus the chance to see the richest bout in boxing history could fade away.

If Tyson is convicted, a window of opportunity might open for Foreman, who till just a few months ago, thought he was on the verge of a rematch with Holyfield when negotiations between the champ's faction and Tyson's side were at a standstill. Foreman had not fought since his brave but unsuccessful challenge against Holyfield last April, though he still managed to keep himself in the public eye to some extent by doing commentary on fights televised by Home Box Office, the subscription TV giant. Now, with the world heavyweight title up for

If Tyson is convicted, a window of opportunity might open up for Foreman, who till just a few months ago, thought he was on the verge of a rematch with Holyfield when negotiations between the champ's faction and Tyson's side were at a standstill

grabs, Foreman has the chance to insert his bulky presence into the breach that could be opened up by Tyson's possible unavailability.

Foreman made his umpteenth comeback to the ring in a ten-rounder against Jimmy Ellis, the unbeaten but little-known cruiser from Idaho, at Reno, Nevada on 7 December 1991, an occasion made somewhat meaningful by the unsettled Holyfield-Tyson situation. Foreman capitalised on the situation by crushing Ellis and earning the easiest $5 million he has ever made in his career. But more than that, the fight stimulated public interest in an encore between himself and Holyfield. While Ellis was nowhere near the boxing skills of the more famous Jimmy Ellis, the World Boxing Association titleholder in the late 1960s, he was big game and could hit hard with the right hand. But George Foreman's power and obvious well kept skills earned through years of experience, gave the 43-year-old preacher total control of the fight. His jolting left jab and club like right handers made a knockout almost a certainity.

Ellis, boxing out of Redondo Beach, California, is guided by Dan Goosen—best known as Michael

Nunn's manager until a parting of their ways- and has a record of 17 1 1 with 15 early finishes But he had not fought anybody of consequence and seems to be the archetypal white plodder in awe of his black opponent The fact that Ellis was held to a draw by a very ordinary Greg Gorilla Gorrell tells you that he is not artistically well endowed although he did manage to knock out Gorrell in two rounds in a rematch

Still no matter who the 43 year old Foreman meets his appearance generates great interest Everyone wants to see America's favourite heavyweight—especially after his valiant stand against Holyfield He is colourful funny popular and viewed sympathetically by the American public as a man who dared to dream an impossible dream and gave a good account of himself trying to fulfil it Foreman himself thought he was close to landing a rematch with Holyfield a few months ago but it turned out that he was being used as a pawn by rival promotional factions during the negotiations for a Holyfield Mike Tyson fight Now Tyson faces imprisonment outside the ring and Holyfield's camp just might have to look elsewhere for the next big fight At a time like this who can blame Foreman for reminding them in his own inimitable manner Here it is!

Evander Holyfield has displaced Tyson as boxing's latest money spinner



Another chance to be world champion and the financial rewards that would accrue from such a fight are for most on the wealthy preacher's mind But the big man can also make substantial money from non championship bouts with younger heavyweights like say a World Boxing Organisation title fight with Ray Mercer or perish the thought an oldies match against Larry Holmes Clearly Foreman did not think he was taking a big chance in his bout with Ellis for which he made around $5 million (the opponent got his biggest purse by far said to be around $ 350 000)

Foreman scored his 70th win and 66th (in bouts) by pounding Ellis with a barrage of left hooks and uppercuts and those big winging overhand rights Even if Foreman did get caught his chin proved reliable (Holyfield hit him with

everything and couldn't put him on the floor, and the old boy had earlier shrugged off Gerry Cooney's noted left hook).

Now, the question that arises out of all this is: Foreman spoiling it all by fighting again? The former champion, who held the title 17 years ago, seems eager for a rematch but says he'll leave the decision to his family. Wife Joan, the fifth Mrs Foreman, is the one who, says Big George, will have the final say ("She's the dictator.") The punching preacher said in a TV interview recently "I think, given another chance, if my family permits me, I can win. There's no doubt in my mind I can do it.' But inspite of all the promise in his words, Foreman has made it plain there will be no more hitting the campaign trail. He says he'll sit back and wait for the 'big one'.

One might think that the affable servant of God might be content to relax and enjoy life back home in Texas with his wife and nine children,



Tyson's recent fiascos with the law has put the title up for grabs, prompting Foreman to make another comeback

tucking into his cherished cheeseburgers. But, having done well, it's not so surprising that he feels he can do better. He says that in case of a rematch he'd be lighter, about 235 pounds (16st 11 lb) as opposed to the 18st 51b he generally carries into the ring. "I wanted to give him (Ellis) a lot to push and shove," he said. But while Foreman's incredible bulk was like a moving wall, he himself was so slow that he could never catch Holyfield with follow-up punches after rocking him. "If I'm lighter I'll be able to get the right hand in a little quicker," he reasons.

So while Holyfield's official position is such that he might give Foreman a rematch if the public wants it, he's gone on record saying he thinks the big man should retire, thus leaving a lasting favourable impression on the public. Foreman on the other hand means to give it one shot. He says he doesn't want to walk away thinking about what might have been. He feels he was "inches" from winning. "When you walk out, you want to walk out with all the questions answered," he said. "I have a chance to do that. "I'm still basically a young man. Forty or 50 is not a death sentence."

He further sweeps aside suggestions that he could be risking his health, that at his age he doesn't need the pain. "People of 40 and 50 are going to have the pain of unemployment, seek other professions and start all over again," he said. "I can take the pain and keep going. You've gotta dream. If you can't dream, die!" There are avenues outside the ring that can bring Foreman further financial rewards, including working as a ringside analyst for Home Box Office, the top American subscription TV network. But the super grand says he seeks "boxing opportunities" 'meaning another crack at the title!

NEWSMEN FEATURES

There are avenues outside the ring that can bring Foreman further financial rewards, including working as a ringside analyst for Home Box Office, the top American subscription TV network. But the super grandpa says he seeks 'boxing opportunities'...meaning another crack at the title!

STATISTICS

IT FIGURES!

INDIAN BATSMEN 1991-'92 FORM



(Venue) (Opp)	SHASTRI	SIDHU	MANJREKAR	AZHAR	TENDULKAR
Sharjah (WI)	22	38	72	32	52*
Sharjah (Pak)	6	96	96	12	22
Sharjah (WI)	—	44	45	19*	11*
Sharjah (Pak)	77	—	49	0	49
Sharjah (Pak)	15	21	62	0	0
Calcutta (SA)	0	6	1	*16	62
Gwalior (SA)	—	61	52*	19	4
New Delhi (SA)	109	—	105	—	1
Brisbane (Test)	8-41		17-5	10-12	16-7
Perth (WI)	83		15	6	1
Perth (Aus)	10		2	8	36
Hobart (Aus)	0		57	21*	57
Adelaide (WI)	4		55	31*	48
Adelaide (Aus)	1		12	13	21
Melbourne (Test)	23-22		25-30	22-2	15-40
Sydney (Test)	206	0	34	4	148*

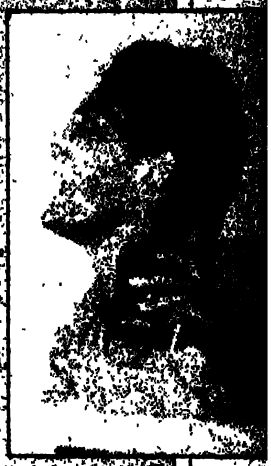
INDIAN BOWLERS 1991-'92 FORM



Venue	KAPIL DEV				PRABHAKAR				SRINATH			
Sharjah	8	0	30	1	7.4	1	26	4	9	1	31	1
Sharjah	9	0	50	0	9.5	0	50	4				
Sharjah	8	1	23	2	8.2	0	32	2				
Sharjah	10	2	31	1	9	0	52	1	8	0	56	0
Sharjah	10	0	36	3	10	2	54	1	10	0	48	0
Calcutta	9	2	23	2	10	1	28	2	10	1	36	
Gwalior	9	3	27	2	9	1	19	1	9	0	32	
New Delhi	5	0	37	0	6.4	0	34	0	10	0	70	
Brisbane (Test)	34	6	80	4	37	10	92	2	24.4	4	88	
	9	0	22	0	2	1	9	0	9	1	6	1
Perth	10	3	30	2	10	2	30	1	10	2	27	
Perth	6	2	6	1	6	2	16	1	7	0	26	
Hobart	10	3	21	0	10	4	32	0	10	0	48	
Adelaide	10	1	54	4	9	2	42	1	10	0	60	
Adelaide	6	2	12	1	2	1	6	1				
Melbourne (Test)	30	9	87	3	31	7	84	1				
	12	1	30	0	4	1	20	1				
Sydney (Test)	32	7	80	6	28	12						
	10	2	31									

Wondering why the Indian cricketers are finding it tough Down Under? Here are match-by-match performance figures of the top players. Now you decide what's wrong!

...	...	KAMBLI	AMRE	V. RAMAN	PRABHAKAR	MORE
10		DNB			DNB	DNB
		28*			2*	DNB
DNB		DNB		0	DNB	DNB
0		40			19*	1
		30			7	28*
			56		12*	0*
	66		4		DNB	DNB
	53		DNB		DNB	—
44-25	13-0				54*-35	19-1
	3		20		13	4
25*	60		33		2	DNB
	7		6		1	DNB
1*	62		DNB		DNB	DNB
19	3		10		17	20
19-12	5-6			—	0-17	67*-12*
0	—				14	—



SHASTRI				RAJU				TENDULKAR				BANERJEE			
10	1	63	1	18	0	39	2				—				
18	6	35	2	10	8	44	0				—				
		—		10	1	29	0	10	1	34	4				
		—		10	0	48	1	6	0	20	0				
4	2	30	0	7	0	46	0	8	0	24	0				
2	1	7	0	10	0	32	1	5	0	27	1				
		—		9	0	43	3	7	0	31	0				
		—		10	0	48	1	6	0	38	0				
		—		10	1	36	1	1	0	8	0				
				9	1	13	0	1	0	6	0				
								1	0	5	1	10	2	30	3
						—		4	0	8	0	8	1	26	1
						—					—	6	0	41	0
						—		2	0	10	0				—
						—		1.5	0	8	0				—
						9		4	1	16	0				—
						0									
												16	4	47	3
								1	0	6	1				



"VICTORY VERY SWI

...murmured a jet-lagged Viswanathan Anand to **Devangshu Datta** after he touched down in Calcutta, following his triumph at Reggio Emilia, to play the Goodricke International Chess Tournament

VISWANATHAN ANAND'S first reaction to his opposition at the Reggio Emilia was, "Man, I'm playing the Soviet Championship, only the venue is Italy!".

Justifiably so, for of the ten players featuring at Reggio Emilia, the Madras lad was the only one born outside the now obsolete borders of the Soviet Union. Reggio Emilia featured five of the world's top six and the lowest ranked participant, Ukranian Alexander Belyavsky is the world no. 18.



AMIT DUTTA

Anand flanked by his parents who received him at Calcutta airport. The two most important people in his life apart from the occasional 'second'

WAS ET!..



A jet lagged Anand makes an attempt to please the cameraman. The feelings of joy beneath the tired lines are, however, genuine

Anand s clear triumph in the strongest ever meet was simply stupendous Not only was he pleased to win a tournament ahead of Kasparov Karpov and Ivanchuk he was specially satisfied with the way I played

It has been a long time since I actually won a tournament so victory was very sweet reflected the world number five I kept a clear head and cool nerves and played well even without special preparation Most experts would have considered Anand s earlier third place finish at Tilburg in the second strongest meet very creditable More particularly since he beat Garri Kasparov there for the first time. But Anand was unhappy about losing the next two games at Tilburg while he was still on an emotional high Anand s second successive win made him only the second person with a life time plus score against Kasparov Only 16 players have ever bested Kasparov in single combat

Not that he feels Kasparov is out of form Just that I have a healthy attitude and I m catching up with him in certain areas Though there is a lot of work to do before the next world title cycle

In fact Anand feels he is still learning what life at the top is like when he reasons that Top class

Anand's second successive win made him only the second person with a life-time plus score against Kasparov. Only 16 players have ever bested Kasparov in single combat

players put up so much stiffer resistance, and they convert such small advantages into wins. Right now, I'm holding my own, but I'm also improving." Anand started brilliantly at Reggio Emilia beating Valery Salov, now of Spain in the first round. That was followed by his fantastic win over the world champion in the second round.

"Looking back at that game, he says "We surprised each other. I played the French Defence which is not one of my favourites. He tried a line I didn't know—both of us got serious after the 7th move. We spent a lot of time--I made a very complicated piece sacrifice on the 17th move and he went wrong on the 25th. What I liked about the game was that I showed excellent technique, never giving him a chance to scramble back." Incidentally he had calculated around eight moves ahead before he played the 17th and he left the rest to instinct!

Anand followed up this heavy victory with a draw against German, Alexander Khalifman and then his only loss of the meet. "Guru" Mikhail Gurevitch is "the very best of seconds—so he knows me very well. I got an inferior position and he never let go."

He didn't suffer any more relapses and instead bounced back in round five beating Lev Polugaevsky. The meet turned into a three horse race with Anand, Belorussian Boris Gelfand and Azerbaidjani Kasparov running neck and neck.

This is the stage where he had collapsed at Tilburg losing two of his last four games. Anand had three very difficult matches coming against Karpov, Ivanchuk and Gelfand. Not once was he in trouble, dominating all three games instead." Not dramatically, just a little" and he drew at will.

The draw with Gelfand specially was a psychological breakthrough." Some players are difficult—Gelfand won the last three times we met, so I was under some pressure. But I started well and I would have won except for his defensive ability."

The Indian Grandmaster had coldbloodedly calculated on defeating Alexander Belyavsky in the last round "Sasha Belyavsky



SANTOSH GHOSH

When two GM's meet mere mortals can only step back and watch. Calcutta's Dibyendu Barua (left) congratulates Anand on his recent victory

Of the ten players featuring at Reggio Emilia, the Madras lad was the only one born outside the now obsolete borders of the Soviet Union. Anand's first reaction to his opposition was, "Man, I'm playing the Soviet Championship, only the venue is Italy!"

was not in good form and I was optimistic even though I had black. I thought I would tie for the title at least."

Khalifman met Garri Kasparov in the last round and they signed



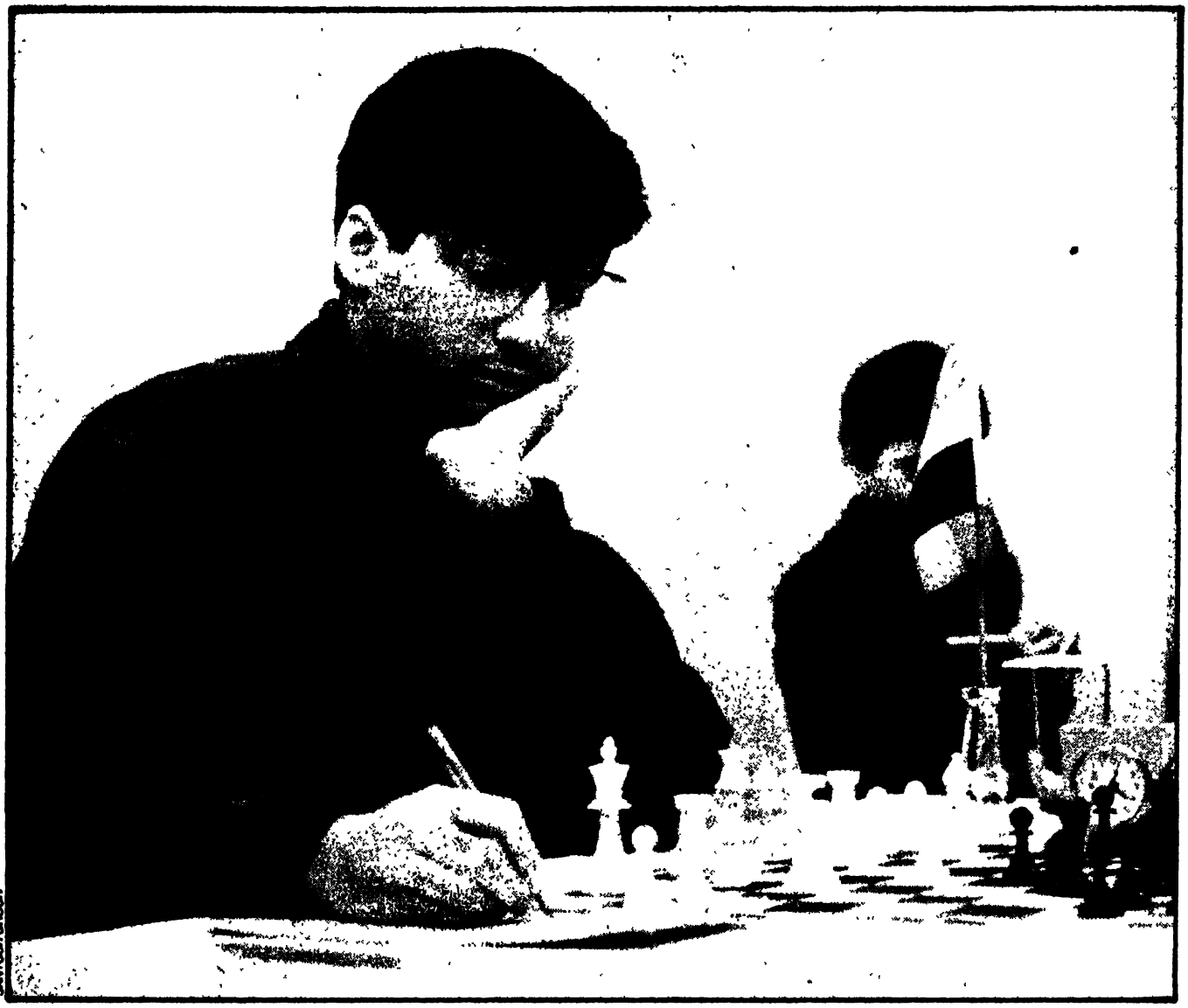
AMIT DUTTA

Child prodigy Surya Shekhar Ganguly welcomes Anand on his arrival at Calcutta

the peace treaty when the world champion was slightly inferior. Gelfand played Karpov and went a pawn behind. The former world champion tried to win for nine hours before conceding the draw.

Anand then did the unexpected—so unexpected that it threw his travel plans out of gear. He had intended to skip the prize distribution!

Gelfand and Kasparov tied for second place. Kasparov must now be thanking his stars Anand is out of the Candidates.



SANTOSH GHOSH

Unfortunately, Anand did not have Tilburg and Emilia type meets behind him before that fateful match with Karpov at Brussels.

Even Anand feels he just lacked the experience. "Maybe I would have been more positive, more assured technically if I had played more often against that level of opposition. I made mistakes after seven-eight hours of play and I gradually dissipated my chances against Karpov."

Learner he may be, but Anand is a quick learner. He was 14th a year ago and then he played the match with Dreev. At Linares in February, in the third strongest meet ever, Anand was seeded ninth and came seventh, beating Karpov and drawing Kasparov in the process.

He came third at Tilburg where he was seeded fifth. There he beat Kasparov and Karpov but he lost several good positions. He could not control his nerves when he realised he was in with a chance of the title. At Reggio Emilia, he was seeded fourth and he emerged a clear champion. He won four games, two with black, and he lost just one. After realising he was in with a chance, he planned things very carefully and he kept himself in total control.

Anand goes through the formalities of recording a move after completing it. Can anybody really fathom his style of play?

The Lighting Kid's best is yet to come. But he has earned the right to be called the 'Light ning Man.' For he is no longer a kid—he's now the prime candidate to be world champion in 1996. One wonders what will happen when he and Mr Kasparov renew their acquaintance at Linares in March? ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. With connection to Sunil Gavaskar who is Narayan Masurekar?
2. In which film did Sir Gar field Sobers act?
3. In the Ranji Trophy cricket team of Bengal who is nicknamed Swami?
4. Who is the first Black South African to play in the national cricket championships of South Africa the Castle Cup?
5. In cricket what is B J T Bosanquet's claim to fame?
6. Who is the first batsman in Test cricket to be out handled the ball?
7. Madan Lal bowled the very first ball of the very first World Cup Whom did he bowl to?
8. Who was the captain of the East African cricket team which participated in the 1975 World Cup?
9. Who wrote the book Over To Me?
10. Which cricketer is involved in the family business of electric lighting?
11. Which Australian cricketer owns a company called Pacesetter Homes?
12. Who is the only South African cricketer to have played in all the unofficial Tests since 1982?
13. Who among the present South African cricket team also plays for the South African hockey team?
14. Who was the first modern day bowler to be called for throwing?
15. South Africa was banned from international cricket because of their refusal to admit one English cricketer Who was he?
16. Which is the first cricket tournament to be held in India for the Blind?

ANSWERS

1 His uncle who detected the swap when Gavaskar was born
2 Two Gentlemen s Sherry
3 Srikant Kalyani
4 Rodney Malamba
5 He is credited with the invention of the googly
6 Russell Endeann (S Africa) while playing against England in 1956 57 series
7 John Jameson (England)
8 Hanlal Shah
9 Jim Laker (England) off spinner
10 Clive Rice (SA)
11 Geoff Marsh
12 Jimmy Cook
13 Mandy Yachad
14 Cuan McCarthy (SA)
15 Basil D Oliviera
16 The Tata Steel Challenge Cup (1990 91)—won by National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (HIVH)

THE QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
S. SREEJIT
60, SANTOSH ROY ROAD,
CALCUTTA-700 008.

All answers sent in by the contributor

THE ALL-BLACKS SEE RED

Having relinquished the mantle of the world rugby champions to Australia in 1991, the once formidable All Blacks team from New Zealand will need a new-look new-attitude team if they are to rule again

IT hasn't been a particularly productive phase for New Zealand's All Blacks. Their winning percentage is down, matches have been lost with increasing regularity and, to crown it all, there was their dramatic and an unceremonious exit from the Rugby World Cup of last years.

The defeat at the hands of Australia in the semi-finals has capped a season full of disappointments and frustrations. A certified comedown for a squad which has set standards for the rest of the world to follow. After winning the inaugural Rugby World Cup in 1987, finishing third in the 1991 edition was a minor consolation But the underlying despair is spelling doom for the New Zealanders who feel that their domination of the game is now being eroded.

"I'd like to think that the other sides have learned through the experience of the All Black side of 1987. In the last few years, the other sides have come up and played very good rugby", says John Hart, co-coach of the All Blacks, "And I feel it is television and video which have been responsible for it. Your game comes under great scrutiny for other sides to learn" Technology may be a boon for others, but for the All Blacks it is lansing some blues. Hart puts a brave front when he says, "If Australia learned from us we can be proud and if they have over taken us, that gives a target for the future." But many feel that it is not a very honest statement.



Circa '89. Princess Anne being introduced to the All Blacks team before their match against Barbarians at Twickenham

This run of mediocre performances began in 1990...but that's another story. The 1991 World Cup brought to fore many chinks in the otherwise impregnable All Blacks armour. And one such shortcoming has been limited creativity on the turf, all thanks to the years of continued success.

The rough and tumble tactics which had seen the All Blacks win an endless number of matches came a cropper once this blow-all strategy failed. Opponents started to hit back instead of withering away. And that is when the All



The front row trio of Coe, Fitzpatrick, and McDowell (left to right) of the All Blacks. Enough to strike terror into any opposition

Blacks knew they had problems. Thanks to the electronic shopping, almost all the top nations were ready to knock the air out of the Goliath-like Kiwis And the short sighted All Blacks did not have a fall back option. The results—or the lack of them—were but expected.

"All our problems came together in the World Cup," says Hart, 'And that has given us enough of a shock to rethink our strategies.' Hart went onto admit that cracks had started to appear in 1990, a year most New Zealanders will like to forget.

1990 was a complex and difficult year for New Zealand rugby. It ended with the All Blacks still unchallenged as world champions and, having lost only one of their last 30 internationals, the New Zealanders remained firm favourites for the 1991 World Cup, even though others semed to be catching up.

The passage from their all-conquering tour of Great Britain in 1989 to the convincing 2-0 win in the Test series in France was far from uneventual. For the first time since 1986, when they last lost a Test series, cracks started to appear in the mighty All Black edifice, casting Alex Wyllie and his men into an uncertain period of self-doubt and hesitancy.

Scotland, by convincingly claiming the mantle of European champions, exposed weaknesses in the All Blacks' game, as did, to a certain extent, Australia and two of the virile French provincial selections. The New Zealanders lost two games in a row, something which hadn't happened since 1954. And after an incomparable run of 50 matches—including 23 Tests—without defeat, they were suddenly, after losing 12-18 to the Cote Basque, looing the barrel of three defeats in their last six gaines.

Some observers even announced-prematurely-that Gary Whetton's All Blacks had come to the end of the road. To do so, however, was to ignore the profound changes in personnel-one of the more remarkable and unexpected features of 1990. And in this reviewer's opinion, by the time the New Zealanders had struggled their way through to the second-Test win in Paris, they had not only given the rugby world yet another reminder of the depth and unparallel strength of character of All Black rughy, but they had also clawed their way back almost to the same euphoric standards of 1987-89.

The records show that the All Blacks lost the third Test (21-9) to Australia in August. But it should be noted that this was after they had already won the series (21-6 and 27-17) and that not since 1972 have the Wallabies conceded a 3-0 series defeat to their trans-Tasman neighbours.

As for the two defeats in provincial mathes in France, there is little doubt that if Grant Fox, or even Frano Botia, had been playing at fly-half instead of the 19-year-old Simon Mannix, the All Blacks would never have suffered the ignominy of losing two of the first five matches on tour.

With Mannix, however, Alex Wylie took a gamble which didn't pay off. The promising youngster, over-awed by the intensity of the French selections and ther vociferous crowds, reacted poorly under pressure and was clearly the weak link in the team.

'So what if we lôse a game here on there?' said Wyllie...words which, in other times, would have seen any red-blooded New Zealand coach hung, drawn and thrown to the sheepdogs. But is this pure heresay, or merely the new All Black logic provided by the advent of the World Cup?

'I am prepared to make sacrifices in the interest of preparing for the World Cup', explained Wyllie. 'My aims in France were primarily to win the tests, but also to give as

> A majority of observers at the World Cup are of the opinion that the All Blacks troubles are centralised in the squad which has a median age of 32, old by all sporting standards. A majority of All Blacks are well past their prime. Simply put these old men will have to go



PHOTOGRAPHS: COLORSPORT

Even veteran Grant Fox's spirited performances were not enough for the All Blacks to win the 1991 World Cup

much experience as possible to the younger players. It's no use taking a player on tour if you're only going to give him one game!'

The change is perhaps subtle, but if we are to believe 'Grizz' Wyllie, the All Blacks are no longer driven by the obsession of winning every game at whatever cost. Other changes to have come about in 1990 were far less subtle, and it is no exaggeration to say that the year's most significant loss-and perhaps the most painful - took place far from the playing field. In May, within the space of two or three weeks, recruiting agents from Australian and English rugby league clubs made a number of unprecedented 'killings' which left gaping, and in some cases irrepairable holes in the All Black squad.

One by one John Gallgher, John Matthew Ridge, and Frano Botica, four of the country's most talented players, announced that they were changing codes. Ridge and Botica were more than valuable reserves, but Schuster and Gallagher were arguably the world's best in their respective positions. The strengths and skill of Schuster at second five-eight and the electric pace and uncanny angles of Gallagher were key elements of the All Blacks' recent success.

'I asked them to make me an offer I couldn't refuse,' quipped Gallagher. 'Everybody has their price; I guess they found mine.' Leeds reportedly paid him some of £400,000 for a five-year contract - more than doubling the sum Windes paid to Jonathan Davies in 1989.

This overt offensive from the professional code, coupled with the introduction of regular prime-time screenings of the spectacular Sydney League Championship, was of considerable concern to New

Zealand's rugby authorities. The overwhelming popular success of 'Aussie League' (even the All Blacks admit to following it with interest) and the ever-increasing list of top provincial players defecting to league (Brett Iti, the Auckland scrum-half, and Darrel Shelford, the Bay of Plenty centre) more than ever strengthened the NZRU's resolve to obtain substantial modifications to the IRS's amateur regulations.

As it happens, the 'epoch-making' measures taken by the Board in Edingburgh did no more than ratify what was already current practice in New Zealand and, as 1990 drew to a close, players and officials were already asking for more. The year was also remarkable for the curious destiny of three long-serving internationals, namely Murray Pierce, Joe Stanley and Wayne Shelford. Pierce emigrated to South Africa in January 1990 with the intention of settling there permanently. Despite having knocked the All Black scrum for 26 consecutive Tests, the former Wellington policeman was unable to win a place in the Natal Provincial side. By July he had returned, dejected to New Zealand to find his Test place had been snapped up by the lanky youngster Ian Jones from North Auckland.

Joe Standly, arguably New Zealand's best centre of the last decade, was, (even at 33) still theoritically at the peak of his form. But in 1990 he was increasingly handicapped by the mysterious virus which has troubled him since 1988, and which continued to provoke violent retching throughout the game. Stanley pulled out of the Test series against Australia for this reason and despite being included in the tour to France he like Pierce, was confined to the reserves' bench in the Tests.

Wayne Shelford, lastly, was at the cenre of much controversy after being unceremoniously dropped from the All Black squad while still captain. The North Harbour No.8 apparently carried the can for the five tries conceded in two Tests against the Scots. Wyllie for his part repeatedly



Teammates have a tough time trying to separate the warring Brooke (left) of All Blacks and Spiers of Canada in last year's World Cup

justified his choice by explaining that he considered Shelford to be out of form, and no longer capable of injecting the power and impetus which were his trade-mark around the scrum. 'Our objective is to play a speed game,' exlained Wyllie, hinting that Shelford, aged 32, was no longer up with the pace.

As it turned out, however, the All Blacks were largely unable to implent this 'speed game' and neither of the specialist No. 8s chosen for the tour-Zinzan Brooke (Auckland) and Rob Gordon (Waikato)-looked fit enough to fill the gap left by Shelford. The invaluable Mike Brewer (Otago), originally picked as a blind-side flanker for the tour, finally wore the No. 8 jersey in the Tests againt France.

> Thanks to electronic shopping, almost all the top nations were ready to knock the air out of the Goliath-like Kiwis. And the short sighted All Blacks did not have a fall-back option. The results – or the lack of them – were but expected

A majority of observers at the World Cup are of the opinion that All Blacks troubles are centralised in the squad which has a median age of 32, old by all sporting standards. A majority of the All Blacks are well past their prime. In fact the Kiwis fielded six faces in 1991 who did duties for All Blacks in 1987 too. Simply put, these old men have to go

Hart, the man who will be responsible for shaping up a new All Blacks side knows that and candidly admits that 1992 may even prove to be more disastrous than 1990 and 1991. A majority of the present doyens, starting with Whettons, will go into the record books and will be replaced by more agile, young and-virile players. On that count Hart has got nothing to be worried about: New Zealand beat Australia by 60 points at the under 21-level. That shows the great depth of the Kiwis and a vast reservoir of untapped talent.

And as these new bulls are blooded, things will take a more definitive course. By 1995 the All Blacks would be ready to take centre stage again. The odds are on them.

Ian Borthwick
NEWSMEN FEATURES

Let's Get QUIZZICAL

MEET two sets of new authors. In one team: Tiger Pataudi, Dilip Vengsarkar, Gundappa Vishwanath, M.L. Jaisimha and Sanjay Manjrekar. The other band of writers: Leander Paes (tennis), Ashwini Nachappa (athletics), Arun Lal (cricket), Chima Okerie (football) and Leslie Claudius (hockey).

Surprising, but true! These ten sporting superstars have teamed up with Derek O'Brien, Andy O'Brien and Pradeep Paul to bring to you two scintillating sports quiz books. We give you a glimpse of the fare:

DUNLOP CRICKET QUIZ

QUESTIONS





1. What is common to the following: Amarnath, Nayudu, Apte and Gupte?

2. Who gave this piece of advice to cricket captains: "When you win the toss, bat. If you are in doubt, think about it, then bat. If you have very big doubts, consult a colleague and then bat"?

3. Which spin bowler sold vegetables on the street for a living when he was a young boy?

4. *Behind The Stumps* is the story of which former Test cricketer?

5. The world affectionately knows him as 'Sunny'. Who gave Sunil Gavaskar the nickname?

6. In cricket what is sometimes referred to as a 'head ball'?

7. What term was coined by Ray Robinson, a sub-editor in an Australian newspaper, in 1932?

8. Which English cricket captain said, "I dislike apartheid, it is a nasty system"?

9. Imran Khan claims to have taken two important decisions in his life. What are these?

10. The Oval is the home ground of which English county?

11. Who was nicknamed 'Mr. Majestic'?







12. What is a 'dot ball'?
13. If Sunil Gavaskar was the 'The Little Master', who was 'The Master'?
14. In the cricket world, who or what is 'Gungadin'?
15. Who is the only bowler to have got Don Bradman out 'hit wicket'?

ANSWERS

1 All brothers who played cricket for India Mohinder and Surinder Amarnath, C K and C S Nayudu, Madhav and Arvind Apte, Subhas and Baloo Gupte
2 W G Grace
3 Abdul Qadir
4 Godfrey Evans
5 Vasu Paranjpe, captain of Dadar Union when the young Gavaskar started playing for them
6 A cunningly bowled ball—yes, when the bowler uses his head
7 Bodyline
8 Mike Gatting
9 Not to drink alcohol and not to get married
10 Surrey
11 Majid Khan, the stylish Pakistani opener
12 One from which no run is scored, so called because it is marked on the score sheet with a dot
13 Jack Hobbs
14 The heavy roller at the Eden Gardens
15 Lala Amarnath

DUNLOP CRICKET QUIZ BOOK by Tiger Pataudi, Dilip Vengsarkar, Gundappa Vishwanath, M.L. Jaisimha, Sanjay Manjrekar with Derek O'Brien and Andy O'Brien. Published by Big Ideas, Price Rs. 65.

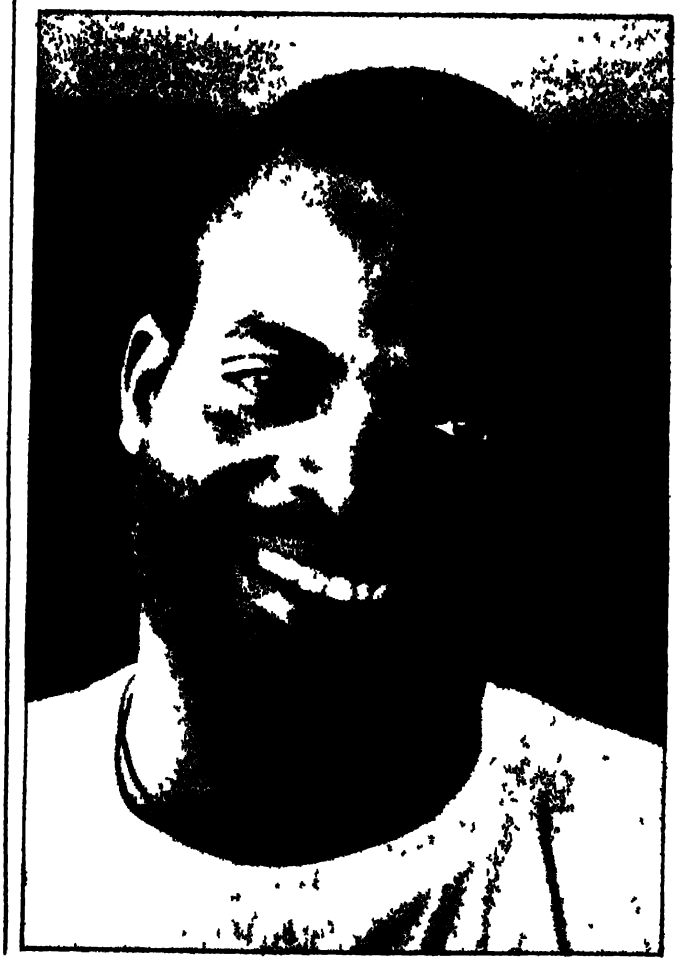
DUNLOP SPORTS QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. A character in the *Dennis The Menace* comic strip and a ladies singles winner of Wimbledon share the same surname. Can you guess who?
2. Who boasted, "I am the only woman who doesn't have a sweat problem"?
3. What punishment was given to runners who made a false start at the ancient Olympics?
4. What dubious distinction does Ali Bennaceur have?
5. What special contest is it traditional for a touring English cricket team to have at their Christmas lunch?
6. In hockey, for what is the Rene Frank Trophy awarded?
7. Who beat whom in tennis' so called 'Match of the Century'?
8. Which character in the film *Chariots Of Fire* was an Olympic 400m hurdles champion?
9. Which international footballer was nicknamed 'Bomber'?
10. According to C.P. Snow, what was 'the final pleasure left to a man'?
11. In which Olympic hockey tournament did just three countries take part?
12. A little bit of history.



During the French Revolution, where did the Peoples' Representatives meet to a historic oath?
13. If you went to 'Pradeep Nilayam' who would you be visiting?
14. In which Shakespeare-an play is there a

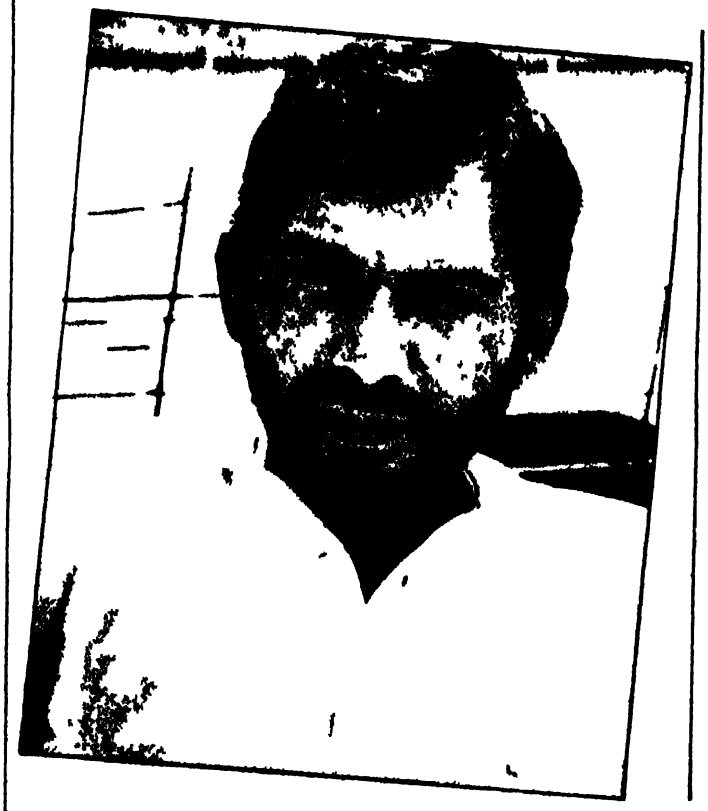




reference to football? Here's the passage from the play Am I so round with you as you with me, That like a football you do spurn me thus? You spurn me hence and he will spurn me hither If I last in this service you must case me in leather

15. A stuffed sparrow is displayed at the Lord's Museum The bird met its death after being hit by a delivery from an Indian bowler Name the bowler





ANSWERS

1 Virginia Wade Wimbledon champion in 1977 and Margaret Wade Dennis the Menace's bespectacled friend
2 Martina Navratilova
3 They were whipped
4 He was the referee who allowed the hand of god goal by Diego Maradona at the Mexico World Cup
5 A fancy dress
6 Fair play at the World Cup The trophy is named after the former FIH President
7 Billie Jean King beat Bobby Riggs
8 Lord Burghley
9 Gerd Muller
10 Drinking the best tea in the world on an empty cricket ground
11 At the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics India spanked Japan 11-1 and blasted 24 goals against the U S A
12 On a tennis court (the Tennis Court Oath)
13 P T Usha She named her house in Kerala after her younger brother
14 *The Comedy of Errors*, William Shakespeare
15 Jehangir Khan

DUNLOP SPORTS QUIZ BOOK by Leander Paes, Ashwini Nachappa, Arun Lal, Chima Okerie, Leslie Claudius with Derek O'Brien and Pradeep Paul. Published by Big Ideas, Price Rs. 65.

Voices

I vault more for spectators than for myself. When so many people cheer for me, they give me power for good results.
A modest SERGEI BUBKA gives spectators credit for goading him on to greater heights.



IT'S an unhealthy situation. Bowlers have not learned their trade and the batsmen have found runs too easy.
BOBBY SIMPSON, Australian team manager, criticises the county championship's detrimental effect on England's cricket.

THE thing is I love playing cricket, but quite honestly I can take or leave living in hotel rooms. I didn't use to feel like that in my younger days, but now—at the risk of sounding corny—I just like being in England.
GRAHAM GOOCH, now 38 and still in good nick, realises that he is surely past his prime.

I aim to have 400 by the end of the series and I have eight really nasty wickets lurking for each of England's batsmen.
[illegible] CAPRICORN is [illegible]

KASPAROV is still four victories ahead of me, but I still believe that I could return to the title of champion. If you analyse the games, you'll see that I missed so many opportunities. I'm waiting for our sixth match and I hope that happiness will at last be on my side.
ANATOLY KARPOV feels that in the not-too-distant future he will once again rule the chess world.

I have to remind myself that it is a job. Sometimes, it doesn't seem like a job because I'm out there having a ball.
MICHAEL JOHNSON on the business aspects of his career.

GUEST COLUMN



Simon Barnes on...

HEROES & EEJITS

BLAST the sports pages, creators of pickled gods and archetypes, Marshall McLuhan said. McLuhan got one thing wrong. It is not the sports media that create pickled gods: it is sport.

It is the act of competing in public, of putting your skills and your heart on the line before an audience of millions, that creates heroes and villains, fools and failures, heroic losers and contemptible winners. 1991 has been a year full of such archetypes, like every other sporting year.

Thus, as the next sporting year begins we can look back and appreciate the various pickled gods and archetypes that have lit up the year. I propose to take them in two categories: heroes and eejits.

Eejit: I prefer the Irish term here. It is gentler than idiot. It implies an amused tolerance, a wider understanding of human fallibility. Eejits are as much a part of sport as heroes. Eejits and heroes can be of either sex.

The fascinating part of compiling this survey of heroes and eejits has been to see how fine is the line that divides the two: how perilously close a hero can be to the opposite category: how tantalisingly near a heroic status is to the sporting eejit. Indeed, some people seem to fill both categories simultaneously, to have spent their year and their careers oscillating between glory and folly.

The England cricketers began the year in Australia as a bunch of right eejits, and they finished the season at The Oval in glory. The 2-2 draw against the West Indies in the Test series was a team triumph, of course: but more than that, it was a triumph for one man. Graham Gooch, the captain, has performed wonders. For him, the notion of giving 100 per cent is a moral imperative. It is wrong to give any less. For him, competition is a test of the moral force of an athlete and of a team. It is not victory that satisfies him, but competition. If you have competed righteously, then you have won a kind of victory. "You've got to want it badly," he said.

Ayrton Senna took a radical step this year: he had a serious flirtation with the eejit's category. His mastery of enigmatic intensity has always kept him firmly on the hero's side of the great divide in the past, but this year, the pressure got to him. His famous foul-mouthed press conference was quite extraordinary in a man renowned not so much for coolness under pressure as coldness.

I think his achievement of that third drivers' championship has been a colossal relief to him. Now he has joined the most select club in motor-racing: triple winners. Senna is now at liberty to pursue the final frontier more or less at his leisure: Fangio and his five championships. Senna scrapes in among the heroes because of his pure, distilled spirit of competitiveness. He aims to explore that far-off, rarified land that lies beyond mere victory. He is an extraordinary man who revealed this year that he is human. Like of all us, he is not immune to a touch of the eejits.

In sport's tangled web of personalities and feuds and rivalries, there are still moments when one can savour the purest essence of excellence. At the US Open tennis, I had watched Jimmy Connors posturing and air-punching and hip-thrusting: his appetite for struggle is undiminished. Jim Courier talked about his aim of being "a down-in-the-dirt Charlie Hustle type player": Connors to the life.

> Eejit: I prefer the Irish term here. It is gentler than idiot...and are as much a part of sport as heroes

But the Connors circus was put into perspective in the final. Courier was blasted into insignificance, and all Connors' stuff-strutting was forgotten as Stefan Edberg, without needing to go down in the dirt, or become Stefan Hustle, played tennis of utter perfection. Nothing went

went wrong: every point was needle-sharp. After the Connors show, we had some real sport: a modest, unassuming man reaching a pinnacle of sustained arrogance, aggression and purpose.

The Rugby World Cup reached its peak for me on a soaking wet day in Wales when Australia played Western Samoa. It was the Samoans who brought the tournament to life. The entire Samoan team deserves a place on the heroes' side, but let us give the nomination to Peter Fatialofa, the captain. It was during the autumn that rugby began to become a world game, casting off its history as a game of the old country and of the people of its white dominions. It was good for rugby: it was absolutely wonderful for spectators.

One of my perennial heroes in sport is Martina Navratilova. She stands before the world as a double-sided emblem of strength and vulnerability. Twice the age of the little baseline grunters that people her game, she can move from stunning certainty to almost absurd self-doubt.

She is almost pathologically honest. Her frankness about her sexuality means that she has closed the door on almost all the mass-market endorsements that a saleable hypocrite could pick up. She is forever challenging: when asked to comment on Magic Johnson, who contracted Aids after hundreds of sexual encounters, she flung the question back, asking how public opinion would have treated a woman making the same admission. Martina is more ruthless on herself than she has ever been on an opponent. In the sport that invented teenage burn-out, her appetite for the game shines out like a beacon.

The greatest single feat of the year was Mike Powell's long jump. It was all the more delightful because he stole the glory from that chilly, unlikeable figure of Carl Lewis. Lewis pouted, and told the world that "all" Powell did was one great jump. But isn't that what long-jumping means?

Powell deserves his heroic status for the leap alone, but he added lustre to this with the celebration of the year, which also involved the hug of the year, as he embraced that startled little chap in the yellow blazer. Sport can bring us huge achievements and with them huge delight; Powell brought us both.

Performing sport in public is to expose yourself to the risk of looking an eejit time after time. Some people get cast as eejits; butts of the crowd, soft targets for a jibe. Perhaps the greatest triumph in sport is to make that enormous, Powellesque leap from eejitry to heroism.



TOMMY HINDLEY

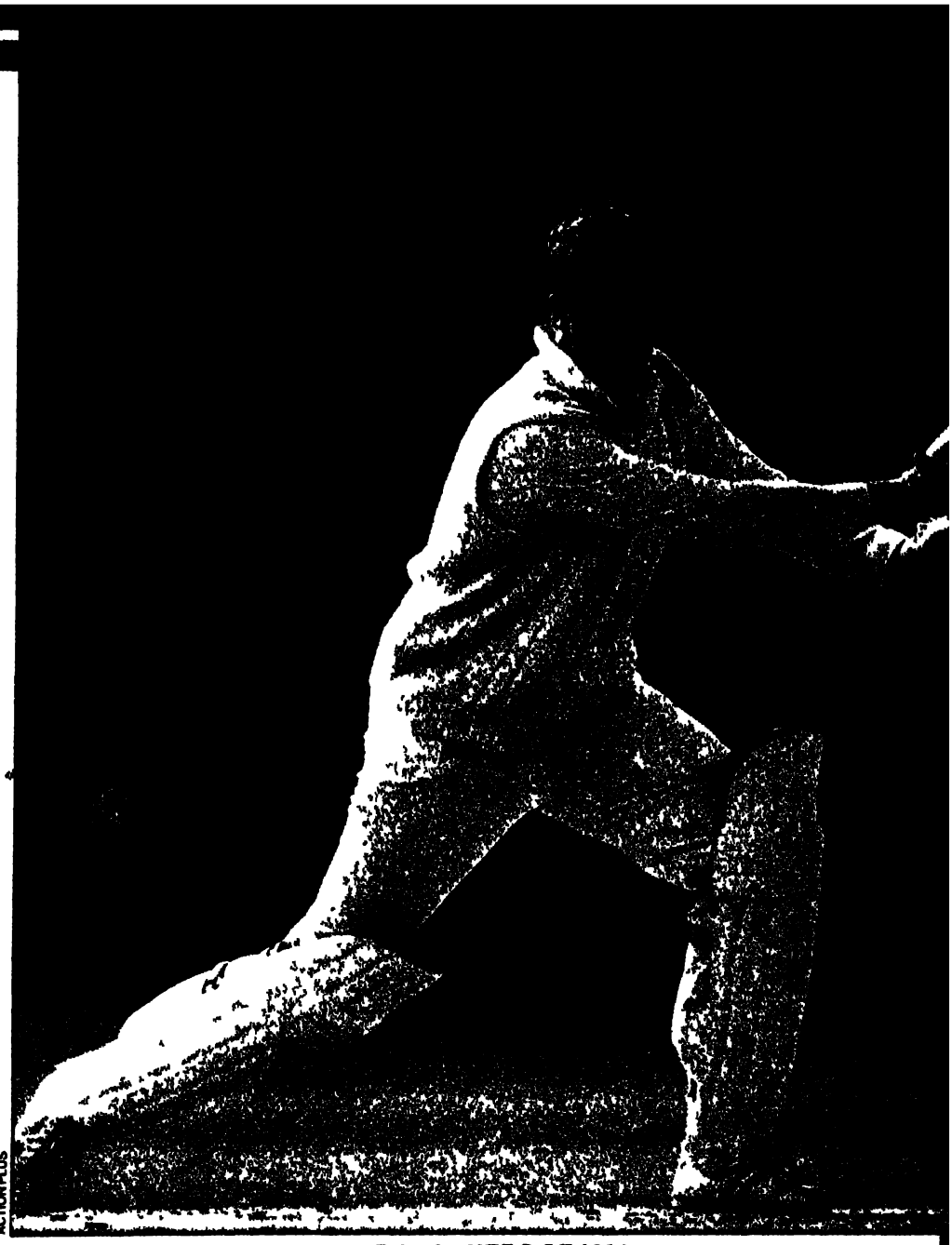
West Samoan rugby team (in blue): HEROES

That is why, in the final analysis, my hero of the year is Derek Pringle. A Cambridge boy wonder turned crowd butt, he was cast as the village idiot of English cricket —doubly unkind, because Pringle is pretty intelligent for someone who read land economy. He is also a genuinely good chap and good company, no monomaniacal sports nut.

This summer saw him reveal his strength of mind to the world. England probably would not have won the first Test without his heroic batting in support of Gooch; would probably have lost the second without his support of Smith; would have been humiliated, perhaps at the cost of the series, without his support of Lewis in the third. His bowling was a captain's dream: he did what he was supposed to do every time he was given the ball. He gave Gooch control at crucial periods, and chipped in with crucial wickets, notably Haynes', as West Indies were bowled to defeat in the first Test. He missed the triumph of the last Test through flu, a rather Pringle-esque touch, but there you go.

If you can go from crowd butt and national joke, to a position in which you have the crowd—the Headingley crowd at that—singing "We love you, Del-boy, we do," then you have conquered Everest. Arise Sir Del-Boy: sporting hero of 1991.

SOME athletes flirt with heroism and eejitry: Paul Gascoigne spent the first five months of the year leaping from side to side of the great divide as if a Powellesque leap were no more than a trivial little hop. He is a sublime footballer and a sublime example of one of life's natural eejits. That goal he scored in the FA Cup semi-final at Wembley was one of the most spectacular strikes of a football I have ever seen; those few mad minutes of the final showed us a man so comprehensively stoned out of his gourd on pure adrenalin that he made a headless chicken look like a model of rationality and calm.



ACTION PLUS

Derek Pringle: HERO OF 1991

Gascoigne plays the eejit quite consciously, with his knee-jerk face-pulling whenever a camera comes in sight, and his stunts and his records and his referee-teasing and his prime-minister hugging ("she was nice and cuddly like"). But, on the field, it is clear he is a man on the very edge of emotional control His marvellous inspiration comes from the same total emotional commitment that gets him sent off for nonsensical outbursts. And, ultimately, it was the same emotional inspiration that was behind his almost suicidal performance in the FA Cup final.

Poor Gazza: sometimes it seems that the clutch-plate in his brain fails to engage, and the engine of his mind howls to self-destruction I hope we will see him truly inspired again. he is a great risk-taker, and he plays every game on the cusp of eejitry.

Nigel Mansell was another who, in an altogether different way, flirted with both categories. It was as if Mansell walked a high wire and could as easily tumble into eejitry as heroism.

At Silverstone we saw him at his most *leone*-like, but Mansell still has a fatal attraction for disaster. Perhaps the Williams mechanic who muffed that tyre-change is the true eejit: no doubt the poor fellow has been through a thousand agonies since. But Mansell always seems to be regretting something or blaming somebody. He is a driver with the ability to do anything in the world except win world championships. Perhaps this year: but it is always perhaps with Nigel. He, too, has only a small distance to travel to be a hero: as yet, this has always been a journey too far

Monica Seles was a fag-paper away from carting off the eejit of the year award. Her finest achievement was to tell a

Gascoigne is a sublime footballer and a sublime example of one of life's natural eejits



Paul Gascoigne. EEJIT

championships. Perhaps this year, but it is always perhaps with Nigel. He, too, has only a small distance to travel to be a hero: as yet, this has always been a journey too far.

Monica Seles was a fag-paper away from carting off the eejit of the year award. Her finest achievement was to tell a New York crowd—who hated her anyway—that she "would like to thank Donald Trump". That is like telling an audience of *Daily Mirror* employees that you would like to thank Robert Maxwell.



Monica Seles: EEJIT

Seles is in love with money, status, stardom, the sound of her own voice, fancy clothes, acting like an American, acting like Madonna, and generally prinking about the place. She annoyed everyone in tennis with her pre-Wimbledon disappearance; she annoyed everyone in New York by acting brash—and that is one of the greatest achievements any athlete has ever managed. She managed to come across as a thoroughly horrid, spoilt, pert little madam—and to stand out in that category in the world of women's tennis is a still more remarkable achievement.



TOMMY HINDLEY

Andre Agassi: EEJIT OF 1991

"Maybe I'm still growing up," she said. You mean she's started?

Eejit's team award must go to the Welsh rugby team, after its epoch-making defeat by Western Samoa. Though I must spare a thought for the sadness and dignity in defeat of Alan Davies, the coach, and Ieuan Evans, the captain, history goes too deep. The Welsh rubgy team has been for years the worst winner and the worst loser in sport. As an Englishman, I am tempted to gloat and giggle. Wales will rise again, no doubt, though not soon, and one must enjoy the giggles while they last. But as I left Cardiff after that final traumatic hammering of Wales by the Australians, there was a part of me that offered an even crueller sight. I was beginning to feel sorry for the Welsh rugby team.

However, the award for the eejit of the year was not, in the end, a hard choice. No athlete has dedicated 1991 more single-mindedly to the pursuit of pure, distilled eejitry than the great Andre Agassi. His Wimbledon strip-tease made him look the biggest berk in London, but he went better than that when he played a few games in a pair of sunglasses. "Image is everything," he said famously in a TV commercial: this is because he is a man without substance.

There is a tennis player there, as we saw in flashes at Wimbledon, but it is buried under a mass of Gazzamania-type props, silly clothes designed to shock Mom, and a belief that winning things is not the main concern of a sportsman.

Wimbledon's love affair with him shows the traditional British hospitality to any engaging phoney who comes along. For when the tennis gets tough, Agassi has shown us time and again that the clothes have no emperor. It was at the US Open we saw the real Agassi: a new pair of cherry-cola-coloured Mom-shockers and defeat in the first round. Perhaps Agassi will one day disinter the tennis player from the rubbish. There are sudden moments when there seems to be a likeable chap lurking beneath all the tottering personal superstructure.

But he has put his public image before his personal substance. He has put his pursuit of stardom before his pursuit of excellence: and that, for an athlete, is the ultimate betrayal. It is a betrayal of both the public and of the athlete himself. Eejitry is everything.●

QUESTION T

WHEW! It's finally over: that marathon fitness programme that is going to give you the body of your dreams. And if you think getting it all down on paper was tough, wait till you try sticking to it. That's going to be even tougher. No matter what type of exercise you do, you've got to be regular and dedicated. Otherwise you're history. Doing a gutbusting workout today and laying off for the rest of the week isn't going to help at all. It's better by far to do a light workout...every day.

Well, that's something only you can decide for yourself. You've got to want that level of fitness and that sleek body—bad enough to sweat it out. But if the letters pouring in to 'Question Time' are any indication, there are a whole lot of you guys out there who're deadly serious. Go for it!

The first problem we're tackling this week is the wrist. Rajesh Ujwal from Bikaner wants to become an arm wrestler, hence the search for steely wrists. Rohit Sharma from Bagdogra is also looking to strengthen his wrists, but for a different reason: cricket. Either way, the goal is the same. And so are the methods.

Wrists are very irritating to work on, 'cos there's very little visible gain. You can do all the exercise in the world and they're not going to bulge like a bicep. So don't get discouraged if they stay more or less the same size. If you can transform the tendons and muscles around that joint into steely cables, that'll help you get a better grip on things.

Try and get your hands on a 'grip-builder'. That's a V-shaped piece of metal, with plastic or rubber grips, that you hold in your palm and squeeze. It might seem very tough in the beginning but keep at it and you'll eventually be able to touch both handles together. That's when you have to move on to tougher challenges. You could also try 'wrist curls' with either a dumbbell or a barbell. Just make your wrist and forearms do all the work; that'll isolate that region and strengthen it.

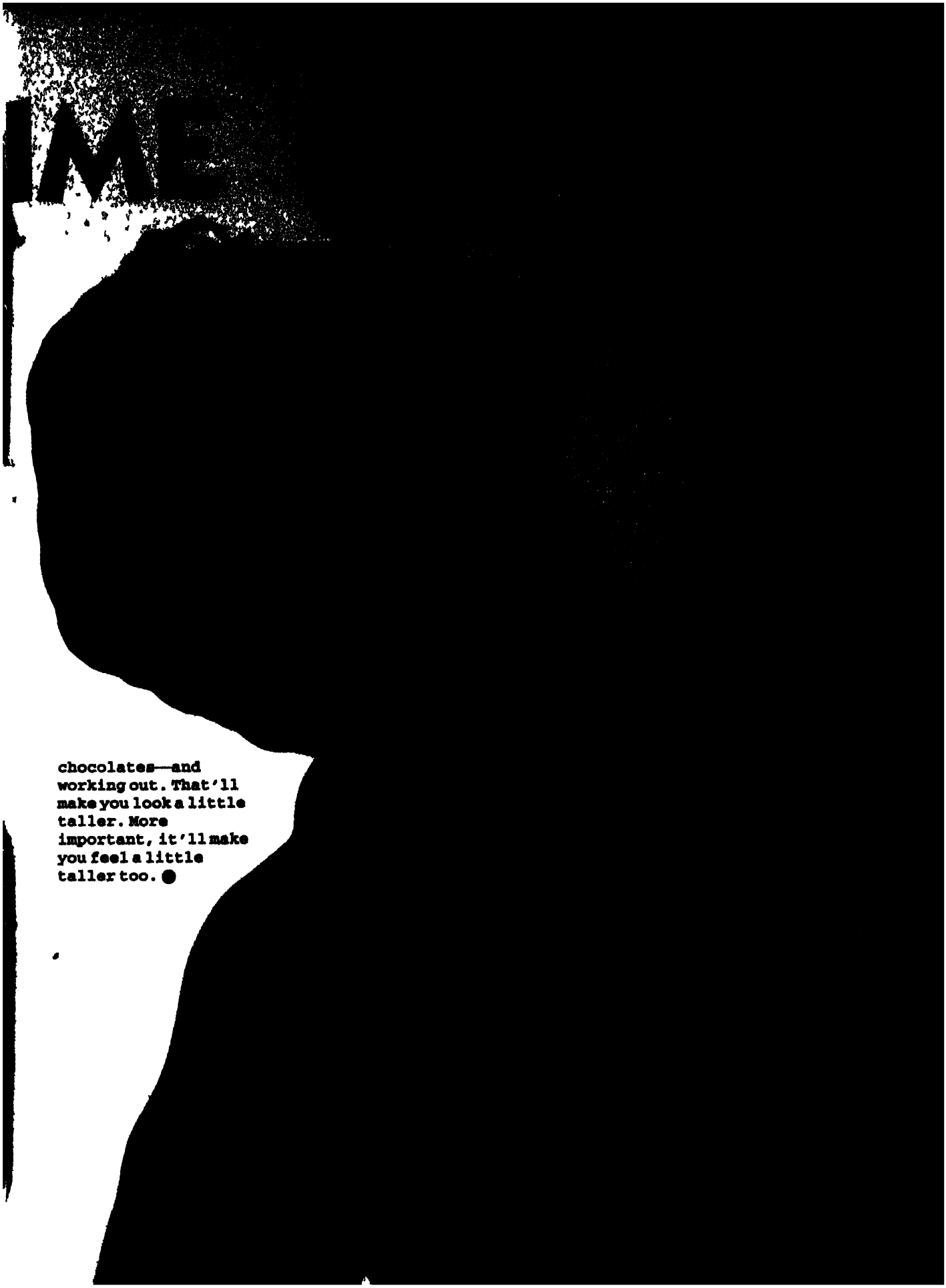
And one final one: attach a piece of rope to a piece of wood about the size of a relay baton. Tie a weight—even a bottle filled with water will suffice—to the other end and try to roll the entire length of the rope onto the wooden piece while holding it out in front of you. Think it's easy? Try doing it with the elbows absolutely straight.

Jasvinder Singh has written in from Delhi asking about ways to bulk up his arms. Hey, feeling like rolling the sleves up all the way, are you Jasvinder? Okay, here goes: since you're already into weight training real hard, try doing your arm work right at the end of your workout. That'll pre-exhaust them, making the muscles work even harder. And if you're still not satisfied, slap on some more weight. Nothing like increased resistance to make muscles grow. Just one word of caution. Don't get so carried away with arms that they grow out of proportion to the rest of your body. Popeye might be strong. But he looks a little funny, doesn't he?

We've heard from B. Subramaniam of Bangalore before, and he's still worried about his drooping shoulders. The basic problem, friend, is your thin frame. You've got to see your doc, get him to prescribe some nutrients and use that added boost to work out even harder. Some of us are just meant to be thin—that's part of the genetic trap—so don't fret too much. Look at the bright side of things: you can pig out on all the yummy—read fatty—stuff you want. Most of us can't!

The next two letters—from Ansuman Pattanayak of Orissa and Shaby Thakuria of Assam—deal with a very common problem here at the fitness column...height. We've said it a thousand times before, but we'll do it again: if there was some surefire method of increasing your height, the world would be full of six-footers, right?

This is part of the genetic trap again. If you're meant to be five-five, there is nothing that we know of to make you six-two. Except perhaps a pair of stilts. All we can say is that regular stretching and a healthy lifestyle will help you grow to the height you are meant to be. If you don't do any exercise, you may not even get there! One tip for you two guys: eat right. If you're short on inches, it doesn't help to be long on kilos. Stay lean by eating less calories—that means going easy on ice creams and


ME
chocolates—and working out. That'll make you look a little taller. More important, it'll make you feel a little taller too. ●

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

OPEN SESAME

The tennis year opens with the first Grand Slam from Jan 18-26 at Flinders Park, Melbourne. A look at the first Grand Slam event over the last few years.

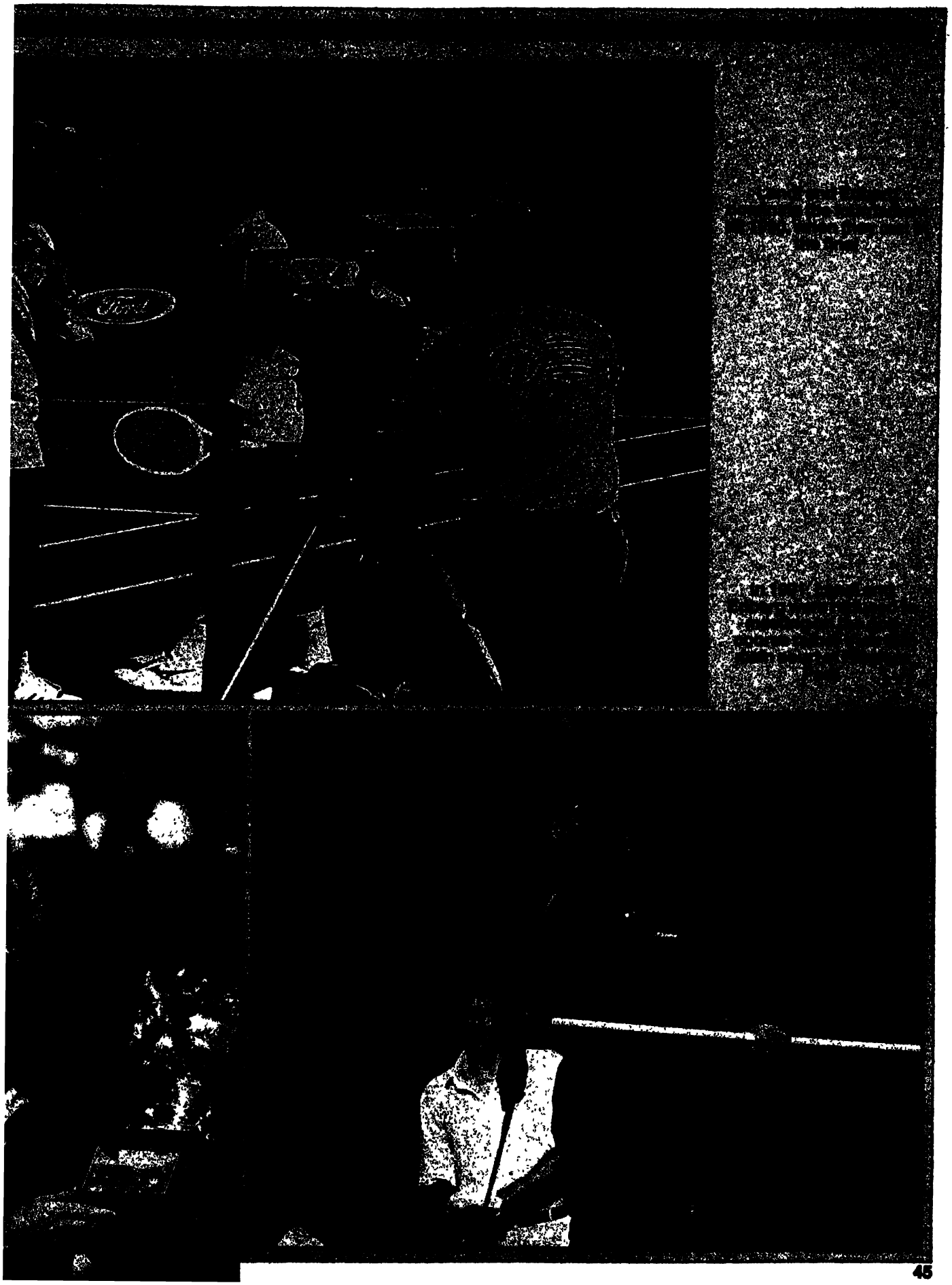


It was Boris Becker who reigned supreme in 1991.





PHOTOGRAPHS By TOMMY HINDLEY



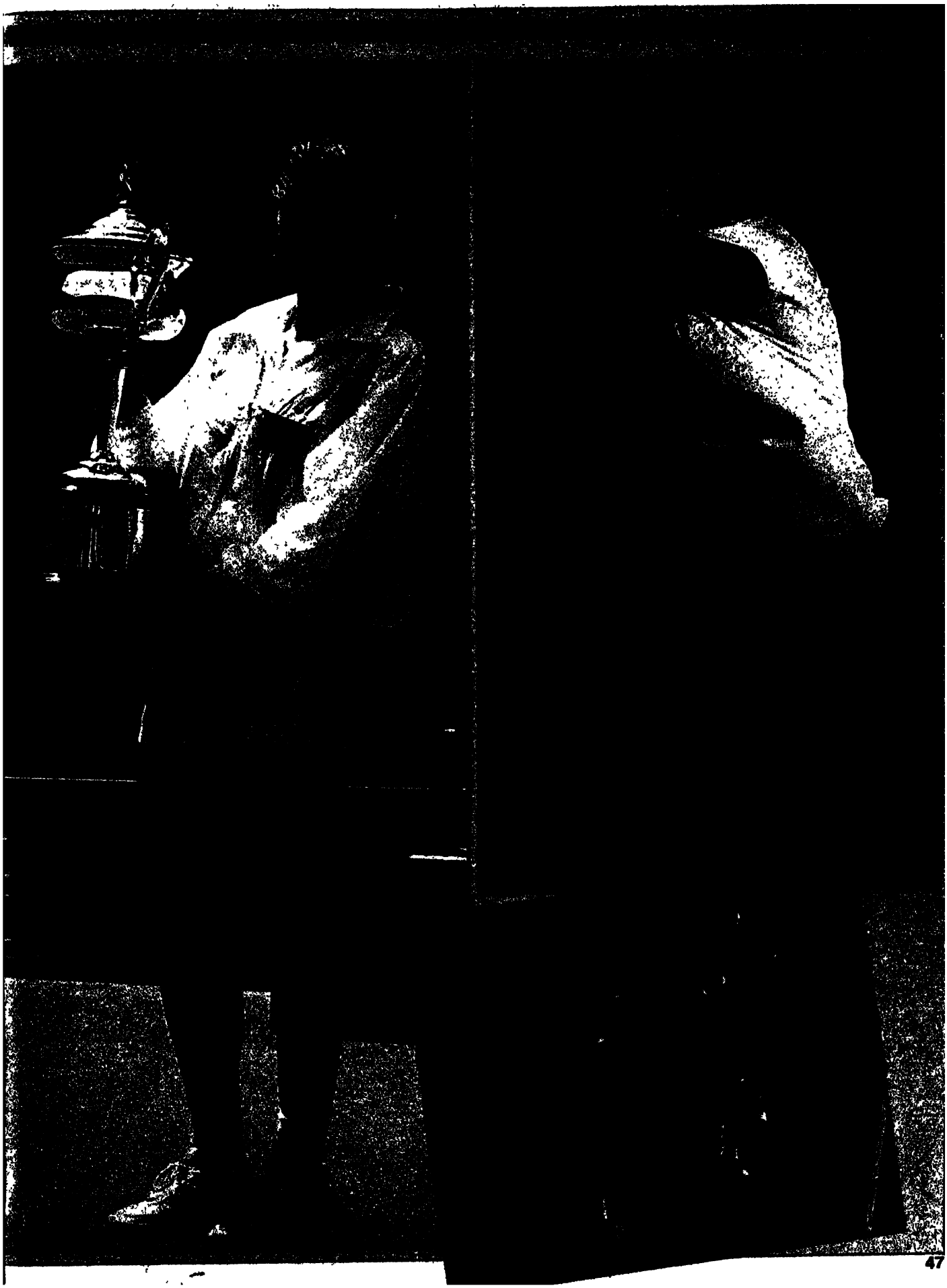
The first set down in 1981 when the young Swede played all the way to her way

Steffi's year till 1990 and the maturity showed on her face

But came 1991 and it was Seles who grunted her way to victory

(Inset): Each Grand Slam has its own colour... the red clay of Paris; the green grass of Wimbledon; the bluish green rebound ace surface of the Australian Open



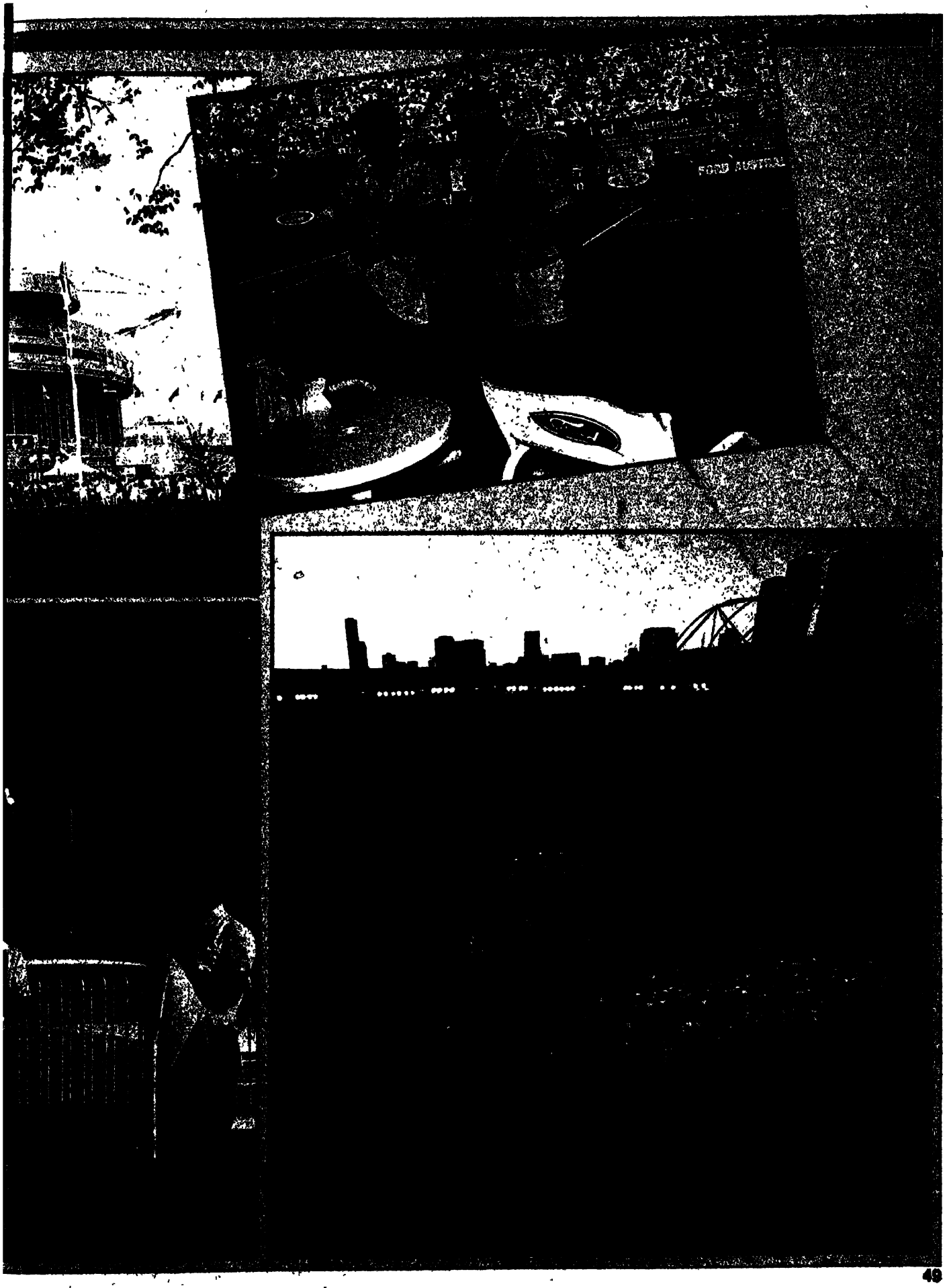


The Flinders Park complex, a twelve-court tennis centre in which the main court has a retractable roof, making it both open air and indoor depending on the weather

The Aussie Open according to many is far more colourful, relaxed and enjoyable than any of the other Grand Slam events

(inset): Who can forget the famous incident in 1990 when John McEnroe was defaulted out of the tournament. Even his opponent Pernfors wasn't surprised







Who Is The Best?

FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR 1991: WORLD SOCCER CHOOSES PAPIN, FIFA MATTHAEUS

WHO was the world's best footballer in 1991?

The opinions of fans, journalists and coaches differ. In a worldwide poll conducted by *World Soccer* magazine, fans and journalists chose striker Jean Pierre Papin of Marseille and France as the world's best player. He polled 25 per cent of the votes cast.

In 1991, the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) also conducted a worldwide poll to select the player of the year. They adpoted a novel method of choosing the best player. The national coaches of all member associations of FIFA were asked to make their choice by December 1, 1991. Each coach could nominate three top players. For first place each player received five points, for second place three points and for third place one point.

Lothar Matthaeus of Inter-Milan and German captain is the winner of the first official election of the World Footballer of the Year organised by FIFA, Adidas and the association of European Sports Magazines (ESM).

The result was announced at the group draw for the FIFA World Cup in New York on December 8. In this election, Papin came second and England's skipper Gary Lineker third.

Matthaeus tallied 128 points with 20 national coaches nominating him as the best player. Six nominated him as second best player and 10 as third best player. Papin totalled 113 points with 13 first places, nine second places and six third places. Lineker was way behind with 40 points.

Ironically, the fans and scribes nominated Matthaeus as fifth and Lineker tenth. They chose the Yugoslav Robert Prosinecki and Darko Pancev as second and third best players. Prosinecki is the fourth best player, according to the coaches, but Panchev is way down with just three points. So, it is clear that no single player like Maradona or Gullit or Platini has emerged in 1991 as a unanimous choice as the Player of 1991.

So, it is clear that no single player like Maradona or Gullit or Platini has emerged in 1991 as a unanimous choice as the Player of 1991

In all, 44 players figured in the choice of the coaches. World champions Germany and Italy had the maximum players chosen—six each. Franco Baresi was the top Italian player in the fifth position with twelve points. However, Italian coach, Arrigo Sacchi nominated Papin as his best player with Baresi second.

Interestingly, the top six players in the world are all Europeans. The best South American is Chile's Ivan Zamano in seventh spot. This is surprising as the South American championships were held last year and several stars like striker Gabriel Batistuta and midfielder Leonardo Rodriguez of Argentina emerged. The choice of fans and journalists seemed more realistic as they nominated Batistuta of Boca Juniors/Fiorentina and Argentina as the seventh best player in the world.

However, the point is neither of the method is foolproof. Fans, journalists and coaches even though technical people can make subjective choices. However, as FIFA president Joao Havelange remarked such polls add to the glamour of football. FIFA intend to have this poll annually and announce the winner amidst much showbiz razzmatazz—the American influence is obvious. However, the choice of fans and journalists seems more realistic as many of them are Europeans or South Americans who actually saw the players in action for whom they voted. In contrast, some coaches like Pakistan's Hafiz Sohaib Butt and Varic Mathios of Seychelles did not see the players, but voted on reputation or based on what appeared in print.

Pity India was conspicuous by her absence among the list of coaches.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

The Health Column

RUB IT IN!



Post workout cooling off exercises Heard that before? Wouldn't be surprised if you didn't because it is one aspect that most fitness enthusiasts neglect It very seldom figures in fitness regimens Yet it is a very vital part of a workout because only then can the body adjust to the gut-busting torture that you inflict on it every time you work out And there's no better way to recuperate that overused system than by massaging it Hey what's that we hear about being a member of a health club and it being expensive? You don't have to be a member of a health club to have a good massage In fact you can give yourself a good rubdown and soothe those muscles that you've been blasting

With a little practice on yourself you can learn the same soothing, relaxing and invigorating techniques that professional masseurs and psysios use A massage is right at your fingertips whenever you want it, whenever you are in the mood—when you are watching a match on the telly, when you are reading, or even when you are in office. With the right moves, you can knead away all those tensions you've stored in your neck and shoulders, rid your feet of the tensions of the day, loosen up tight, tense leg



After strenous exercise, massage is the best way to get the body rejuvenated again—so what if you do it yourself?



Massage: an ideal way to cool off

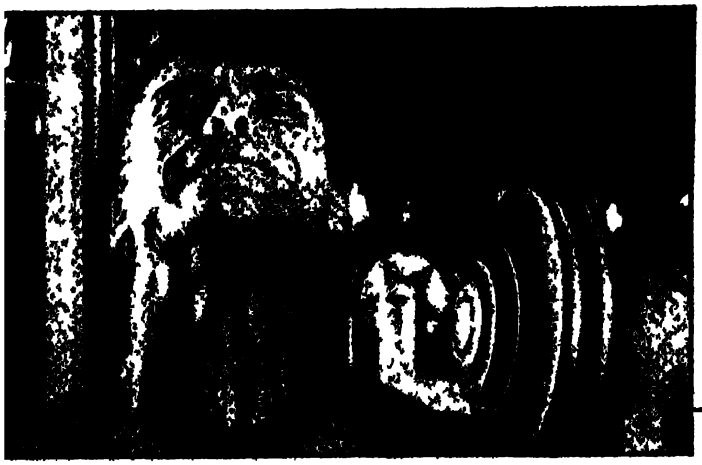
muscles or soothe a testy lower back

Sounds a little too easy? It's amazing what techniques you can master with practice Part of the trick is to realise that a great full-body massage consists of many component parts, individualised strokes that you in time learn to blend together

'Oh, my aching back', is one of the most oft-heard fitness maladies and at times it feels like it harbours all the tensions of the system So let's tackle this body part first Agreed that you will not be able to cover the whole back but you can surely reach the most crucial parts—the lower back tense shoulders and the neck

- Try circling up and down the sides of the neck Ideally you should lie down when you are doing this so that the muscles can relax
- Circling motions all round the lower back will erase the little pockets of tension stored there
- Knead the muscles of your upper back, starting at the base of your neck and work your way down to the shoulders as far as you can reach (but no so far that you tense the muscles)
- Making tighter circles, rub your way downward from your neck on each side of the spine (but not directly on it), one side at a time When you can't reach any further, move to the tailbone area and repeat the same movement upward

There's nothing like a rub-down after that strenous work-out



Chest and abdominal massage.

- Use circling motions around (not on) the collar bone region and on the muscles over your ribs
- Position your palms on the abdomen just below the rib cage Without removing your hands from their contact points, try circling slowly clockwise Your colon coils in this direction and it is stimulated by this motion
- Deep circling on the abdomen also helps in digestion and elimination.

Laying a hand on the feet and the hands. These again are body-parts that do the maximum work on any given day and they surely should not be neglected. Not surprisingly, feet tend to be the bodyparts of choice when it comes to massages at most homes.

- Firmly press your thumbs or finger tips into the sole of your feet and wiggle them back and forth Since the skin here can be tough and the muscles tense, you should apply significant pressure Concentrate on individual spots on your sole Remember that the soles of the feet have the most nerve-endings
- Gently pull the toes, straighten and wiggle them, then gently bend them forward and backward
- Try circling in sundry spots around the ankle and heel, softly squeezing the Achilles tendon as you move along
- Firmly grasp opposite sides of a thigh with both hands, Twist the flesh by moving your left hand up and the right hand down. Make sure that contact is maintained at the same spot. Move around the thigh and then go for the calves.
- Any of the strokes that you have completed, work for the arms as well. Just remember to knead the deltoids (shoulders) while covering this region.

With these basic strokes, you can get a grip on the tension-taxed muscles. Of course, you can always go on experimenting and before long you will know exactly what to do to make that body of yours totally relaxed. Precision is certainly not the key. There's the rub—if your muscles and tissues like it, go with it...all the way.

RATH MARATHON...

Promoting Good Health

THE Rath marathon India s first commercially sponsored marathon started in 1982 On a suggestion by ex Olympian Ranjit Bhatia it was then used as a trial for the Indian team for the 1982 Asiad The popularity of the event grew rapidly In the maugural year (1982) there were just 169 participants By 1986 the participants in the Rath marathon soared to a record 5 637 Since then the organisers have regulated entries as they provide free T shirts and refreshments So the 1990 Rath marathon postponed to February 1991 saw 1 500 runners participating

Shriram Foods and Fertilisers Industries sponsor the Rath marathon annually Mr Shanker Ghosh the executive director of the firm is also the organising secretary He said Our costs have risen due to inflation and at present the cost of organisation is about Rs 3 5 lakhs We even re imburse rail fare to all recognised runners whose entries are ratified by their local associations

Explaining the origins and the philosophy of the event Mr Shanker Ghosh said Our group of companies always supported sport in a big way The DCM football tournament the DCM golf tournament and the Shriram hockey tournament (at Kota) are high profile events

In the last decade corporate houses involvement in sports has conspicuously increased But sponsorship of sports in India became quite cluttered We were searching for a sport which could identify with our brand name Rath We discovered that marathon

The marathon in progress



blended perfectly with our brand name. Rath could be used subtly whilst advertising the marathon. It fits into the word. Another reason we chose a marathon, is that we wanted an event which involved large numbers and little initial investment in terms of equipment. Running the marathon involves fitness which lends itself to our brand name—which is also promoting good health. So the marathon was an ideal event for Rath to sponsor."

Rationalising about their choice, Mr Ghosh expounded, "We felt that in India, athletics did not receive adequate publicity and glamour, and actually required corporate support. We were searching for an event with large participation which is not elitist as our brand does not have an elitist image. We also believed that our marathon would help in spotting talent. The event also focussed on a cross-section of the population, the active youth, veterans and women. Hence we chose to associate marathon with Rath."

How did the Rath marathon become so popular? Mr Ghosh links it to the international phenomenon of desire for increased fitness. He also felt that imaginative marketing techniques helped popularise the event. He said, "Every year, we give the marathon a new theme. In 1989, it was a run for Environment, in 1990 it was a run for Health and in 1984 for Peace, National Unity and Integration. Such popular themes increase the number of participants as they support the cause. We feel proud that we have brought the concept of distance running and fitness to many people."

Mr Ghosh praised the support from the DCP Traffic of Delhi Police who have traditionally supported the Rath marathon. He said, "In the first year, Kiran Bedi did a tremendous job and since then we have followed the same route, always held the event on a Sunday morning, when traffic disruptions are at a minimal.

He also said, "The media has been tremendously supportive and this encouraged us. Support from the NIS and later the SAI and the AAFI and local associations have been consistently helpful. We would like to thank the late Mr K.D Thapar erstwhile Director of NIS, Captain Dogra, Director of SAI and ex-Olympian Ranjit Bhatia for the excellent co-operation in promoting the Rath marathon. Our Managing Director, Siddarth Shriram has always supported the event generously and encouraged us."



The main organisers of the marathon, Shankar Ghosh (left) and R.K. Gupta (right)

"We felt that in India, athletics did not receive adequate publicity and glamour, and actually required corporate support. We were searching for an event with large participation which is not elitist as our brand does not have an elitist image'—Shankar Ghosh

About the future plans, Mr Ghosh added, "Encouraged by the massive media (electronic and print) support we will always continue this event. We are happy that people now know Rath not only as ghee but also for the marathon. It is a tribute to our quiet sponsorship. We are the least glamorous amongst sponsors of sporting events but the people's support has been tremendous. In the future, we want to add a dimension to the Rath marathon. We are seriously considering organising an All India Inter-School athletics meet, like Cadburys did two decades earlier. We are also thinking of setting up an Athletics Academy for middle and long distance runners."

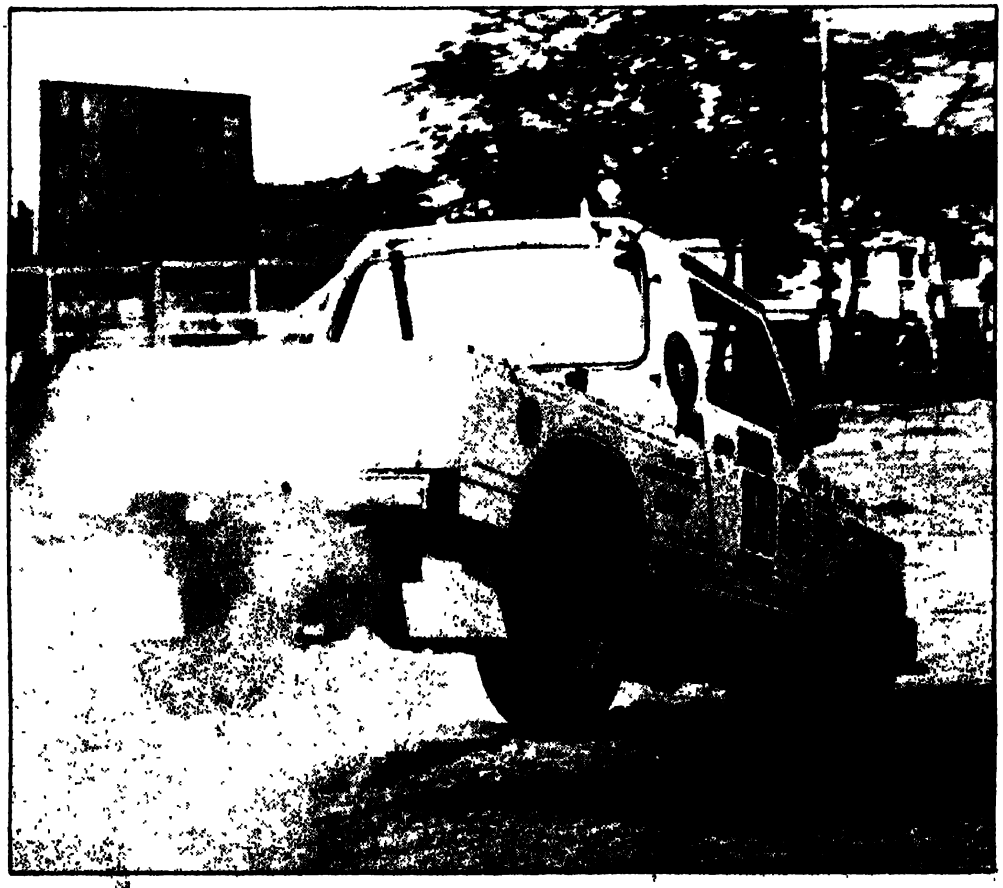
Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

RIDING THE CREST

VERY soon there is going to be an advertisement in newspapers around the country: 'Urgently needed, rallyists willing to compete against the overpowering combinations of the Nanjappa's—because the husband and wife duo of Anita and Jagat, from Coorg, have won almost every rally they have participated in.

Having won four rallies which form the FMSCI Indian Riders Championship—Cotton City, Karnataka-1000, Popular Rally and runner-up in the Ashtavinayaka Rally—they compiled a mind boggling 75 points towards that title. Not that they needed to emphasise their dominance over the sport, but that is just the way they are—no quarters given, none asked for.

It has been a tough year for them with a few thousand kilometres clocked up over some of the toughest roads in the country. But their memories most surprisingly of the year gone by were of events which were not part of the championship, they recalled, "We really enjoyed this season and the best rallies were the MASA and the South Indian. MASA, although not part of the circuit, was just superb. The organisation was unbelievable and we had no problems. It was unfortunate that the South India was eliminated because of technical problems, but it was great fun."



Nose over heels! At the Special Section Vikram Narendra demonstrated how to stop at high speed

IN the last rally for the year 1991 PVS Action Rally, the deadly duo, signed off with a flourish. They won the rally, added 20 points to their already overwhelming lead of 75 and walked away with the FMSCI's Indian Riders title.

The PVS Action Rally, earlier known as the Karavali Rally, had most of the big names from South India and at the flag-off there were 10 cars and 25 motorcycles. The organisers in an effort to popularise the event had a Special Stage at the Nehru Maidan. Something like this at the start of a rally is always a great way to test the vehicles and, boy did the rallyists have fun, cars nose-diving to the finish, motorcycles spending more time elevated on air than on the ground.

From there the rally moved off to Kothar, Vittal, Ananthdi, and a

Anil Soans' Maruti 800 being pulled out of the ditch



whole lot of unpronounceable places to re-group at Moti Mahal Hotel, Marga After the re-group the fun started and at the first dirt section Anil Soans in a Maruti 800 plunged into a ditch, tailor made for the car With help from the villagers they pulled out the car and the dare-devil from Mangalore continued to

Anita and Jagat Nanjappa report in at the last Time Control. They won the rally as well as the FMSCI Indian Riders championship



finish fifth overall

But the top seed, Jijo, in an attempt to avoid a cyclist injured himself and pulled out of the rally Narrating the event he said, I saw the young cyclist cutting across the road, I applied brakes the Gypsy took off sideways and rolled over

Some others had narrow escapes through crowded roads and one common complaint was that there was no crowd control

In the second sector only 17 motorcycles and seven cars remained in the rally This was an excitement free sector but only five cars and 17 bikes completed the rally.

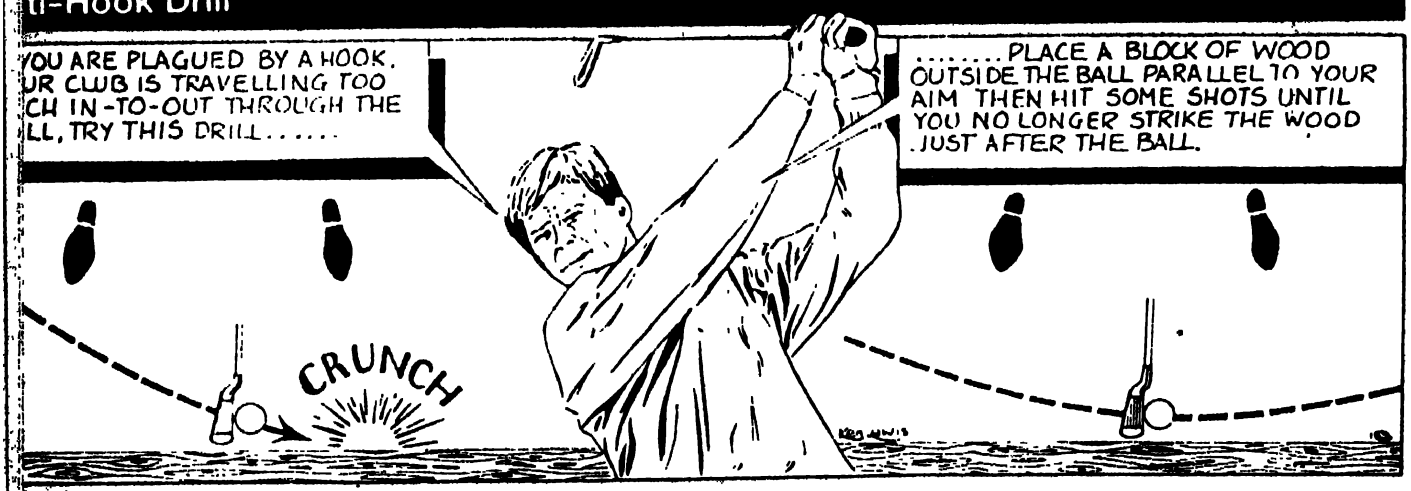
Austin Mascarenhas won the four wheeler section with Vikram Narendra in second place In the two-wheeler section the second place went to Ravichandran. The obvious winners were the Nanjappas

Text and pictures by George Francis/Scorp Features

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

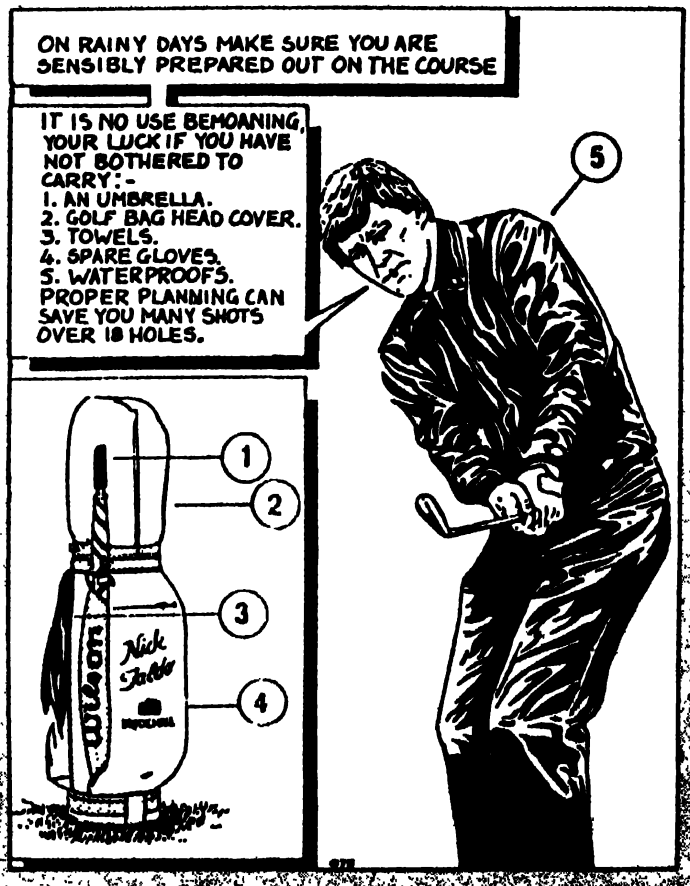
ti-Hook Drill



he Perfect Partner



Get it Right in the Wet



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

ONCE again, we continue with the kata. Please keep in mind that all these movements are actually being performed in the opposite direction. It is just for your convenience that we are illustrating them facing the camera.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



. Turn your right foot as you launch into a left jodan mai-girl, landing with left foot forward



Go in to kiba-dachi and perform a left empi-uki or elbow block



In the same stance, deliver a left uraken-uchi or back fist strike at face height

BRAVO BAVARIANS!



(Top right):

Krishanu Dey seems uninterested in what is being told to Cheema by coach Amal Dutta

(Left):

Chibuzor leapfrogs over the prostrated Bavarian goalkeeper

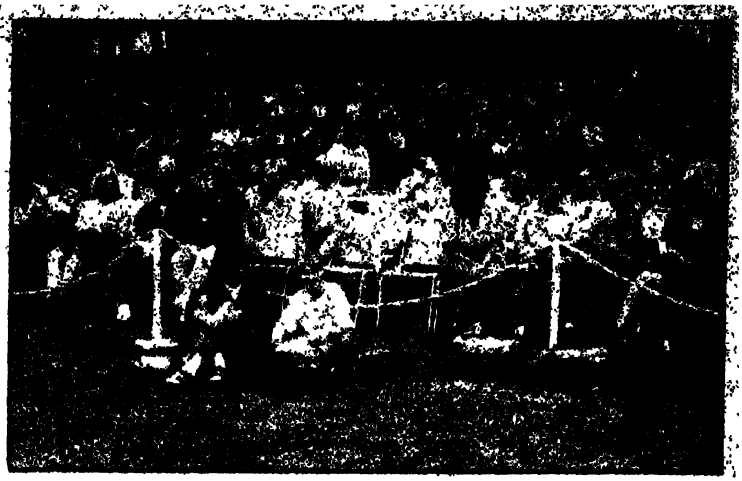
(Right, below):

The amateurs from Bavaria pose for a photograph before the match

PICTURES BY SANTOSH GHOSH









The Bavarian tourist party at the match...and some of them get busy clicking



High Spirits!

BUNTY RANDHAWA CELEBRATES HIS VICTORY

THE sponsorship boom in golf over the last ten years has been spectacular. And one should thank the generous corporate sector for coming forward in a big way to help the Indian professionals make some money out of this game. The attractive prize money which is now on offer in various tournaments around the country has greatly motivated the pros to strive for excellence...their lifestyle has also changed for the better. Who'd say now that the pros are treated shabbily? And looking at the golf calendar,one will surely agree that the Indian Golf Union has made a big leap forward.

With plenty of cash pouring in more and more players are turning professional. Recently, the Old Course of the Royal Calcutta Golf Club witnessed the country's top pros and amateurs tussling intently for the Kalyani Black Label trophy, sponsored by United Breweries Ltd. In fact, the UB competition which offered a fabulous Rs two lakhs, was the IGU's 31st prize money tournament including the Indian Open of the golf calendar.

The Kalyani Black Label Open's inaugural show proved a great success (and there will be many more) although the general scorelines were unimpressive. There was only one sub-par card of 72 brought in by local Shiek Ali on the first day of the tournament. The high scores probably were due to the windy and cold conditions.

Even the winner, Bunty Randhawa, had a four round aggregate of 305 which was 13 strokes over the par course of 73. But Randhawa played smooth golf. The rising tension did not affect him at all when Shiek Ali led the field till the halfway mark—the cut where 51 survived among the 84 pros and 12 amateurs. But some atrocious golf by Shiek Ali on the second day greatly jeopardised his position. If Randhawa could better his first two round performances, then Shiek Ali would have been in for some real trouble. And that's exactly what happened. Randhawa returned the day's best card of 74 to



FOTOFLASH

Bunty Randhawa kisses the trophy

Randhawa is a far more matured player and has tasted glory. He did have an edge over Shiek Ali...But if there was any one who could have turned Randhawa's applecart upside down, it was Ali Sher

share the lead with Sk. Ali.

Two dramatic events took place on the third day. Ali Sher, who had created history by becoming the first Indian pro to win the Indian Open at Delhi last year was not too happy with his game. A poor card of 79 followed by another round of 2 over par left no other option for the Delhite but to improve his game. Putting like all others had let him down, but he played the best back nine in the tournament firing an eagle on the 15th and two birdies for a 75 which saw him trailing the joint leaders (Shiek and Bunty) by two strokes (229).

Royal's veteran Hyder Khan made a brilliant achievement on the short 13th. He fired a hole-in-one to collect Rs 10,000 and was obviously amongst the 40 pros who shared the 2 lakhs booty. However, over the years many a golfer had achieved this feat. Even a couple of years back two Americans had done this in the Indian Open.

Randhawa is a far more matured player and has tasted glory. He did have an edge over Shiek Ali who was yet to notch up a big triumph. But if there was any one who could have turned Randhawa's applecart upside down, it was Ali Sher. However, Bunty Randhawa's consistency on the final day saw him collect the top purse of Rs. 33,320.

The keen fight for the second slot centred around Shiek Ali and Ali Sher who were tied at 308. They didn't want a 'play-off due to 'fatigue'. There was the toss of the coin and the Delhi pro called correct. But both shared the prize money equally. It rarely happens.

Basad Ali, who lay in the 14th position brought in the day's best score on the last day to earn himself some extra cash,finishing fifth. Delhi's Rohtas Singh knew that it wasn't his tournament on the Old Course and had to settle for whatever he could collect. Age seems to be catching up with Rohtas. But the Indian pros won't give up so easily, especially now that there is so much cash flowing into the sport.

The amateur title was won by Amit Luthra, although his scoresheet was not that impressive. But this victory erased bitter memories of his narrow defeat in the Goodricke golf played at the same venue earlier.

A Correspondent

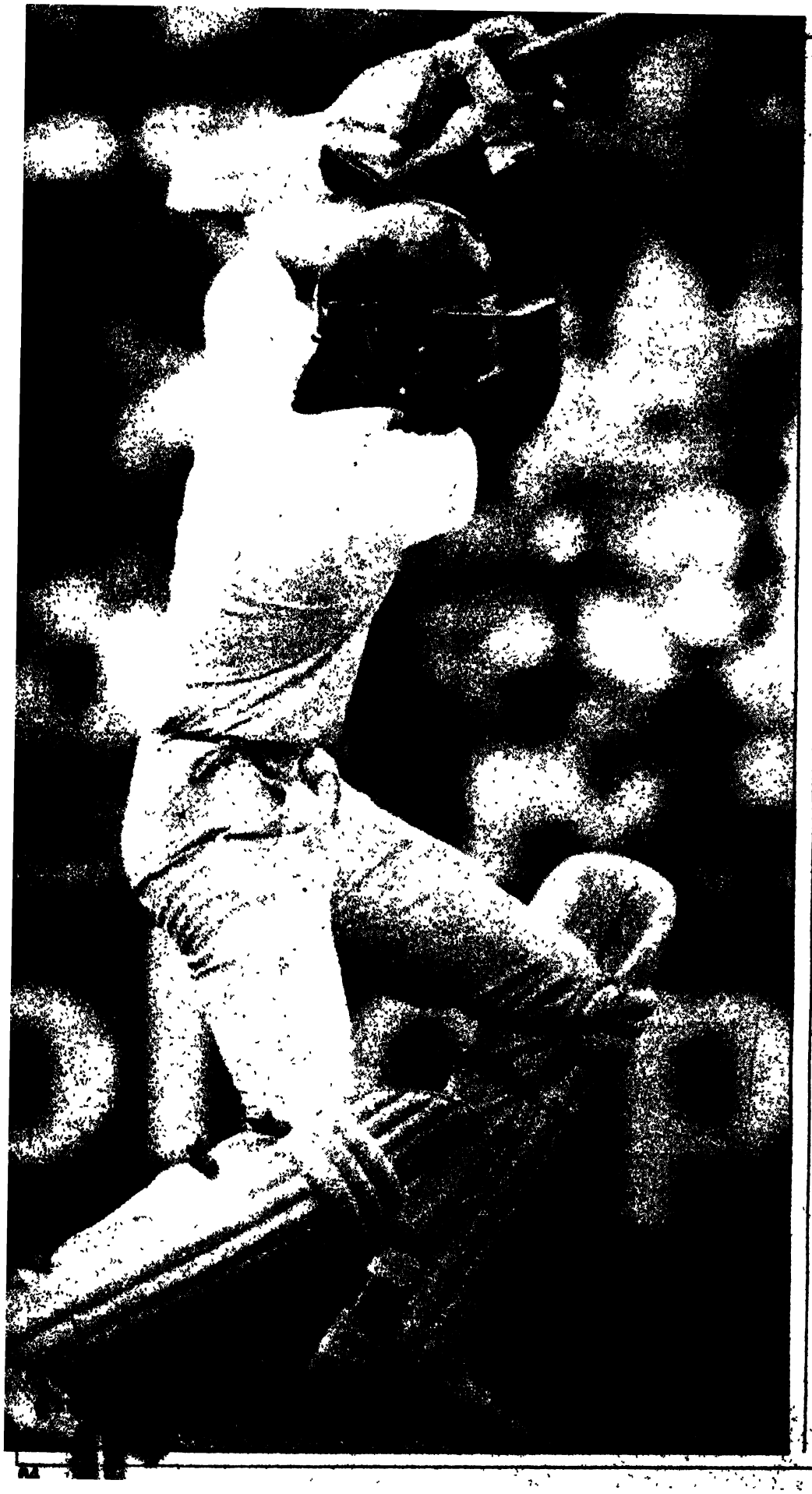


Shiek Ali brought in the only sub-par card

Amit Luthra erased bitter memories when he won the amateur trophy



FOTO FLASH



LOOKING FOR STANDBYS

ENGLISH county Derbyshire are lining up possible replacements for Ian Bishop in case the West Indian fast bowler fails to recover from a back injury.

One is Mohammad Azharuddin, the Indian Test captain, who scored more than 2,000 runs for Derbyshire last season as Bishop's replacement. The other possibility is Brain McMillan who scored 999 runs for Warwickshire five years ago in his only English season.

FOOTBALL DEBUT

SOUTH AFRICA'S first soccer international in 25 years could be against England at Wembley, thanks to the demise of the Soviet Union.

Contrary to press reports that FIFA has blocked South Africa's comeback bid, the January meeting of football's governing body will rubber stamp their immediate return.

Plans are advanced for the all-black South African side to visit Britain in April, when they are provisonally booked to play a Football League representative side. But if England's friendly fixture with the Soviet Union on the 29th falls through, expect England to play South Africa.

Azharuddin is one of the options open to English county, Derbyshire

e world media that we normally don't get to hear about.....

SPORTING TRIVIA

RICE ON THE FIRING LINE

CLIVE RICE is facing disciplinary action over an outburst he made on television in which he described South Africa's selection of a 20 man shortlist for the cricket World Cup as idiotic

Rice, aged 42, who captained the South African side in their tour of India has not been included in the shortlist for the World Cup

Dr Ali Bacher managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA), said that the matter would be considered as a possible breach of the code of behaviour

Rice's chagrin is understandable After all, it was 20 years ago that he was chosen for a South African side, then at its peak, to tour Australia but the tour was called off because of anti-apartheid pressure

IAN IN NO RUSH

LIVERPOOL'S,Welsh international soccer striker,Ian Rush, who has been sidelined since mid-November after a knee operation, needs further surgery that will keep him out of action for another month.

Formerly with Juventus in Italy, Rush, 30, has missed half of the current English season because of an Achilles tendon injury and then a knee cartilage problem that needed surgery.

The Liverpool manager Graeme Souness said that a new swelling had developed around the knee and a club doctor had recommended another operation



TOMMY HINDLEY

Ian Rush, of Liverpool, has spent more time in hospitals and operation theatres than on the football ground

UPSIDE DOWN WORLD

FAITH they say can move mountains Satish Ganapatrao Dhanekar from Amravati had a dream he wanted to come down a mountainside doing a hand stand all the way For this feat he chose the historic Girnar mountain near Junagarh

What started off as a lark, turned out to be a very serious matter after all Much to the surprise of his critics he successfully achieved the feat and also trimmed four days off his schedule During his incredible descend—with head down and feet up—Dhanekar covered exactly 6985 steps

Dhanekar claims that this is a world record and hopes to find his name in the *Guinness Book of World Records* ●



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Clive Rice has described the 20-man shortlist for the World Cup as 'idiotic'

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

HANS WERNER GROSSE of Germany attained a speed of 98 43 mph/158 40 kmph in his single seater glider 145 40 kmph over a distance of 750 km over Australia on **Jan 8, 1985,** and set a world record in the process

THE first balloon free flight in America was made on **Jan 9, 1793,** by the Frenchman Jean Pierre Blanchard from Philadelphia to New Jersey

AN Indian team led by Col T P S Chowdhury returned to Bombay on **Jan 10, 1987** after covering 55 000 kms It was the first Indian expedition to circumnavigate the earth in a yacht

WHILE playing for Karachi against Bahawalpur at Karachi Hanif Mohammed scored 499 runs the highest ever first class score in cricket-on **Jan. 11, 1959.**

IN the American bare knuckle boxing championship on **Jan 12, 1869** near St Louis Tom Allen of England defeated Bill Davis in round 43

ON **Jan 13, 1973** L Eiskind of Norway set a men s world record on ice by covering 500 mts in 38 seconds

AMERICAN baseball player Joe DiMaggio married Hollywood actress Marilyn Monroe on **Jan 14, 1954** at San Francisco

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

TO PARTICIPATE: India in the Takati International Wrestling Championships to be held in Teheran from February 4th.

KNIGHTED: Colin Cowdrey, former England cricketer and Chairman of the ICC, Ian Woosnam and Liz McColgan are to receive the MBE or Member of the British Empire while footballer Gary Lineker will get the more prestigious OBE, or Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

WON: By the Swiss pair of Jakob Hlasek and Manueela Maleeva the Hopman Cup mixed team tennis title They defeated the Czechoslovakian pair of Karel Novacek and Helena Sukova 2-1 in the final

RETAINED: By West Bengal the national women's football



Zinc cream on his face, plaster on his elbow, and ointment on a bad graze on his leg, Robin Smith seems to be taking the practice seriously. Auckland plenty seriously, that is. [illegible] pretty hot!

title They defeated Rajasthan 5-4 in the final, via the tie-breaker

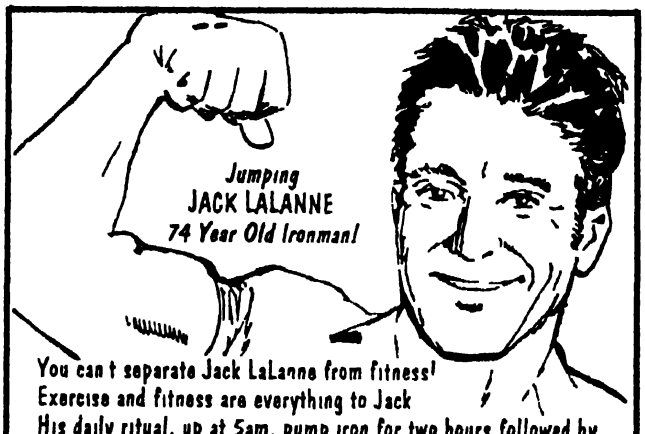
SANCTIONED: By the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, pensions of Rs 1,000 per month to swimmer Mihir Sen, footballers C P Chandran, C Raghavan and trap shooter S A Naim

KNOCKED OUT: 1991 Wimbledon champion Michael Stich and Ivan Lendl from the New South Wales Open—a warm up tournament to the Australian Open—in the first round. Stich lost to Todd Woodbridge of Australia, while Richard Krajicek of Holland defeated Lendl.

TO RETIRE: Reeth Abraham announced her retirement from international, national and state level athletics.

SPORT SHORTS

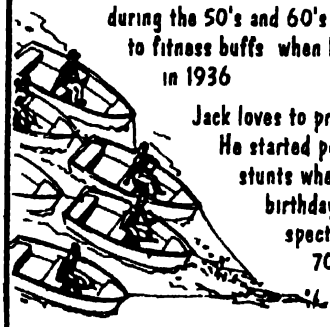
by Fred Hull



Jumping
JACK LALANNE
74 Year Old Ironman!

You can t separate Jack LaLanne from fitness! Exercise and fitness are everything to Jack His daily ritual, up at 5am, pump iron for two hours followed by an hour of vigorous swimming, has not changed in 50 years

The "Jack LaLanne TV Show" turned him into an institution during the 50's and 60's But, he was already well known to fitness buffs when he opened his first health spa in 1936

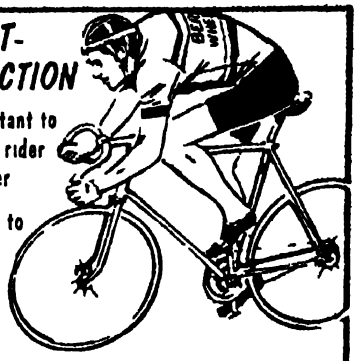


Jack loves to prove that years mean little He started performing feats of strength stunts when he was in his 50's On each birthday he astounded the world with a spectacular feat! To celebrate his 70th birthday he towed 70 boats holding 70 people 1 and 1/2 miles!

FRED HULL

DIST. BY ASIA FEATURES

SADDLE HEIGHT- TUNING TO PERFECTION

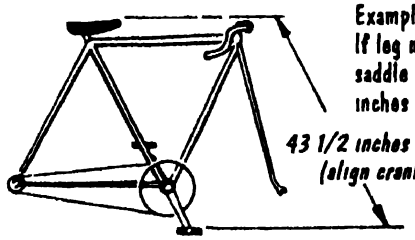


Proper saddle height is important to a cyclist be he a competitive rider or a weekend recreational rider

Saddle height must be correct to use leg muscles efficiently Most cyclists ride with saddles too low for comfort and pedaling efficiency

While sitting, the heels of your feet should just reach the pedals This may seem awkward, but after a short distance, you'll find pedaling easier and balance improved

Racing cyclists use a formula for saddle height which gives optimum pedaling power Measure leg height from floor to inseam and multiply measurement by 1 09 The result is the distance from the top of the saddle to the pedal spindle



Example
If leg measures 40 inches saddle height should be 43 6 inches (43 1/2 inches)

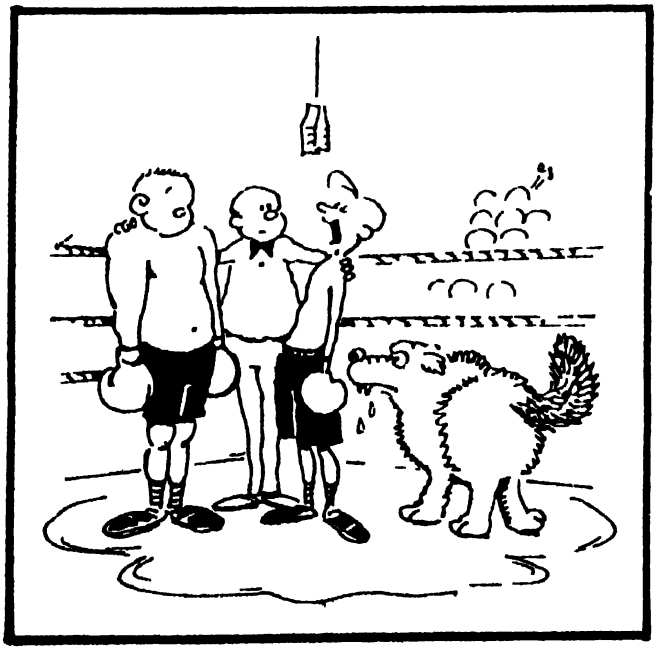
43 1/2 inches
(align crank with seat tube)

FRED HULL

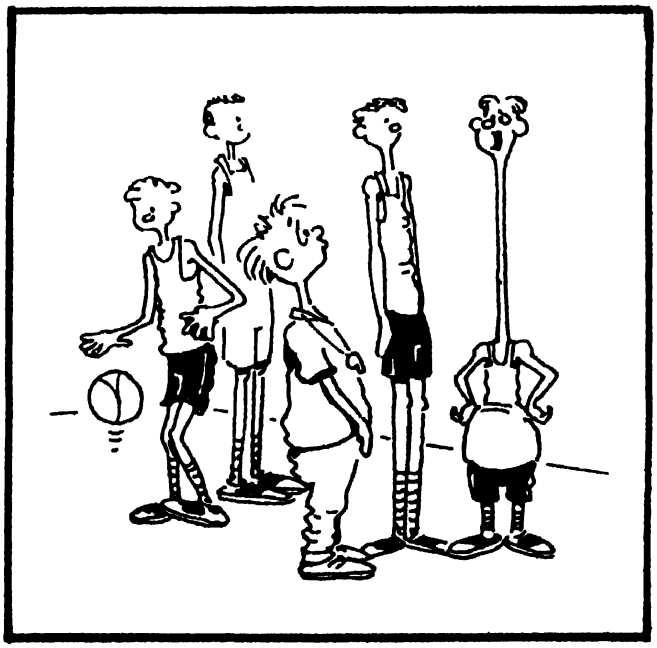
DIST BY ASIA FEATURES

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"He's mine and very protective."



"You said these tryouts were for anyone over 6'5"."

CALCUTTA

Goodricke Golf

THE Goodricke Eastern India Golf championship could not have seen a better finish. Arjun Singh clinched the crown by the barest of margins after seven days of tight play at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club course. Amit Luthra finished second as the championship was decided on the third hold of a sudden death play-off.

The meet seemed to have something for everyone as the underdogs came up with some glorious performances. This saw the early exit of some big names in the tournament.

Subhankar Sen's gullies were too hot for fancied Lakshman Singh,

Arjun Singh had to fight to the finish to win the golf title



one of the top seeds to crash out early in the tournament. Sen, who made a scratchy start, played the last nine holes at level par and finally beat Singh on the 18th (two up).

But Sen's giant-killing spree was ended by junior national champion Daniel Chopra when Sen could not reproduce his form against Singh, on the 13th tee. Chopra won six and five.

There were more upsets to follow. On the penultimate day, Daniel Chopra and Rajiv Mohta, who had struck a purple patch in the tournament, were the casualties. Chopra lost to Luthra while Arjun Singh got the better of Mohta.

The Chopra-Luthra tie was an absorbing one. It was up and down till the ninth. The 16th was a stiff one for both and they halved it at six. Luthra won the 17th. The 18th was halved in pars with Luthra running out the winner.

Mohta suffered a reverse in the second hole versus Arjun. He spurned the third and fourth too and could not recover after that. Arjun won on the 15th hole four and three.

Conditions were not exactly perfect for the final at the RCGC. A pre-dawn shower made the course soggy, but, Luthra turned on the heat with a birdie right in the first hole. Arjun drew level by taking the fourth but Luthra reeled off the next three to build a nice four-point cushion after the tenth hole. Arjun just did not give up. He too had a four-in-a-row from the 15th to 18th to ensure parity.

The afternoon saw some exciting golf. Luthra once again took a commanding lead by the 24th, on which he achieved a par. Arjun cut Luthra's three-point lead by taking the 26th. But Luthra kept the lead by winning the 32nd. But as luck would have it, Luthra missed a short putt on the 33rd hole and nerves cost him the 34th. With just two holes to go, Luthra's lead had been cut to just one point.

The 35th was halved and then Arjun forced a win on the last hole to take the fight to the sudden-death.

Eastern India Equestrianism

MAN and beast performed in tandem as the three-day Classic Eastern India Equestrian championships were gone through at the Tollygunge Club course. If Scottish Law and Mrs Anne Wright created some sort of a record in the ladies's open hacks, the honours in this year's meet went to the Grewal brothers—Jivraj and Amarinder who emerged joint best for brilliantly handling Bob Wright's horse Torani.

But if the Grewal brothers led the pack, the 61st Cavalry was not far behind. Army teams usually rule the roost, having some of the best riders in the country, in equestrianism. The 61st Cavalry tasted double success on the

A proud moment for (right) Jivaraj Grewal. The 20-year-old won the gruelling three-day event as well as the confined cross-country



concluding day of the Tollygunge Club meet when Captain S. Singh (atop Master) and Swr Jagdish Singh (atop Invincible) were joint first in the fault-and-out successive relay. In the open jumping, Captain Singh edged out Jivraj (astride Top Tlite) Swr G. Chakraborty of West Bengal Police (astride Arjun), for the gold.

And now to the Grewal success story. Twenty-year-old Jivraj turned in a fine show by winning the gruelling three day event as well as the confined cross-country astride Torani. Jivraj could have added the individual tent-pegging title too, but for a slight lapse of concentration during the run-off which was introduced to break the deadlock after four rounds of competition. Swr Gopal Chandra Dey of WB pPolice was first (atop Roshanara) while Jivraj (atop Melodic) was third.

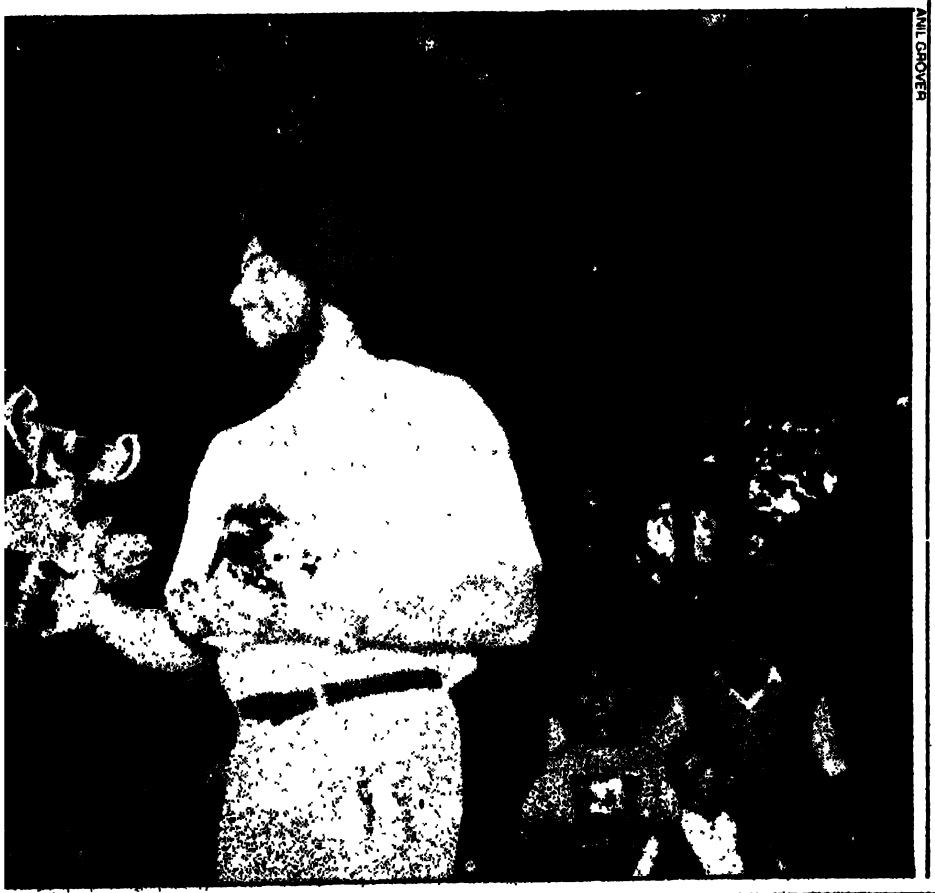
Amarinder, the younger of the Grewals, topped in the confined riding atop Tambourine, the Col Tolly horse. Scottish Law (Mrs Anne Wright-Col Tolly) and Obolensky (Mrs S. Bajoria-Col Tolly) finished joint second.

The childreh also flexed their muscles too in the meet. K. Desai was the best child rider atop his mount Tiara. Miss H. Mann atop Sunbeam was second while Jhansi ridden by Miss N. Bose was third.

Mercantile Mixed Basketball



TRAILING Hongkong Bank by 16 points midway through the second session TISCO rallied magnificiently to win the final of the Mercantile Invitational Mixed Basketball tournament 36-34. The tournament was organised by the Women's Basketball Association of West Bengal with 15 mercantile firms participating in the two week long meet. In picture : The 'mixed' TISCO basketball team.



AMIL GROVER

State Boxing

GARDEN REACH BOXING ASSOCIATION emerged best in the Senior State Boxing Championship which was held recently. When their boxers finished with three gold medals to win the team gold ahead of School of Physical Culture (SOPC) and Asansol Sub-divisional Sports Association, which shared the second spot.

More than 30 state units participated in the meet which saw some interesting bouts in the lower weight divisions. But the meet's only knockout saw SOPC's Mohammed Akram blasting his Asansol rival Satyanarayan Yadav in the first round itself.

The meet's other winners were Kashinath Mukherjee (Garden Reach) in the fly-weight category, Asansol's Partha Samaddar in bantamweight, NSI's Biswajit Pal in the light featherweight, Garden

Reach s Subhasis Mullick in lightweight West End s Tanumoy Mukherjee in light welterweight (technical knockout in first round) and SOPC s Syed Shahid Parvej in welterweight

Soumitra Bose

LUDHIANA

Cycling Championships

PUNJAB and Andaman & Nicobar ruled the roost in the two cycling championships held at Ludhiana's Punjab Agricultural University velodrome recently Sponsored by Vardhman Spinning & General Mills the meet surprisingly found Bihar who had been doing well previously playing second fiddle and having to be content with a couple of silver and bronze medals

The Punjab lads put up stellar performances to earn a bag of nine golds six silvers and one bronze to win the overall championship in the sub junior nationals with 79 points If that was impressive the All India Inter State men's section saw Punjab acquire six golds and three silvers to be perched on top with 11 points

The Andaman & Nicobar women annexed the team championship (19 points) with four golds and three silvers while their juniors won the sub junior national title with seven gold and two silver medals and secured 41 points

In the Inter State men's section Punjab cyclists Lakwinder Singh Hardev Singh Amandeep and Kirpal Singh created a new record in the 1000m road team time trial clocking 2 hrs 13 mnn 13 73 sec Likewise in the 4 000 metres Team Pursuit the timing of 5 mn 06 39 sec set by Indian Railways at the Delhi nationals last year was erased (4 mn 55 77 sec) by Fateh Jang Singh Tilochan Singh Kirpal Singh Amandeep and Hardev Singh Chandigarh's strong rider Fateh Jang Singh shattered yet another record in the 1000 metres Time Trial when he clocked 1 mn 11 20 sec

In the sub junior national the top slot for the 4 000 m and 3 000 m Team Pursuit was won by the Punjab boys with a new record of 5 mn 9 36 sec and 3 mn 57 15 sec respectively Raminder Singh Deol created a new record in the 500 m Time Trial clocking 37 54 sec and 38 20 sec for boys under 16 and 14 years, respectively Punjab cyclist Kanwarjit Singh set a new mark in the 3 000 m Individual Pursuit, clocking 4 mn 1 19 sec for boys under 18, while a very promising rider, Pardeep Singh Sandhu created a new record in 2 000 m Individual Pursuit for boys under-16 by clocking 2 mn 42 93 sec

Rajesh Bhambi

Taj Trophy Golf



NIRMALENDU MAJUMDAR

NAMRATA THAPAR, from Delhi, won the Taj Trophy Golf championship held at the Tollygunj Club golf course, Calcutta. She was the most consistent player amongst the 30 other golfers.

Great stuff

THE cover story on Allan Border A Reluctant Captain by Harsha Bhogle was really good It is after a long time that one got to read such an informative interview with the cricketing maestro He is one player who over the years has shown what leading from the front is all about He has been a player who with his superb cricket and temperament has taken Australian cricket to great heights He still continues to inspire the team and the other captains especially Azharuddin could take a page or two from his book and goad the Indian team to perform better

Keep giving us sensational interviews like this
RAJESH KUMAR
Bokaro

End of an era

THE year that just got over saw the emergence of new faces in the world of tennis and the literal end of an era in the women's scene The past few years have seen the decline of the Navratilova Evert era But then again looking at the spirited performances of Navratilova and Connors at Wimbledon and the U S Open one certainly cannot write them off at least not yet 1992 should be the year to watch out, for the tennis scenario certainly holds a lot of exciting prospects

The article on Mantu Ghosh by K O Jacob that appeared some time ago in the magazine was also superb By becoming the national champion at such a tender age she has proved that she has the talent But whether she can exploit it to the fullest remains to be seen For the sake of Indian sport, one hopes she does find her nick once again
VIBHUTI AWASTHI,
Lucknow.



Allan Border· captain extraordinary

Shameful

IT was a real shocking experience to hear about India's dismal performance in the SAF Games at Colombo These athletes have proved that they have neither the patriotism or the zeal to win It surely seemed as though they were there on a holiday all expenses borne by the Government Meets like these serve little purpose the athletes do not put in their best the standards are not too high and hence there is no question about gaining international exposure Teams for meets like the SAF, should in future be cleared at a no-cost to-government basis, and only the medal winning athletes should be reimbursed after they return to the country This probably will be the only way in which the athletes take sport more seriously
AMIT KUMAR DAS
Calcutta

Crisis time

THE article Calypso Crisis' made one wonder as to how long the West Indian team would be able to hang on to the title of the world's best cricketing team After dropping Viv Richards from the team there seems to be no one to fill the void

True that an old order does always change for the new but this change couldn't come at a more inappropriate moment With the World Cup coming up the experience of Richards could have helped the Windies a lot His very presence was enough to inspire his team and also put the shivers into the opposition

One certainly wishes that he could be seen in action again But that's wishful thinking
SUNEET AGRAWAL
Lucknow

Keep up the good work

THE article Bloodsport on the 5th World Open Karate Championship, by Pradeep Paul was superb But at the same time it was disappointing to see the performance of the Indian karatekas there

Here's hoping that we will have a good coverage of the 10th Asian Taekwondo Championships to be held in Kuala Lumpur from January 31st
CHANEMOUGASSOUNDIRAM
France

The cover photograph of Ravi Shastri in this issue is by Nikhil Bhattacharya.

ABDUL BASITH

Admired By All

ONCE upon a time, a lad, who had a modest beginning, went to witness the volleyball selection trials of his school, team Anwarul-Uloom. Not that he was very fascinated initially, but he took to the game by sheer accident: During the trials, the ball bounced off the court and landed in front of him. Thrilled he picked up the ball and boosted it back into play like a true player. The physical director of the school, Azhar, noticed this boy's extraordinary flair for the game and took him under his wing. The boy strived genuinely to become one of the country's top spikers...eventually becoming the vanguard of the Indian volleyball team since 1974.

This lad was thrilled and excited, not at getting a place in the school team but on getting a new jersey to play for that particular local tournament. However, for that competition he had to borrow his brother's shorts. But, borrowed feathers or not, he showed true potential. And never looked back ever since. He became a household name where volleyball is concerned. His name is Abdul Basith.

His contribution to the game was tremendous. He was a great entertainer. He was admired by all.

But today there is a pall of gloom in volleyball circles. Basith met with a tragic end: being electrocuted at his Hyderabad residence while repairing an electric instrument.

A player who seems to defy the laws of advancing age by becoming more proficient as he grew older, he was thoroughly aggressive, serving like a bomb and smashing with tremendous confidence. Basith had always proved his class, inspired his team (Andhra) to great heights. Once, when defeat stared Andhra in the face against formidable national champions Indian Railways at the VFI ranking tournament at Tiruppur, Basith's contempt for his own mistimed shots and his languid, cool, court manners stung his colleagues into dynamic action. Other matches were won by the sheer fury of this talented player. His speciality being the counter and high ball attack, his was a more scientific approach to game situations, far ahead of his times.



Abdul Basith in action

Basith first represented Andhra Pradesh in the 1975 Junior Nationals. A team he played for ever since, except for a brief period when he was in Maharashtra with Western Railway. In 1978, he donned Indian colours at the Bangkok Asiad and in the same year at the SAF Games at Islamabad he exhibited his true grit and courage by carrying the country on his shoulders in spite of his little child (girl) who lay on her death bed at Malappally. So great was his mental courage and heroism that people and teammates used to speak about him in reverence.

He had played more than 35 international tournaments. He played for a brief period in Italy as a professional along with his idol late Jimmy George who incidentally had met with a premature death a few years ago.

M P Suresh

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Which Test bowler, accused several times for throwing, had to retire eventually?
2 What record has the bowler (referred to in question 1) to his credit?
3 Which controversial bowler published a book entitled *Thrown Out* and defended his bowling action there?
4 Which South African batsman hit a century in Perth (in 1963) in 88 minutes?
5 For which state did Garry Sobers play in Australia?
6 Which was the fielding position over which Garry Sobers hit most when he hit Malcolm Nash for six sixer at Swansea in 1968?
7 What was Malcolm Nash s comment (after Sobers s feat referred to in the foregoing question)?

ANSWERS

1 Geoffrey Griffin (South Africa)
2 A Test hat-trick (vs England at Lord s in 1960 The victims were Mike Smith, P M Walker and Trueman)
3 Ian Meckiff (Australia)
4 Graeme Pollock
5 South Australia
6 Long-on (3) The order was this over long-on, long-on, long-off mid-wicket to the on long-on, mid-wicket to the on
7 "I suppose I can gain some satisfaction from the fact that my name will be permanently in the records book"

CHESS

ANAND ended the yea r with a flourish, beating Garri Kasparov once again What's more, second time round he did it with black! Incidentally Anand joins Boris Gulko as the only two to have plus scores against the world champion.

The Indian GM surprised Kasparov with the French Defence. There followed a sharp tactical duel involving castling on opposite sides. When the complications ended Anand had a clear advantage and he never let go

White. Kasparov Vs Black, Anand, Reggio Emilia, '91-92

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nd2 c5 4 ed5 Qd5 5 dc5 Bc5. Kasparov picks an unusual line of the Tarrasch Variation Here white normally gambits with 5 Ngf3 cd4 **6 Ngf3 Nf6 7 Bd3 0-0 8 Qe2 Nbd7 9 Ne4 b6 10 Nc5 Qc5 11 Be3 Qc7 12 0-0-0 Bb7 13 Bd4 Nc5!** Quick counterplay based on the trick 14 Bf6 Qf4

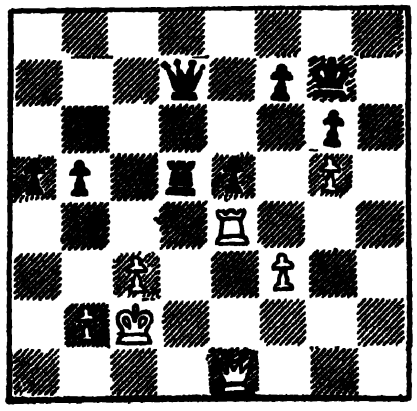
14 Be5 Nd3 15 Rd3 Qc4 16 Nd4 Be4 17 Re3 Qa2!? A very sharp move However 17 Qe2 18 Re2 Bg2?? 19 Rg1 wins a piece The endgame is equal otherwise

18 Bf6 Bg6! Anand must have foreseen this temporary sacrifice 18--Qa1 19 Kd2 Qh1 will lead to checkmate with the black queen out of action **19 Ra3 Qd5 20 h4!?** White must return the piece but is this the best way? **20—gf6 21 h5 Qd4 22 hg6 hg6 23 Rah3 f5! 24 Rh4 f4! 25 Qf3 Rac8 26 Rf4 Qc5 27 c3 Kg7 28 Rhh4 Qe5 29 g3 Qe1 30 Kc2 Rcd8 31 Rd4 Qe5 32 Rhf4 Qc7 33 Qe3 e5!** Now black holds all the trumps

34 Rd8 Rd8 35 Re4 Rd5 36 g4 b5 37 g5 Qd6 38 f3 a5 39 Qe2 Qe6 40 Qh2 Qf5! Control of the d-line and less exposed king is enough to win, the extra pawn is just a bonus

41 Qg3 Qd7 42 Qe1 (See Diagram) **b4!** Checkmate is the quickest way **43 cb4 Qa4 44 b3 Q a2 45 Kc3 a4! 46 ba4 Qa3 47 Kc2 Qa4 48 Kc3 Qa3 49 Kc2 Rd3!** (0-1) The threat is 50--**Qb3 51 Kc1 Rc3 52 Kd2 Qc2** checkmate. White cannot play **50 Qb1 Qc3** either so he must lose at least queen for rook

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

HIGH cards often cause an optical illusion in the game of bridge and even international players are not immune to this ailment Today's hand from this year s European Open Team championship won by Britain, is a case in point -

Dealer North — E W vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ Q J 6 5
♥ K 6 5 3
♦
♣ K J 10 6 3

WEST
♠ 10
♥ A 8 7
♦ A K Q 9 8 2
♣ 9 8 7

EAST
♠ 2
♥ J 10 9
♦ J 10 7 5 4
♣ A Q 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 9 8 7 4 3
♥ Q 4 2
♦ 6 3
♣ 5

Playing in five spades after a spirited auction that placed the heart ace with West was the promising young Dutch player Berry Westra He ruffed the opening high diamond lead in dummy, crossed over in spades, and led a club to the king and ace. Back came the heart jack which was ducked round to the king. Club jack a smooth low club from East after long thought Westra ruffed playing West for an original holding of Q x x in clubs One down.

I am sure many readers would find nothing wrong with Westra's line, putting the loss down to a misguess in clubs However, as Westra himself pointed out later, try playing the hand if dummy's club honours are replaced by small cards At trick two a club is led from the table, ultimately setting up and enjoying the fifth club for a heart discard with the aid of three club ruffs, the three remaining spades and the heart king providing the entries required So, on the actual hand also, Westra should have played a club off the table at trick two making whenever clubs break 4 3 rather than be required to guess the club position. The club honours had caused a temporary disorder in Westra's eyesight, as it does with most of us all the time

Santanu Ghose

CRICKET CRITICS

CRICKET IN MANY LANDS by Tony Lewis (Hodder; 240pp; £14.99)

'THESE touring teams do something from a political point of view in bringing our cricketing kinsmen across the seas in touch with those of the mother country'. So wrote P.F. Warner in his somewhat plodding *Cricket in Many Climes*, published in 1900. Tony Lewis, in his not dissimilarly named book, writes of a world made less exotic by speedy air travel and perhaps less tolerant because of the closer familiarity among nations in this post colonial age. Lewis' affection for India is patent and his disapproval of excessive short-pitched bowling is strongly expressed, as is his detestation of boorish behaviour on the field. Towards the end, adding his erudite voice to the dire warning now widely heard, he writes: 'The administrators of the game have been subjecting cricket's good to marketing gain...The game is being artificially sustained and is losing its character along the way.'

His chief target, at the time and subsequently, is the so-called Packer revolution, where he is at his most penetrative. Along the way there are sad little hopes, destined to be unfulfilled, such as the belief, in 1979, that 'the Australian Board will surely try to restrict the number of jarring advertisements which appear between overs' (on TV). He confesses that he instructed Greig to slow it to 12 overs an hour at Calcutta in 1973. He writes of the hazards



of after-dinner speaking. He reminds us of the supremacy of Barry Richards in his day. He smiles affectionately at Clive Radley's 'classical nudge'. He warns that South Africa's infighting could become motivated by religion.

The book, refreshingly unspoiled by misprints and factual error, is unillustrated, though this hardly matters. Only the 'afterword' is freshly written. The rest is mainly from his newspaper writings since 1975. A man could be tempted to start reading the *Sunday Telegraph*.

TESTING TIMES by Graham Gooch (Robson; 254pp; £9.95)

ENGLAND's captain, the man who above all others has carried the XI to its recovery over the past two years, discloses his inner feelings only rarely. And so it is in this book, where the tone is managerial and discreet, though not completely without shots of emotion. He makes no attempt to disguise his disgust at how some of his England team let him down on the 1990-91 Australian tour, or at the occasional outbursts of 'sledging' by the opposition. He even expresses disappointment at one or two umpiring decisions, something he would shun during or straight after a Test. He regrets falling short of Sobers' world record in the 1990 Lord's Test, when tiredness suddenly got the better of him at 333, and he remains irritated at some of the derogatory remarks aimed at the Indian bowling in that match.

Despite the serious hand injuries during the tours of West Indies and Australia, Gooch has piled up over 2300 runs in the 18 Tests he has played in that time, elevating his overall Test average to something more in keeping with his talents. His method is fairly simple, like his prose style. He points out that while Robin Smith may duck and dive in face of the bouncer bowlers, he usually prefers to play the short ball. It is not that he is less fit and agile and youthful, for he is among the fittest men in the side. It's just that this is *his* selected way of handling the problem. And didn't he do it gainfully at Headingley last summer, when his unbeaten 154 spelt defeat for West Indies?

Test by Test he summarises the past action-packed 18 months of England's international contests, believing still that Jamaica saw the most important of the half dozen victories, and asserting, after the deep disappointment in Trinidad, that he 'will never look at a clear blue sky again and feel safe'.

It was not just the weather and West Indies go-slow that cost England dearly on that tour. Injuries piled up calamitously. How many can name the England XI's No. 6 and wicketkeeper(s) in the Barbados match preceding the fourth Test? Time and again he refers to Fraser's high class, and how much it was missed.

There are misprints and oversights in a book obviously produced in a hurry: Gooch even downgrades his OBE to an MBE, though the story of the Palace investiture ends

Facing page: Gooch tries his hand at writing at the same time exposing Allan Lamb's (inset) fetish for gambling with hermit crabs

Despite his serious hand injuries during the tours of West Indies and Australia, Gooch has piled up over 2300 runs in the 18 Tests he has played in that time.



amusingly, with father Alf chatting to Her Majesty before wrapping up some Dundee cake to take home to Rose, Gooch's mother.

Other bright strokes are the revelation of Lamb's nobbling of a hermit crab in a race for stakes, and a New York cricket entrepreneur's reference to the captain of West Indies as 'Vince Robinson'. Gooch confesses to underbowling himself; finds the warning of Capel for bowling long-hops in Antigua quite absurd; favours the sending-off of players of dissent; and utters a heart-felt plea for two days of rest per week during the season. The 38-page statistical section at the rear of this paperback shows clearly enough who the architect and builder-in-chief of England's new epoch has been.

David Frith
WISDEN CRICKET MONTHLY

ANGELA LEVIN ENCOUNTERS SUSAN PIGGOTT, WIFE OF THE WORL

SUSAN PIGGOTT is the first to admit that she's more relaxed with horses than people. 'On the whole they are much nicer,' she says 'Unless they are given cause to be bad-tempered or spiteful, they won't be

Journalists also happen to be her least favourite people, so it was no wonder that she viewed me with caution. It had taken me well over a year to persuade her to talk to me She rarely gives interviews, particularly since her husband Lester was imprisoned in 1987 for tax offences (He admitted a £3 1 million tax fraud) And even though she finally agreed, she found the experience a difficult one

Although we were talking at her home in Newmarket, she couldn't sit still for long and grabbed the telephone with obvious relief whenever it rang At times she looked so anxious and vulnerable I felt like giving her a reassuring hug That or trying to grow a mane of hair and a couple of extra legs for the afternoon Discussing horses and her success as a horse-trainer was relatively easy. (She has long been thought of as the power behind the saddle.) Discussing anything about her enigmatic husband—the world's greatest jockey—was not

I waited a long while before gently asking how she had coped with his imprisonment 'Lester told me I wasn't to talk about it,' she said

Has the experience changed him? 'I don't think either of us has changed and I have nothing but good to say about the way we were treated by the staff Me on my visits to Highpoint and him while he was there.'

Had she expected him to be imprisoned? (She had collapsed in tears when he was led away to the cells) 'I wasn't entirely surprised. It happened. It's over and neither of us are any the worse for it Compared to what happens to some people, what happened to us wasn't the end of the world.'



Gautam Patole

How had she coped on her own? 'I'm reasonably self-reliant and happy with my own company. Lester has always been away a lot I'm very close to my daughters [Maureen who is married to a trainer and Tracy who is a racing presenter for Irish television], and leant on them. We also had a tremendous number of letters from people all over the world '

Had she felt humiliated? 'I don't like talking about feelings. I suppose if I have changed at all I am perhaps less emotional n w, which is probab-

Discussing horses and her success as a horse trainer was relatively easy. (She has long been thought of as the power behind the saddle.) Discussing anything about her enigmatic husband—the world's greatest jockey—was not

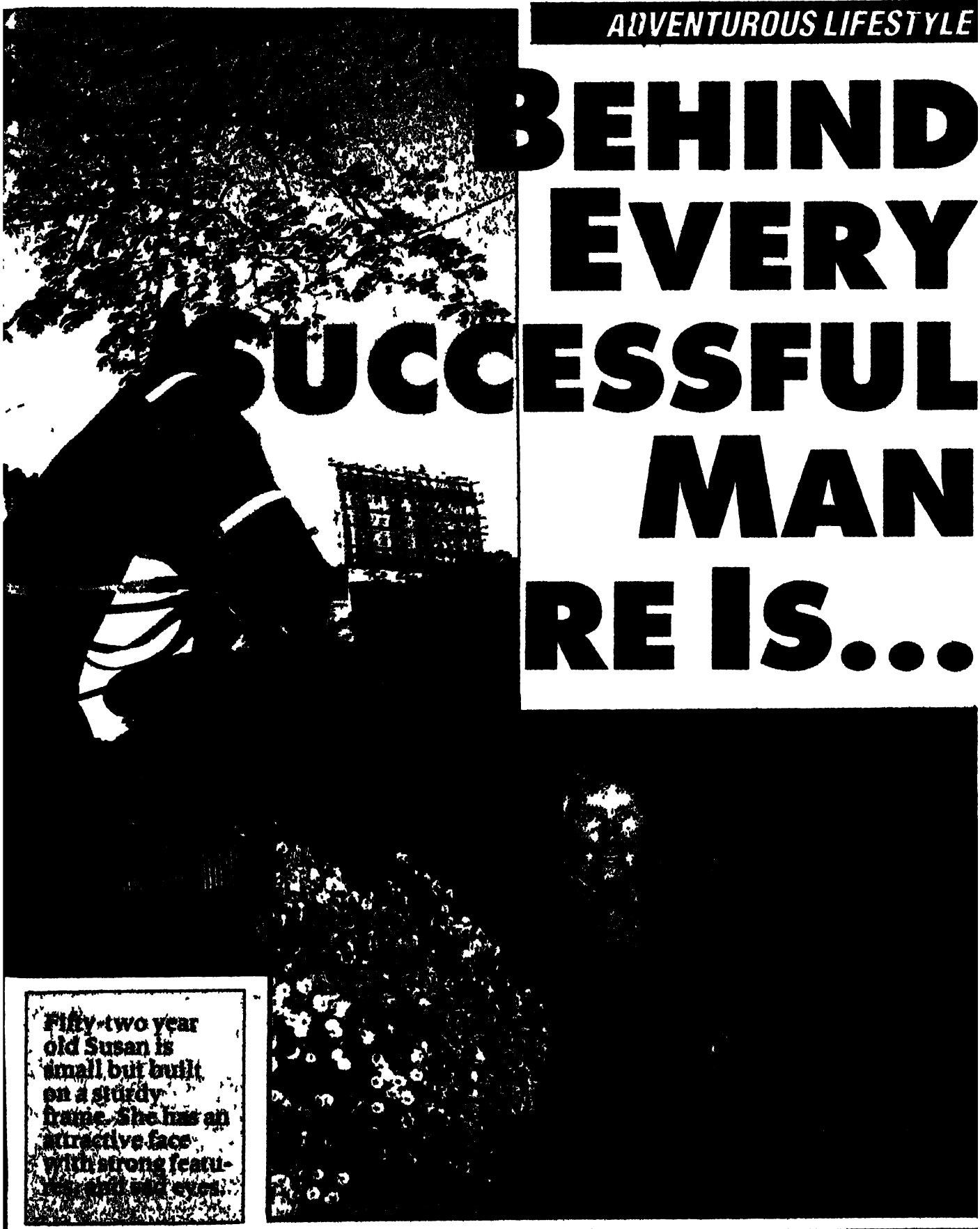
not a bad thing. Also, during Lester's career he has had many fairly horrific accidents. I've never got sed to them, but they've enabled me to build up a mechanism to shield me from reality. He's broken practically every bone in his body, fractured his skull and nearly lost an ear.

'It's a terrible shock each time he's had an accident and actually a lot worse than what has happened to him recently.'

Did she disapprove of him going back to racing in his mid 50s? 'It took me a bit by surprise. We hadn't talked about it. But in fact I thought it was a tremen-

GREATEST JOCKEY...LESTER PIGGOTT...AND TELLS THE STORY OF AN ADVENTUROUS LIFESTYLE

BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL MAN RE IS...



Fifty-two year old Susan is small but built on a sturdy frame. She has an attractive face with strong features and eyes.

dously good idea I m not actually nervous when he rides, which he can do as many as ten times a day but if I hear there's been a fall even if Lester s not riding then I feel shaken to the core

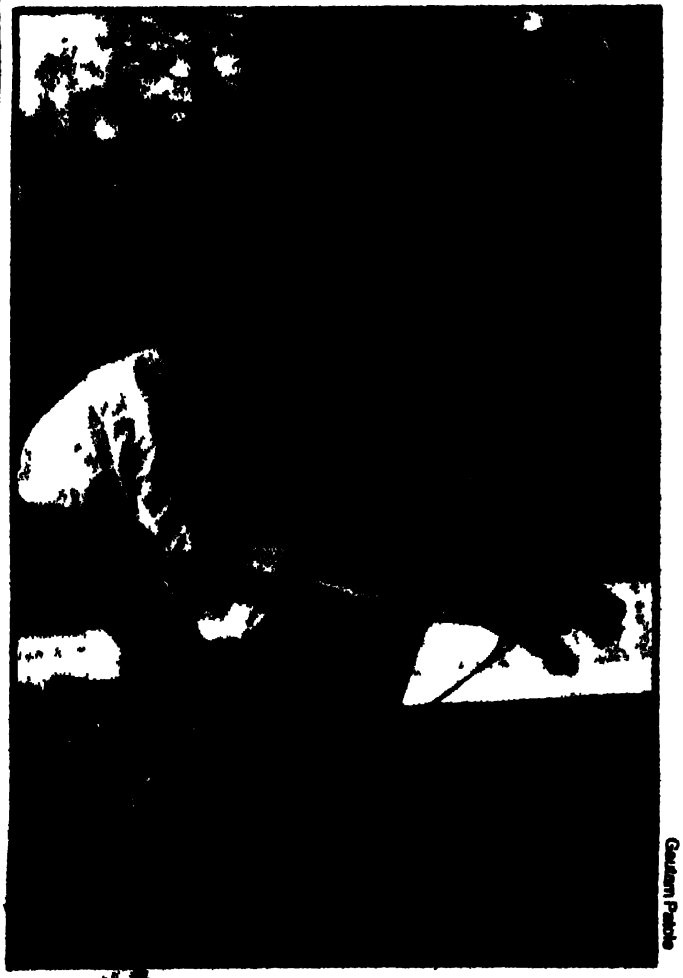
He s enjoying riding again immensely and I think he s riding every bit as well It helped that the few accidents he d had in the 80s that were troubling him had settled down in the years he didn t ride and his weight hadn t increased He certainly got off to a marvellous start with his win at Chepstow on Nicholas a horse I trained I had a picture painted afterwards

Did he go back to racing for the money? Earning money wasn t a consideration she said firmly Despite Lesters personal fortune he has a reputation for hoarding and extreme meanness Is money important to her?

I m not money orientated at all We have never lived extravagantly I can t stand waste of any sort That was instilled into me by my father

Fifty two year old Susan is small but built on a sturdy frame She has an attractive face with strong features and sad eyes She has needed her strength not only to cope with Lester s imprisonment but to fight to regain her health after a near fatal fall from a horse while he was away

'I was exercising a racehorse and as we cantered up to the top of the hill I remember thinking, I m



Graham Peters

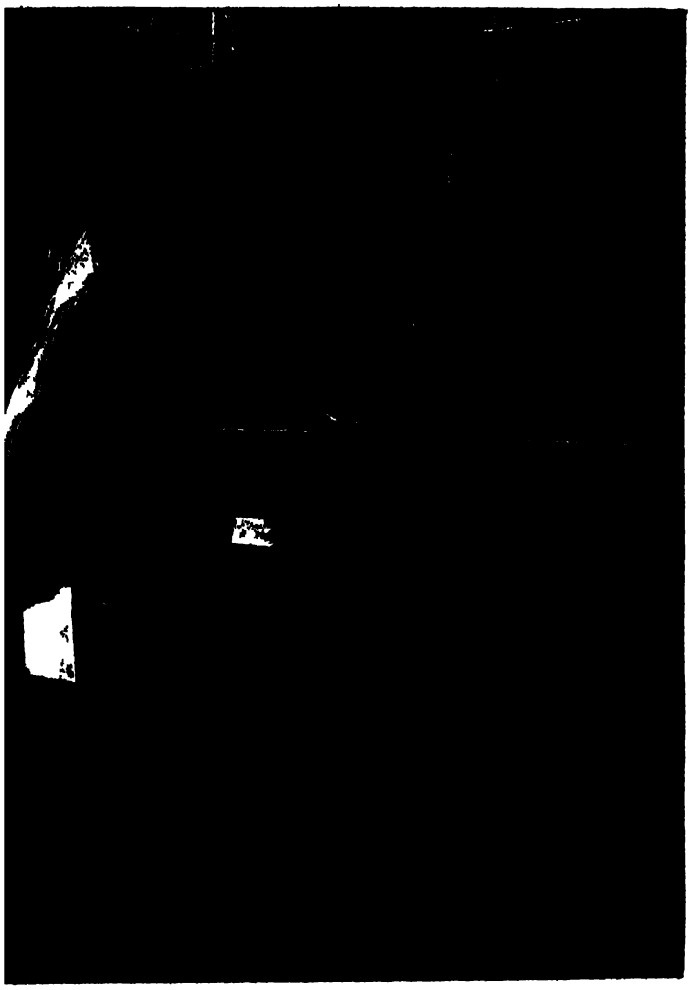


not going to be able to pull up to a safe trot

I decided to turn left and that's all I know I think he lost his legs and crashed down on me Luckily my safety helmet had no dents in it, otherwise I would have died As it was I had three fractures of the skull, broke all the ribs down the left side, broke my collarbone, damaged my shoulder and other bits and pieces Everyone had fearful worries about me lying in a heap I wasn't actually in a coma but my eyes stayed closed I was on a ventilator so I couldn't speak, but I could hear what people were saying all the time It happened on August 19, 1988 and I don't think I actually opened my eyes until September 2 Then, when they moved me from intensive care into a side ward, I did nothing but cry my eyes out for a week and demand to be sent home '

She has made a marvellous recovery but there have been some lasting effects 'One of them is that I am now a shade forgetful unless it is something tied up with horses. Another is that I sometimes find it hard to put things into words I also get more tired and now catnap anywhere.'

She began riding again four months later 'with', she says, 'just as much confidence and enjoyment as I have always done'. She is also working just as hard 'I'm up at 5.15 am I find early mornings very



much easier than late nights.

'Even when Lester held the licence [trainers can not operate without one; Susan was given a temporary licence when Lester was in prison and later granted a full licence in her own right] I was the one who did the day-to-day running of the yard. Lester, however, still does a lot of the assessment of the horses.'

Now that nowadays there is that much to assess. Her five-star training stables in Newmarket, which were built in the early 70s to take 90 horses and at one time coped with 125, had, when I visited, a mere 30 occupants.

WAS it just the recession or is she being shunned by some of the racing fraternity after his imprisonment? 'I think it's the recession, plus the reduction in prize money, plus the increased cost in keeping horses.' She paused. 'When Lester had his problems, we had great support from our friends and nobody took any horses away.' Susan never once mentioned the word prison, using instead euphemisms like 'his difficulties', 'his problems' or 'when he was away'.

There is, however, no question of her giving up. 'I'm lucky to do something I love. It's a good and satisfying life working with animals. The enigma of horse-racing and what makes it so fascinating is that although some years nothing goes right, tomorrow we could hit the jackpot. Whether you are owner, trainer or jockey you never know when your turn is going to come.'

At 17 she 'got together' with Lester and they married when she was 20 and he 24. 'We married in February—during the off-season—and had our honeymoon in the South of France where there was horse-racing. We couldn't get too far away from horses. Lester was already enormously successful and in the first year of our marriage won the Derby.'

She had her first daughter Maureen, 'who takes after Lester', when she was 21, and Tracy, 'who takes after me', at 24. 'I was just as unprepared for being a mother,' she adds

After her second child she gave up racing horses herself. 'I went back to it in 75 but broke my pelvis.'

'I believe that out of the very worst things good things come, even if it is learning how to prevent it happening again. I'm a fatalist. I wouldn't have had any part of my life any other way'....Susan Piggott

Instead she developed a bloodstock agency to buy and sell horses. 'I sometimes went to the sales with a pushchair and whenever Lester and I travelled to far-flung places I would sell a horse or two. I enjoyed it.'

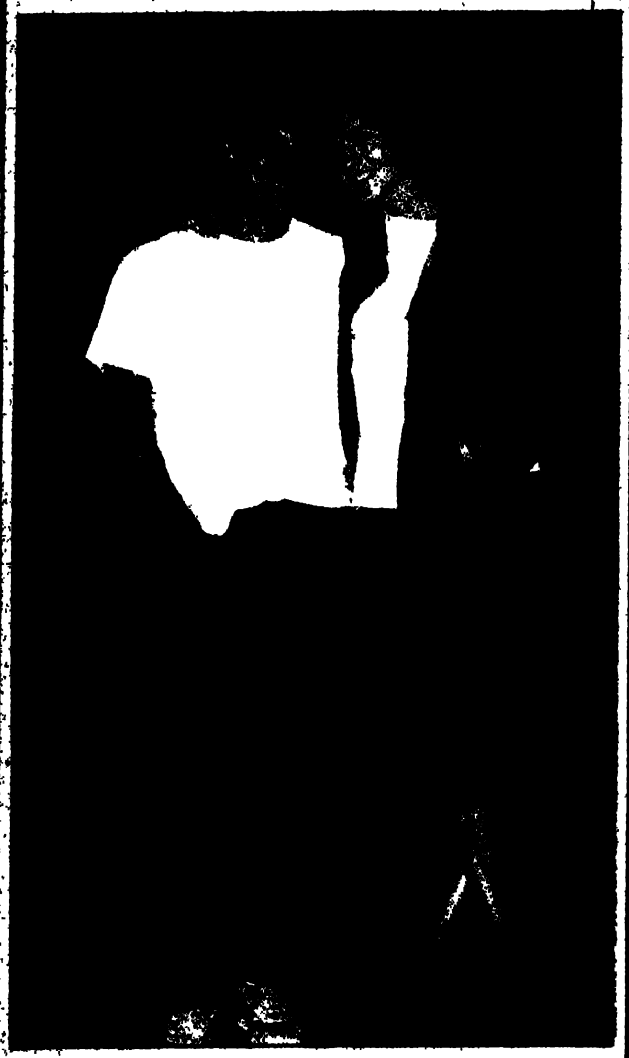
Neither of them foresaw how long and successful Lester's career would be and they began to plan for the future. 'We thought that he would train even tually and started organising this place as early as 1970.' Their priorities were very clear. 'The stables went up first and then in 1975 we built the house.'

Is she homely? 'I like the house but I'm not one of those who decorate every three years.' Despite a swimming pool in the garden it's a modest house with four bedrooms The sitting-room is furnished simply in rather drab colours, perhaps not to distract the eye from the main source of interest which is horses. These can be seen in every shape, size and material on every surface.

They do not go out much. 'Neither of us is extroverted. Lester has always been thought of as taciturn and undemonstrative. But he also has a marvellous sense of humour. I take it all as part of the package. It's been a fact of my life with him for the last 32 years.'

How does she see the next few years? 'I take each day as it comes. I'm inclined to look back rather than forward and believe you shape the future from learning about the past.'

What has she learned about the past? 'I believe that out of the very worst things good things come, even if it is learning how to prevent it happening again. I'm a fatalist. I wouldn't have had any part of my life any other way.' ●



Mats and Sonya Wilander: promoting a new concept in marriage

WILANDER'S 'OPEN MARRIAGE'

Behind closed doors

FILE this piece of info if you guys are into things like promiscuity and other offside scenarios. The affair with your wife, is the only thing that's legal; the others are classified under the topic of 'open marriage.'

Or at least that's what Swedish tennis ace (history, history) Mats Wilander recently told the Swedish newspaper *Expressen*. Wilander told them that he had taken vacations with women other than his wife, Sonya. He also said the two of them were not thinking of divorce as such. Just a more 'open marriage.'

GORBY LANDS A JOB

Boxing day!

THINGS aren't all that bad for Mikhail Gorbachev. The poor guy lost a job on Christmas Day but soon landed another one. Gorby was made the honorary member and 'lifelong counsellor' of the World Boxing Council for primarily opening the door to all professional boxing bouts in the U.S.S.R. (remember it?). Jose Sulaiman, the WBC President, had this to say about Gorbachev: "Mikhail Gorbachev will always be known as the man who placed Russia, the Soviet countries and Eastern Europe on the map of professional boxing."

Well, not just boxing. There were things like perestroika and glasnost too. But who cares about all that now?

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!





A SPOT OF BOTHAM

Going to pot

THOUGH IAN BOTHAM did not leave with the England team to New Zealand—courtesy the pantomime he was acting in—the English team, however, had the mortification of seeing his name splashed on the front pages of the tabloids on the day of their departure.

Once again, Botham is being linked with drugs and whether the charges stick or not, the story could not have been more ill timed. It was in New Zealand in 1983 when the first Botham drug stories were leaked out; and this is his first return to the country which has always treated him with suspicion rather than idolatry.

A package of cannabis was found in the bedroom of the house where Botham was staying while carrying out his acting formalities. When questioned about it, he snapped: "Someone has been feeding you a line... I know nothing about it and I have nothing to say on the subject." That's Botham for you.

Ian Botham: familiar smell of a drug scandal

GUILTY BY SUSPICION

Tyson goes free

THE NEW YEAR could have brought with it—among a lot of other things—a lot of hope for ex-champ turned alleged rapist, Mike Tyson. One of the people (out of the hundreds) who wanted to see his downfall finally decided to drop charges against him.

J. Morris Anderson, the founder of the Miss Black America pageant has decided to drop a $407 million lawsuit against Tyson because he believes that several contestants had lied while testifying that Tyson had fondled them during the beauty contest. Anderson's lawsuit had previously accused Tyson of molesting the 1990 Miss Black America and 10 contestants in the 1991 pageant.

"In the interest of good cheer, we heard someone [illegible]

[illegible] decide him are not costly to [illegible]



freewheeling

'LAMB'S great mistake is to try and fetch the off-ball to leg,' declared the Old Stager. 'Does it continuously. That's why 'e'll niver make it.'

England's most loyal supporter was ensconced on a bench overlooking the green at Flitworthingham, whither the side had assembled for its midweek match. As was his custom, he was distributing knowledge and advice with his typical generosity.

'Leg is leg and off is off, lads. Niver confuse the two'.

'But it seems natural to pull some balls on the off to leg', ventured the Computer Programmer. 'If you've got the time, of course,' he added hurriedly, as a frown deepened the creases of the wrinkled face.

'Yer *might* do it if yer was Andy Sandham and yer had 150 to yer name and the match was virtually in Surrey's pocket. *Then* yer might do it. But yer not Andy Sandham, are yer?'

The Computer Programmer conceded his deficiency in this respect.

'Well then!' admonished the Old Stager in a vindicated tone. He surveyed his audience. 'How many of yer iver saw Joe Hardstaff?'

'Senior or junior?' enquired the Accountant, who knew a thing or two about past cricketers. But the Old Stager was not prepared to countenance cross-examination.

'Now, Joe said something very wise. Not a Surrey man, but by gawd, 'e had bat. And 'e said: "If it's leg, 'it it to leg; if it's off, 'it it to off; and if it's middle stump, choose for thasen."'.

'Well, the advice did all right for him, I believe,' said the Captain, '...or for *them*, both of them.'

'Yer right, lad', said the Old Stager, mollified by agreement. 'Not that they iver played together that I knows of. Not like George Gunn and 'is son—now they played in the same side'.

'Were there any other examples of father and son playing together?' enquired the Accountant.

'Not that I knows of, boy', responded the Old Stager thoughtfully, leaning his chin on his stick, 'though there *was* the case of V.Y. Richardson, the Australian Test player, who could of played with 'is grandsons, the Chappells, except that 'e was far too old'.

'That's the trouble with grandfathers—they often are,' observed the Van Boy, whose limbering-up exercises concluded with an imaginary beamer to the Old Stager's head.

'Then there was the Graces,' continued the Old Stager almost dreamily. 'Fathers and sons and brothers all over the place. Not Surrey men, of course, but by gawd, they couldn't 'alf bat and bowl. They 'ad a mother as well.'

'What did *she* do—knit them their battin' gloves?' quipped the Van Boy, but he might as well have been addressing the desert air. The Old Stager was lost in reverie.

'Did you ever see WG, sir?' enquired the Accountant with awe in his voice. The Old Stager slowly swivelled his head on his stick to face the Accountant, while he thought of an appropriate answer.

'I niver seen 'im exactly...as it were ...precisely ... hisself,' he admitted, in a matter which suggested that it had been a damn close-run thing, 'on account 'e stopped playing reg'lar just when I was born. But I *do* remember 'is funeral.' He blew his nose with his fingers as a mark of his emotional remembrance of, and respect for, the event.

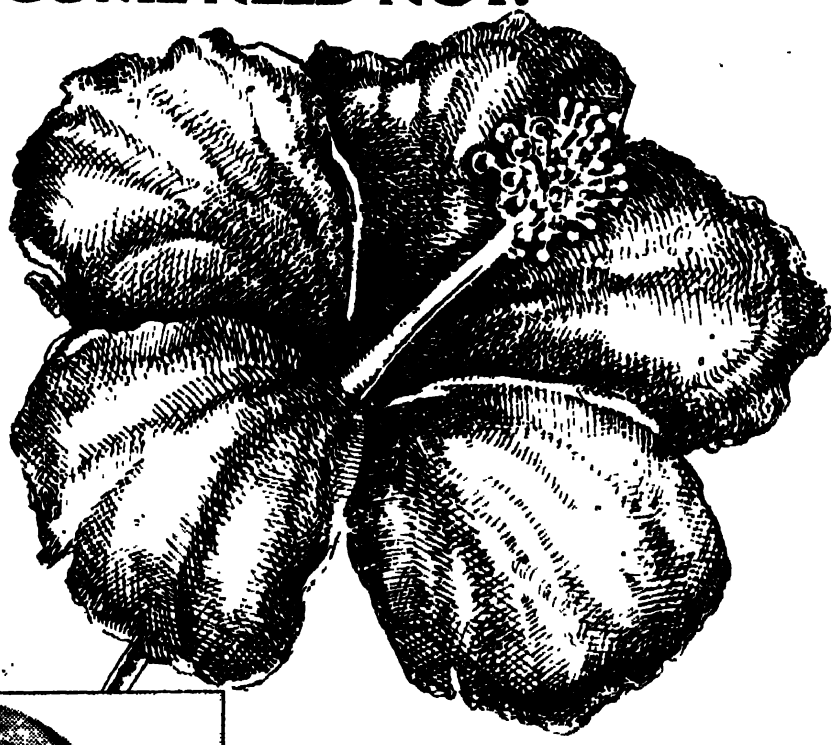
'Well, chaps,' said the Captain, rising purposefully, 'I think they're ready to start. While we're batting, let's remember that off is off and leg ..isn't. Thanks, Charlie. Off you go, boys. A pint for anyone who scores a twenty.'



Basil Banks

WISDEN CRICKET MONTHLY

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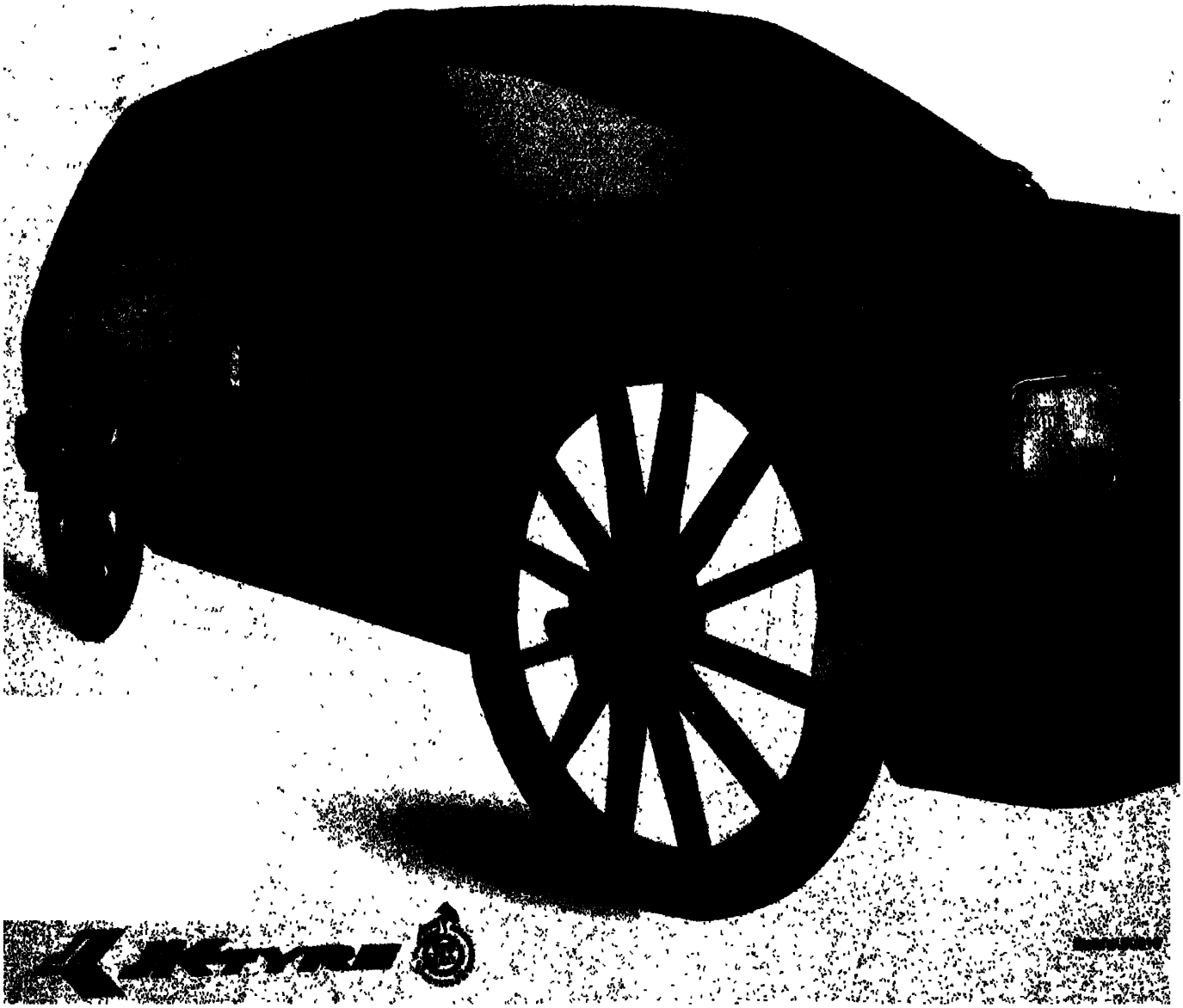
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VOICES

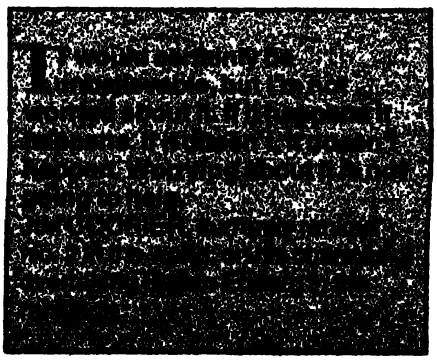


COLORSPORT

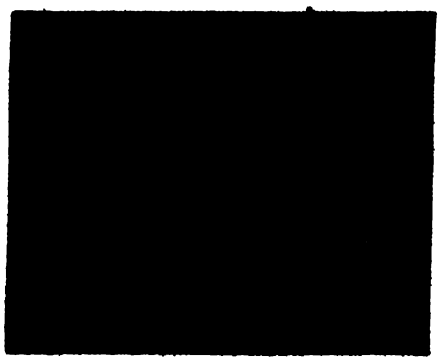
AFTER Barcelona, all countries will have the right to parade with a flag in the Olympics, but many will not have the right to compete. It's the end of Olympic tourism.
IOC President, JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH on raising the qualifying standards for the future Olympic Games.

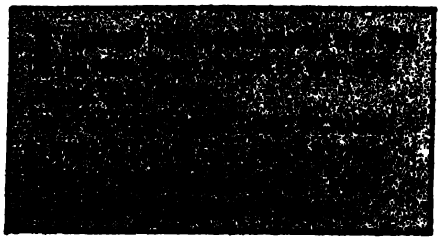


AP



UNLESS there's a drastic change, this is going to be my last year. I feel good about it because you have to make a decision and I feel good about the decision. I'm leaving the door open, but I also realise that as each year passes it's going to be that much tougher to possibly win a big tournament.
JOHN McENROE agrees to have finally come to terms with the fact that he has lost the edge that made him a great player.





EVERYTHING 'phoren' is good while the same thing Indian is not. These are the same guys who will criticise a slow Shastri innings but will say what a team effort it was if Geoff Marsh or Mark Taylor scored even more slowly.
SUNIL GAVASKAR *hits out at* the Indian psychology that foreign commentators are much better than their Indian counterparts.

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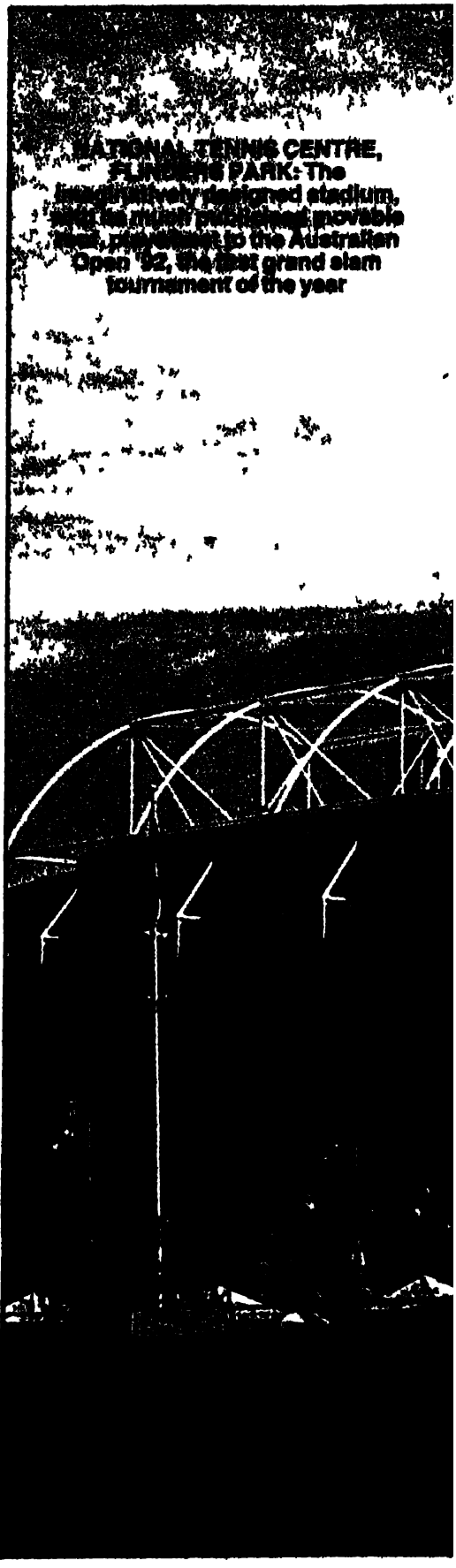
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NATIONAL TENNIS CENTRE, FLINDERS PARK: The imaginatively designed stadium, with its major buildings, movable roof, played host to the Australian Open '92, the first grand slam tournament of the year

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Pg. 6



The Aussie brains trust wanted a team that would blend together well. They got it

THE AUSSIE SQ

THEY'RE like a cold expressionless army marching on a winter morning. Tense. Concerned. But aware of where they are headed. Perhaps only the English manage to bottle themselves so well. But not with quite the same efficiency.

We're talking about the Australian one-day side.

They're like programmed assassins, these Aussies. Ruthless. Calculating. Disciplined. And almost all of them have the look of the Jackal on them. Just watch them at work and imagine what good cigarette models they'd make. The archetypal strong, silent type.

One can almost imagine that the blueprint for the assault on the World Cup is ready. Bound in grey and kept in a steel cabinet

By contrast, the Indians and Pakistanis, with their exuberance and individual brilliance seem like excited kids at a picnic. They're wide-eyed, they're expressive and irrespective of which way



RAJESH KUMAR

a match is going, there is a joie-de-vivre about them.

Just imagine you were reading newspaper reports, or listening to a radio commentary. And on the basis of what you had read, or heard, were asked to draw portraits of the Aussies. Boon? Marsh? The Waughs? McDermott? It would be a nightmare

Only two people seem to stand out, to have an individuality about them Dean Jones And Merv Hughes Both great fighters, but both capable of dissolving tense moments with a touch of lightheartedness Both, ironical as the usage must seem, are Victorian!

There are many who believe Hughes and Jones play to the gallery But to do that successfully is what stardom is all about, isn't it?



KAMAL JUKA

HIT UAD!

Jones has the crowd on its feet by the sheer fury of his running. Where only two are possible, he'll run two and a half! And where there can be two and a quarter, he'll complete three, often ending with

Merv Hughes would have been a star anywhere

The Australian one-day outfit might have the character of a commando unit...but they're as lethal on the field

a flourish that takes him ten yards further. When he is chasing a ball, he impersonates a bloodhound. When he's throwing, it's like aiming through telescopic sights.

The crowd loves it. And when "Deano" is in the act, the heaviness goes out of the game. Never the intensity.

Ditto with Merv Hughes. Only, he's a bit more of a clown than Jones is. He'll fire two quick ones at you, then bowl a leg break. He'll stare at you like you've stolen his girl one minute, and dissolve into laughter the next. Apart from Curtly Ambrose, he's got probably the most telegenic face in the game. But Hughes would have been a star with TV too. For he has the aura, the presence, to have a stadium full of people moving to his rhythm.

Jones and Hughes. Hughes and Jones. In this Australian team, like clowns in a boardroom.

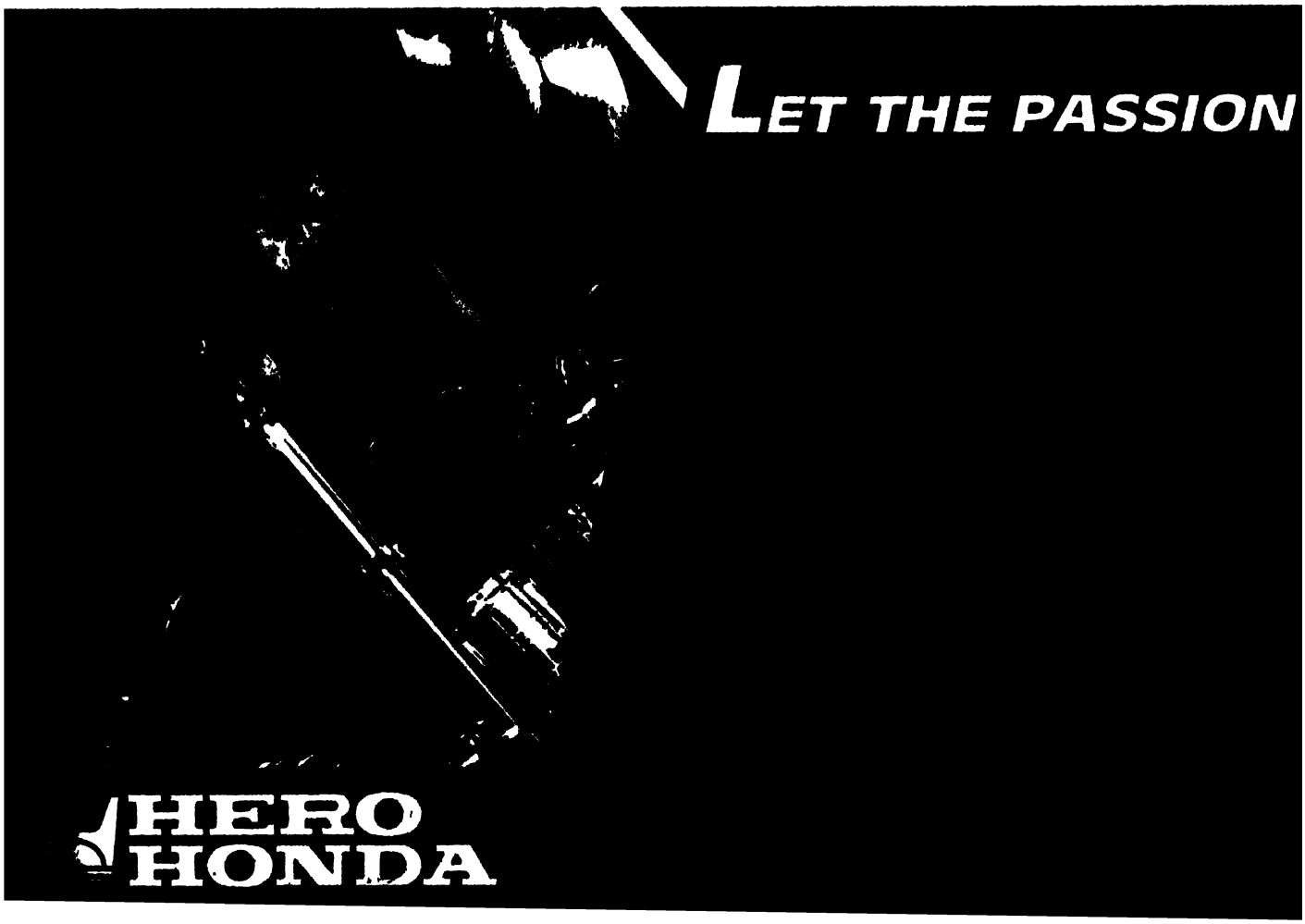
But what of the rest? Try and give David Boon an expression! Or Mark Taylor. Or Geoff Marsh. Or Steve Waugh. Or Ian Healy. Or Mike Whitney. Under their helmets, there is so little life to them. We complain that the helmets have taken a lot of character out of the game. It's especially true of the Aussies.

Allan Border said a couple of weeks ago that when the Australian side was being rebuilt a few years ago, they looked as much at a player's character, his psyche, as at his playing ability. They were looking at painting a complete picture, not a collection of jigsaw pieces. At someone who would merge into a side rather than stick out. Like Tim Zoehrer did. Or Greg Matthews did. And under Sgt. Maj. Simpson, they have been drilled into a crack commando squad.

There are many who believe Hughes and Jones play to the gallery. But to do that successfully is what stardom is all about

Come to think of it, have you ever seen a commando double up in laughter? Or wink at somebody when no one is watching?

One can almost imagine, from the way they go about it, that the blueprint for the assault on the World Cup is ready. Bound in grey and kept in a steel cabinet. And codenamed Project Turtlehawk. Or Operation Python 923. Or something equally secretive! Almost certainly Allan Border would have compiled a dossier on each team. If





MOINUDEEN HAMEED

The crowd can't get enough of 'Deano' Jones

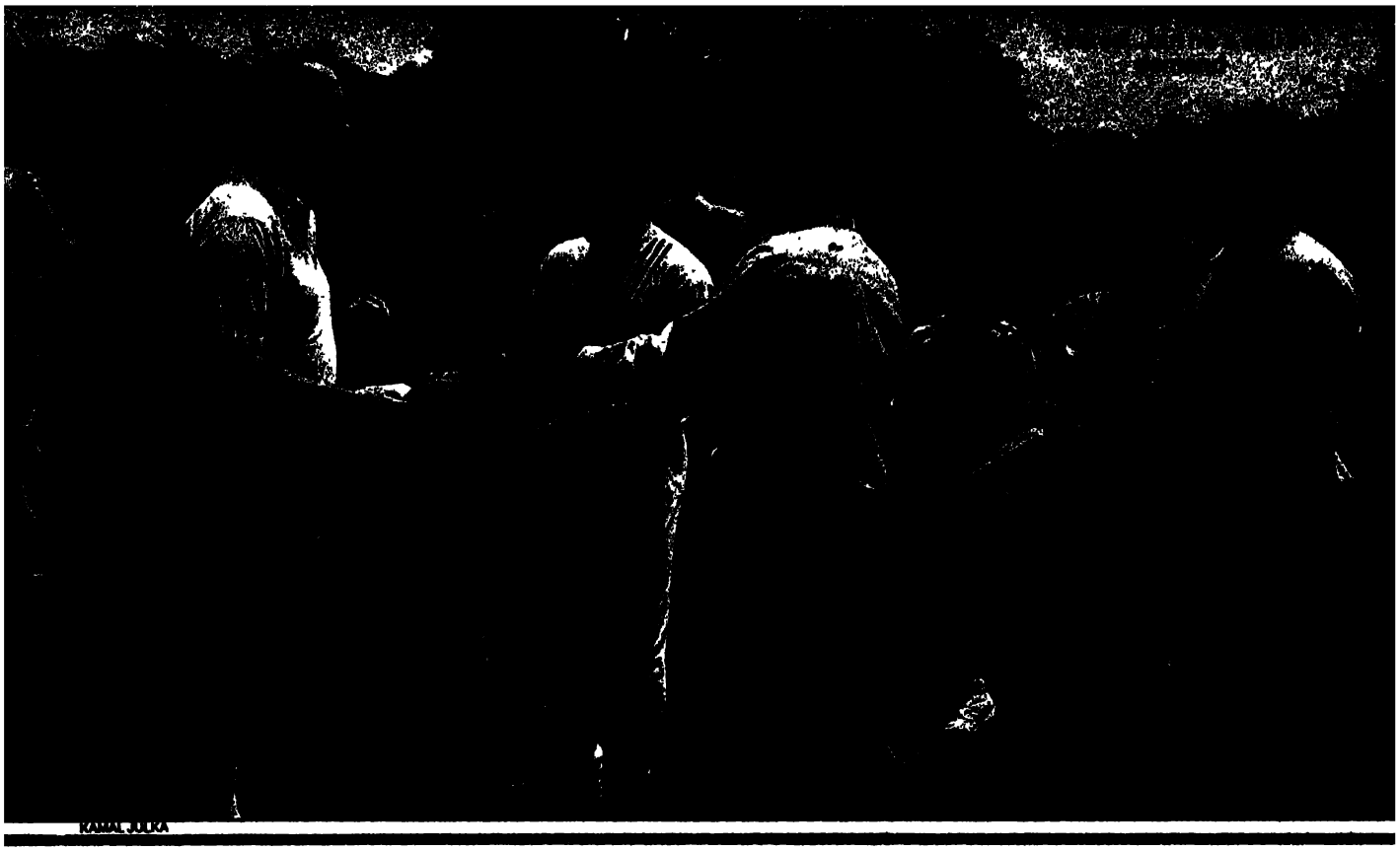
not bound in grey, certainly tucked away in that ocean of grey matter inside him.

It's typical of the man. And his side. History will remember this Australian one-day team as a superb fighting unit, unmatched in the art of scientific combat. One of the best the game has seen when it comes to tactical finesse.

The Australians aren't great entertainers. But then, over a longer time frame, the world applauds a winner rather than an entertainer. And that's what they are: winners, this cold expressionless, efficient Aussie army.

Harsha Bhogle, Melbourne





KAMAL JULKA

G'DAY



KAMAL JULKA

MATES!

Andy O'Brien gets his first taste of the hectic surge in cricketing form that the World Series competition evokes...

ONE day cricket in Australia has it all. If the triangular contest this summer didn't have all the ingredients, at least for the first part of the tournament, the West Indies added the missing spice to set up an almost unbelievable climax. Unbelievable to the point of it seeming too good to be true. Unbelievable to the extent that there were some who even doubted the genuinity of the results.

Any such thoughts would not only be ridiculous but would also deprive Richardson and his team of their due. In a series of events that lasted four days, the West Indies took the tournament by the scruff of the neck and turned it inside out like a hungry lion would do to its prey. And there was no doubt that Richardson and his men were hungry...for success. Richardson's two half centuries over those four days epitomised the despair and desperate hope of his team. In both innings he played not with authority or his consummate fluency, but with mere determination. In spite of the limitations of those innings, at least where style is concerned, the fact that he managed to spend more than three hours at the crease over that weekend in Brisbane after mustering a mere 64 runs in his last eight one day innings', speaks for itself.

Just as it seemed that the confidence of the new-look West Indian team lay in ruins along with the skipper's own batting form, Richardson showed that he as the leader was willing to take up the challenge and resurrect his dying team. Suddenly the Windies were running hot.

After having managed a lone point in their first five matches, they collected five more between January 9-12 converting the tournament's last league match at the MCG into a de-facto semi final.

After their batting fell apart yet again giving the Windie their first win in the tournament, India must have hoped that the hosts would do them a favour by further isolating the Caribbean team the following day. But the only favour Border's men did was to send their cricket authorities laughing all the way to the bank.

Following the fright from India in the Sydney Test, Australia it must be said were in a furrow, if not proper though. Suddenly India and the West Indies were improving and the Aussies were not looking all that unbeatable.

The West Indians took the tournament by the scruff of its neck and turned it inside out just as a hungry lion would do to its prey. And there is no doubt that Richardson and his men were hungry... for success

Only a week before they were being debated as the best Australian fielding side in the history of the game; a well knit balanced side. And then out of the blue there was talk of the Aussie problem being the lack of individual brilliance and how they should raise their standard 'man by man'. Suddenly the individual talent available to the Indians and the West Indians was supposedly narrowing the gap against the superior teamwork of the hosts.

Even though manager, Bob Simpson claimed 'it as not a time to panic,' it was obvious that the alarm bells were ringing the Aussie dressing room. Prior to their last game against India at Sydney, the Australian cricketers looked themselves away to analyse their loss of form. Each player was asked for his opinion on the matter and as the warning were told that the team for the finals would be chosen on the basis of form. The players expected that the selectors would be critical of their recent performances. Perhaps as an indication the legendery Dean Jones was dropped for that Sydney match.

"We need to get more commonsense into our batting," said Simpson. "Basically we have gone away a little from our game plan. I think there is a lack of mental urgency about our game at the moment. We have built our game around

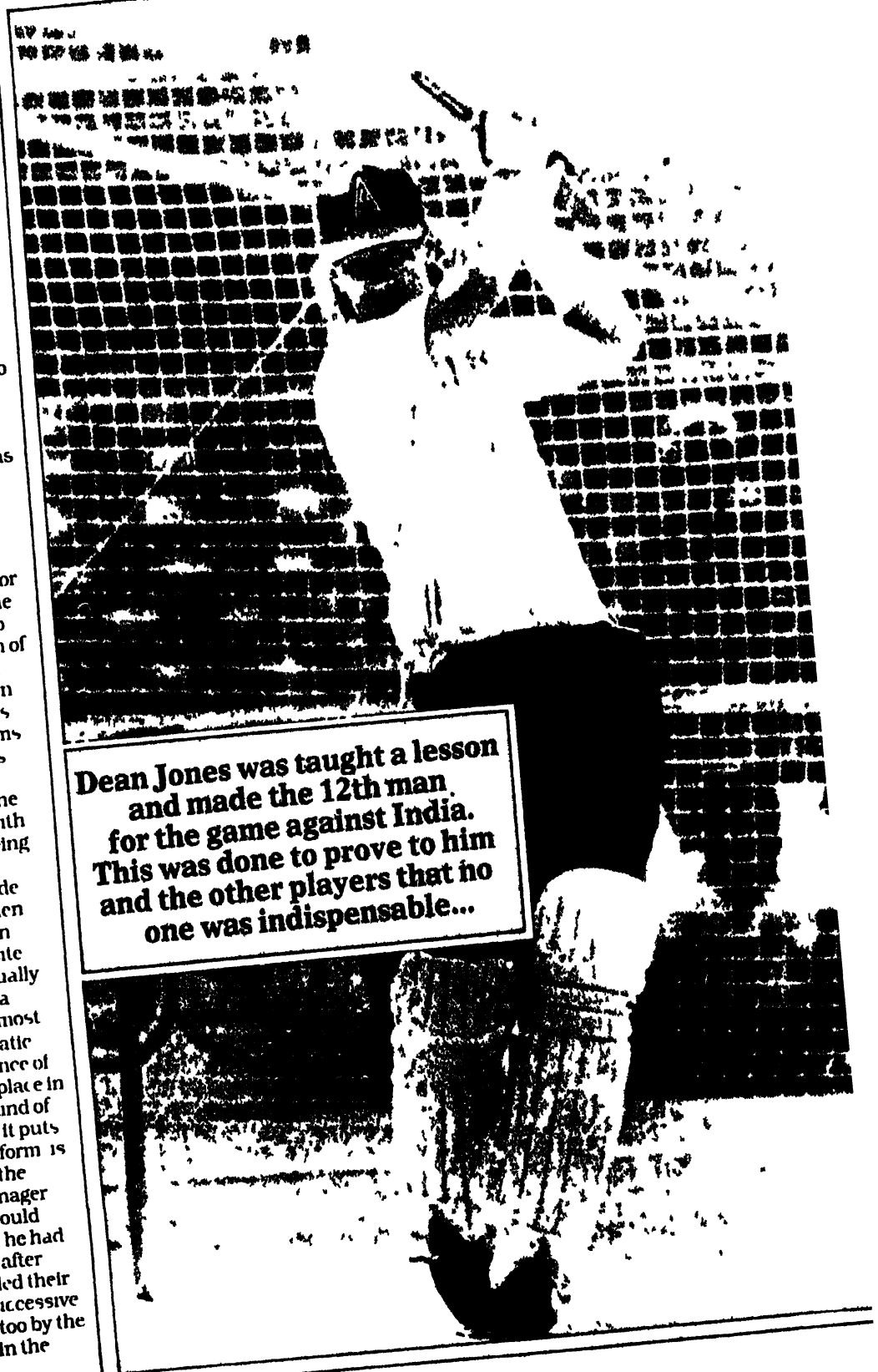
this mental urgency but somewhere we have lost it I would believe that the lack of concentration was a big factor The lack of intensity is apparent Simpson told his team

Dean Jones was taught a lesson made the twelvth man for the game against India This was done to prove to him and the other players that no one was indispensable

Vice Captain Geoff Marsh had said in a radio interview that he wasn't making excuses but the boys are so looking to the World Cup that it was hard to concentrate on anything else

But the selectors straightened that attitude out and went for the throat dumping the batsman considered to be the best in this form of cricket They made an example of him to warn the team that no one is safe unless he performs And the response was exactly what they wanted to achieve The players responded with both bat and ball being aware of the no nonsense attitude

Unfortunately when we look at the Indian team it is the opposite scenario With virtually no competition for a place in the team most players are automatic choices this absence of competition for a place in the side and the kind of positive pressure it puts on a player to perform is sadly missing in the Indian team Manager Abbas Ali Baig would have done well if he had shown the whip after India were handed their third straight successive defeat and that too by the biggest margin in the tournament



Dean Jones was taught a lesson and made the 12th man for the game against India. This was done to prove to him and the other players that no one was indispensable...



Richie Richardson: took it upon himself to rejuvenate the team

If India had indeed gone into the last game against Australia not giving it much importance, concentrating against the virtual semi-final against West Indies then it was a very wrong attitude. Winning is a habit just as losing is a contagious virus.

If India were hoping for some insurance in case their last game against the West Indies were washed out, then they were unfortunate to come up against an Australian team that was determined to return to form it has accepted as normal during recent years, which has made it the most successful team in international cricket today.

Far from gaining any confidence or a buffer against the Melbourne weather, the morale of the Indian team took another drubbing in the dirt. Skipper Azharuddin described it as the 'same old problem' of not getting too many runs. But more than the runs the problem resulting from the defeat was a mental one. After a a humiliating start to the tour, India began looking like dangerous opposition. But with the West Indies being allowed to gain confidence and the Australians revitalising themselves, India trailed in spirit and in points.

Whatever the final outcome of the tournament, there is no denying that the Indian performance has been very much a roller coaster ride. And like in a roller coaster the ups give you a feeling of elevation and the downs make you sick. Maybe we can find solace in the fact that the reversal of fortunes—the three teams made the World Series Competition exactly that—a competition—after a one-sided beginning. And in every competition there are winners and losers. With the winner taking it all and the loser standing small.●

Whatever the outcome of the competition, there is no denying that the Indian performance has been very much like a roller coaster ride

HE says he has lost weight, but his biceps look as strong as ever. His eyes have an intensity to them but they are looking nowhere. His step has a swagger too but it's not out of cockiness. There's confidence talking there. And then there is his Walkman. Tendulkar and the Sony. They have long heart-to-heart chats, plugged as they are perennially into each other.



Tendulkar shakes the hand that used to rule Australia...former PM Bob Hawke's

Tendulkar flaunts his Walkman like a flaming picture of youth. It's also his shield from the rest of the world, keeping his ears all to himself. And its melody keeps his eyes shut. There is no place there for the occasional nonsense that newsprint allows itself to be coated with. And none for the rumours that fly thicker than the fog sometimes.

However, the Walkman is only his second love: the occasional mistress, however blasphemous that may sound for a straightforward young man.

His religion is cricket and like those initiated into the Faith, he thinks of nothing else.

From the time he was 14, Tendulkar has displayed his talent like a badge. It's his entry ticket to the cricket grounds of the world. He's seen so many of them now. And each time he's left one, he's



RAJESH KUMAR

SACHIN TENDULKAR

SHEER GENIUS

risen an inch in stature.

But in Australia this year, he has grown a couple of feet. It's been a dismal tour at times, disappointing at best. But to watch this young man grow visibly, day by day, has given more pleasure than all the sorrow in the world.

Of all the qualities of genius, and Tendulkar has many of them, none is more powerful than humility. To err, to realise it and then to build on it. Tendulkar had done it twice on this tour and can there be a more fulfilling sight in this fascinating art of batsmanship?

The first time was early in the tour. Tendulkar was looking good but was getting out playing shots. Pretty little cameos, but they don't build legends. Tendulkar turned to Gavaskar. There seems to be a bond between them that the world will never understand. I haven't either. And sure as ever, like he had during his playing days, Gavaskar had the solution. "You are playing too early," he said. "Because the bowling is quicker, you are reacting faster. Wait for it to come and then play your shots." That was enough for Tendulkar. Soon the ball was flowing off the middle and that characteristic punched cover drive off the back foot was denting the advertising billboards again. "The moment I started waiting for the ball to come, it stopped flying off the edges," he says. He got 57 at Hobart, 48 and 21 at Adelaide and 34 at Canberra. All one-day games, remember.

But the turning point was still to come. At Melbourne, he got a beauty from Reid in the first innings but it was an incident in the second that transformed him. Tendulkar and Vengsarkar were battling to save a lost Test match. They had put on 62 in two hours and Tendulkar hadn't done a thing wrong. Then he charged at Peter Taylor and Border took an incredible catch. In the record books he was out for 40, but the dismissal had left a scar in his mind. That evening the young man was beyond solace. His Bombay school of batting had taught him that a wicket has to be earned through the sweat on the brow. Here he had giftwrapped it for the bowlers.

At Sydney, the difference was there for the world to see. He was still as elegant and attractive as ever but his wicket was in a fortress and the key was lost. His innings of 148 not out was one of the most charming you will see and it pushed Tendulkar into the big league of world cricket. The Australians, tough as nails and miserly in their praise, opened the gates of their hearts to him.

Sachin Tendulkar had become a star in the toughest cricketing country in the world.

He'll score many more hundreds but this one will stay with me forever simply because it was an example of cricketing intelligence. It was an exercise in problem solving and Tendulkar had got an A+.

But to think that this daunting cricketing brain is only involved in the art of his batsmanship would be to do it injustice. While Tendulkar the batsman has blazed new heights, Tendulkar the fielder has been simply unbelievable. He was always a good outfielder and last year in England took a skier that nobody present at Lords will ever forget. But there was still something between him and total brilliance. That has been erased in Australia.

It always pays to be a bundle of energy and in the outfield Tendulkar has been everywhere. He has attacked every ball like a fire engine on a rescue mission and he has thrown like he wants to be an Olympic hammer thrower. On the longest outfields in the world, his throws have been thudding into the wicketkeeper like they have emerged from missile launchers; with just a hint of the parabola in them. And when they have come from three quarters of the way, the curve has been flattened completely.

For an 18-year-old, he has the wrists and shoulders of a weightlifter. And the mind of a veteran.

"Initially, my shoulder would hurt from the throwing," he said But the solution was not to throw softer. It was to loosen the shoulders and strengthen them. "I found that 20 push-ups a day were just right. The throws kept going long and my pain disappeared," he said.

And thereafter Tendulkar has charged at everything. It's one of the first principles of fielding because an early charge and flat throw plants a doubt in the batsman's mind. "Quite often I found that the batsman were not going for the second even when it was possible," he says with a suggestion of a smile. The war was won!

Sachin Tendulkar. Winning battles for India on the ground. Winning wars for himself in the mind.

Harsha Bhogle, Sydney

CRICKET SNIPPETS



Terry Alderman· now plays for Western Australia





Where the hell is Terry Alderman?

THE hero of Australian cricket a few summers ago seems to have vanished from the face of Aussie cricket Not quite! He s still playing for Western Australia but his omission from Australia s preliminary squad for the ensuing World Cup probably lengthens the odds that he will never play for his country again Australia too seems to be taking tips from the other teams like India and the West Indies and is looking towards youth Hence the presence in the squad of Michael Behvan and Joe Scuderi They may be trimmed from the final 14 but the nod from the selectors is a nod for the future

Geoff Lawson is to retire at the end of this season, David Hookes may too Alderman s absence from this summer s international programme is another sign that a new era is upon Australian cricket

In the English summer of 1989 it seemed as though Alderman was to be the key to the Australian attack for many years to come At the practise sessions on that long Ashes tour he rarely bowled above the gentlest of medium pace Someone not in knowledge of the kind of swing he was capable of would have thought him to be another batsman going through a few overs at the nets That is until they saw Alderman bat When Border using his captain s prerogative went off to play golf during the county matches Alderman too joined him He came to be known as TMO—Test Matches Only In those Test matches of course, he destroyed England taking 41 wickets at 17 37 runs apiece

If Alderman s days as an international bowler are indeed over then it is a matter of some regret because he was the one who showed that fast bowling didn t necessarily mean mere speed and brute force In 1989 he humiliated the Poms by gently moving the ball from stump to stump So great was his success during that tour that if it is the end of Alderman s career then the epitaph should read England bowled Alderman 0' Or maybe that other variation seen on the walls of England that summer Thatcher out lbw Alderman 0

Money should be refunded

THE prospects of rain washing out India's final match against the West Indies at Melbourne provided Azharuddin a problem he could well have done without. It also provided a minor headache for the organisers With one game—between Australia and the West Indies—already rained out there was



Tony Greig and Ian Chappell, both with Channel Nine now, are no strangers. Here as rival skippers, they inspect the vandalised wicket at Headingley during the 1975 Ashes series

pressure from the public and the press for alternative arrangements for refunding of ticket money.

The logic is, one day cricket is popular only because it guarantees a result at the end of the day's play, but when bad weather deprives the spectator of further action and eventually a result, then he is being cheated

There is a feeling that in these days of computerised ticket sales and competition from so many other spectator sports, surely Australian cricket administrators can device a system whereby spectators can be refunded if the weather deprives them of half of their entertainment. If you took your kid to a game it would set you back a cool 60 Australian dollars.

Throw in a few cold drinks and snacks the expenses go up to at least 75 dollars. For a few hours of truncated entertainment that is expensive indeed The prices at Australia's various sporting venues are ridiculously high That is insult enough to the paying spectator Not offering refunds adds injury to this. With ticket sales done on computer and ticket agents taking their cut, there should be a way where spectators can hold on to their tickets for a 50 per cent refund. There is an opinon here that with the World Cup coming up, a few bonus points in the public relation stakes would not hurt the game.

Tony Greig vs Bill Lawrie

If you are watching Channel Nine's cricket coverage you can't help but notice the way some of the commentators needle each other. And the two biggest culprits in this are former England and Aussie captains Tony Greig and Bill Lawrie.

Greig agrees 'Yes," he says, "This goes back a long way to when I was a youngster making my way through the ranks, and I kept reading about this bloke they called 'The Corpse With Pads'. I had the impression this bloke was unbelievably bad in the way he played the game. I've had a bit of fun with him about that.'

Greig, in fact, has always poked fun, even on television, at the size of Lawrie's nose. Rumour has it that Greig arrives at the various grounds early to hang up those banners which have a go at Lawrie's nose.

"That's not true," admits Greig, "but I do call for them (the banners). We try to be lighthearted which means we sometimes get stuck into each other "

And it seems Lawrie is a bit sensitive about his nose. "His defence is to turn around and get right back to the cricket," jokes Greig. ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the Russian girl who finished second to Nadia Comaneci in the over all competition in the 1976 Olympics?

2. What is 'Octapush'?

3. Which famous shooter won the Oscar in 1969 for his role in '*True Grit*'?

4. What are the three different types of swords used in international fencing?

5. What would a karate expert do with a *Makiwara*?

6. Which English footballer was nicknamed 'The General' and later promoted to 'Field Marshal'?

7. What is the name of the sport which has cross-country running with the aid of map and compass?

8. Between which countries was the first Davis Cup (1900) match held and where?

9. What is Brazilian footballer Garrincha's nickname?

10. What did King Henry VIII stake and lose, in a game of dice?

11. Which ex-president held the heavyweight boxing title in his own country for nine years?

12. Which is the only mother and son combination to win Wimbledon titles?

13. Which European king won a gold medal in yatching at the 1960 Olympics?

14. Name the brothers who won 9 singles titles between them and 8 doubles titles together at Wimbledon?

15. Two boxers with the same Christian names and surnames won the world title in different categories in different years. One won the World Middleweight title in 1894 while the other won the World Heavyweight title in 1919. Name them.

ANSWERS

1. Olga Korbut.
2. Underwater hockey.
3. John Wayne.
4. Foil, Sabre and Epee
5. Hit it or kick it. It is a padded board which is used for practising punching or kicking techniques.
6. Sir Alf Ramsey.
7. Orienteering.
8. Britain and US at Longwood Cricket Club, Boston.
9. Little Bird.
10. The bells of old St. Paul's church.
11. Idi Amin of Uganda
12. Mrs. Charles Tuckey won the mixed doubles title in 1913 and her son Raymond Tuckey who won the men's doubles in 1936.
13. King Constantine of Greece
14. Reggie and Lawrie Doherty.
15. Jack Dempsey

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY :

SANDIP BHADURY,
C/O MR. C. BHADURY,
ASSAM POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD,
MELACHAR,
P.O. & DIST. SIBSAGAR,
ASSAM.

All answers sent in by the contributor

SPORT SHORTS

By Fred Hull

HARRISON DILLARD "OLD BONES"



Every Olympic game has one unforgettable story- in 1948 it was Harrison Dillard.

Dillard had one dream, to become an Olympic sprinter. When he tried out for high school track his schoolmates laughed at his skinny frame and nicknamed him "Bones". His coach looked at his frail frame & told him to forget the sprints. Seeing his disappointment, he let him try out for the hurdles.

"Bones" grew stronger By the time he enrolled in Baldwin-Wallace College, he was a full grown man... but still a hurdler. Soon he was America's greatest hurdler with 82 consecutive victories!

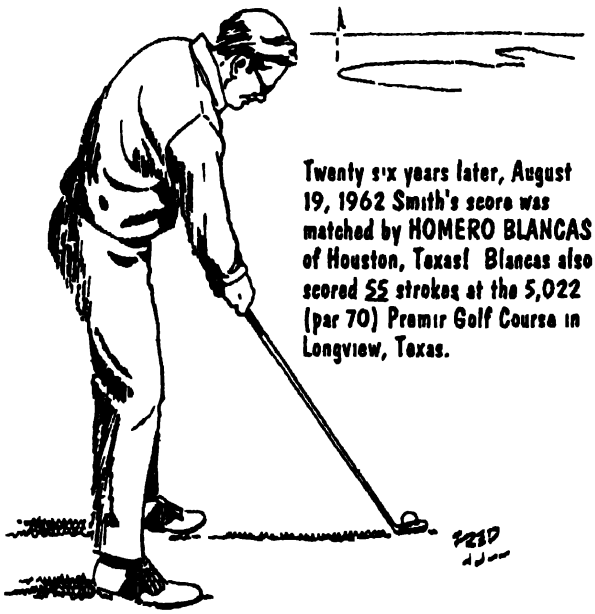
But, fate was cruel. At the Olympic tryouts Dillard performed miserably in his specialty. Fate did not destroy him. He gave his all and barely made the team as a SPRINTER!

83,000 people watched America's record breaking hurdler turned sprinter. Old Bones put on a super human effort against the best sprinters in the world - he WON the 100 meter dash in Olympic record time.

Dillard's dream came true, he had his Olympic gold medal - not as a hurdler but a SPRINTER!

THE LOWEST 18-HOLE SCORES IN GOLF

The lowest score ever recorded on an 18-Hole par 70 golf course was 55 strokes. This incredible score was achieved by the English professional A. E SMITH, at the Woolacombe course on January 1, 1936! The Woolacombe course measured 4,248 yards.



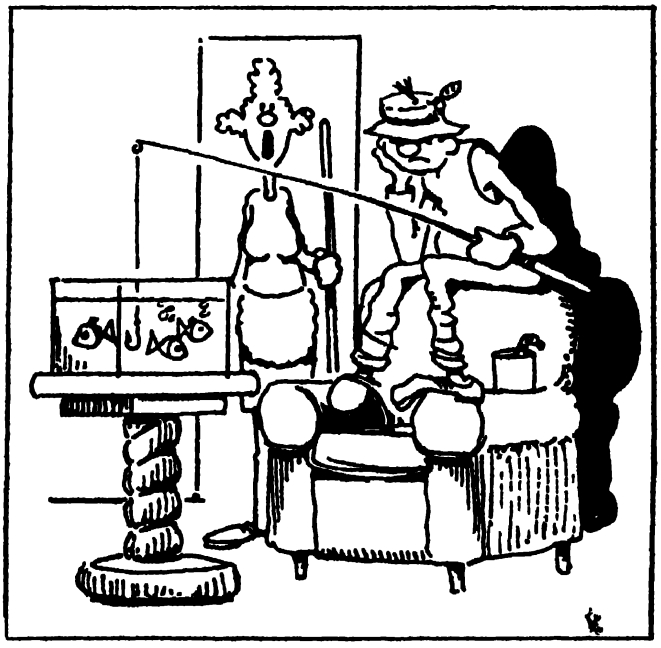
Twenty six years later, August 19, 1962 Smith's score was matched by HOMERO BLANCAS of Houston, Texas! Blancas also scored 55 strokes at the 5,022 (par 70) Premir Golf Course in Longview, Texas.

Be a Sport

by Jim JANELSKY



"If they're trying to intimidate us, it's working."



"No luck at the lake again?"

WORLD SERIES CRICKET

FINALLY...

The entire nation breathes a sigh of relief as Azharuddin and his band of unpredictable men beat West Indies to make the final. But did they have to make it so nail-biting in the first place?

BY ANDY O'BRIEN, MELBOURNE



WHEN Mohammed Azharuddin awoke to a dull Melbourne morning after certainly a restless night, his heart must have been in his mouth. For, when he looked out of his Hilton Hotel window across the street from the MCG, he saw the ground was wet and the rain still coming down. Switching on the television in his suite would have further discouraged him, courtesy the weather report—a cloudy day with a few showers. But then Melbourne with its erratic weather and India with its erratic cricket form, seem made for each other.

If the forecast had come true, it would have, as the cliche goes, washed away India's hopes of entering the World Series Cricket final, allowing the Windies to go through instead. That would have been a pity—moreso disgraceful—considering that after a fine start which almost guaranteed them a spot in the finals, India had left it up to the very last match to make the grade.

Azharuddin too was fully aware of this: "We relaxed as if we were already in the finals, perhaps assuming that the Australians would beat the West Indies and do the job for us. But in the end we had to go there and do the job ourselves," he said. He was also conscious, no doubt, of the kind of criticism that awaited him and his team had they not qualified for the finals.

The crushing defeats in the last two internationals prior to that virtual semi-final against the West Indies, were more the result of a lack of form, an indifferent attitude and a disturbing lack of urgency than anything else. Failure to make the

◀ **Tendulkar is fast getting to be the Indian team's backbone. He and Kapil saw India safely through**

finals would have surely dented the ego of the team just before the countdown to the World Cup began.

But that was only half the problem. If defeated, the Indians would also be denied very necessary practice for the remaining two Tests. A veritable disaster for a team whose lack of form in general is like some incurable disease.

With all this at the back of their minds, it was no surprise that while about 3000 Indian spectators waved the tricolour and celebrated the five-wicket win at the MCG, the Indian dressing room didn't reflect the same euphoria. Aware that they shouldn't have been in the do-or-die position in the first place, they were rather understandably relieved rather than overjoyed. It hadn't been an exceptional performance, but instead and more importantly a methodical and effective one. A good day at the office was exactly what India had required: and managed.

Having restricted the West Indies to 175 runs, the Indian batting took off, cruised for a while, momentarily spluttered but eventually landed safely at its destination.

Though the West Indian total seemed an easy one to get numerically, in reality it was always going to be a tough chase, especially considering the pitch and the fickleness of the Indian batting. Azhar was all praise, and rightly so, for the Indian bowlers, but perhaps he didn't realise that 175 was the highest score in a one dayer at the MCG this season.

No wonder Sunil Gavaskar commented during the dinner break that India might have allowed the West Indies

Srikkanth's batting and body language can be so comical that it is easy to forget that he is India's most successful one-day batsman



A moment of elation for the West Indies... but such moments were few

PHOTOGRAPHS: DEV FEATURES

Azhar's search for form continues...will the finals be the turning point?

20-25 runs to win At that juncture it appeared a correct assessment But no assessment and no mathematics have ever impressed Krish Srikkanth After an extremely sedate start, he launched into the Windies attack in the way only he can And he did it his way At times, like a novice waiter trying to balance more trays than he could handle His batting and body language at times can be so comical that it is easy to forget that he is India s most successful one day batsman As they say finally it s the runs that count, for no scorecard has the space to accommodate the nature of a batsman s manner

On the other hand, Sachin Tendulkar s talent overflows with so much power and grace that few will doubt his ability to overtake Srikkanth in the order of merit, before long

Together they packed the West Indians off on a long journey back to the Caribbean and a public unused to failure from their cricketers In fact, skipper Richardson had used the unwelcome mat' strategy to motivate his team for the crucial game I've no intention returning home as skipper of a team that failed to make the finals of the WSC , he told them It won't be a very pleasant reception if we go back home without qualifying for the final

But after his batsmen had crawled to a miserable 48-3 from 25 overs the fans back home must begun stocking up on rotten tomatoes, for the team's homecoming The West Indies'loss could result in a vastly different team that returns to take part in the World Cup next month 'It is a probability that the performance of this team would probably force changes because the



In eight one-day innings till the first final, Azhar's highest score has been 31. A captain's lack of form can, and does, affect the entire team in many ways.

youngsters, for whom this was to be a trip to gain experience, have not come up" predicted veteran commentator Tony Cozier.

If he is correct, then the world could well have one more chance to see Viv Richards, who wants to make the Cup his swansong in a 20-year career Cozier said that, with the likely return of veterans such as Richards, Logie and Dujon, the Windies would return as a stiffer challenge for the World Cup

Just as the West Indies would have learnt a few lessons from their defeats in Australia, India too should pick up a few of their own if they are to continue improving for the remaining part of the tour Even victories cannot hide the fact that the team has got a lot of soul-searching to do The batting is much too dependant on Tendulkar and the fielding at times lacks a sense of urgency

Apart from the four stiches on his foot, Azhar—and indeed the team—must be concerned about the skipper's own batting form In eight one-day innings till the first final, his highest score has been 31 A captain's lack of form can, and does, affect the entire team in many ways A performing captain is a confident captain A struggling captain is hesitant, insecure, frustrated and under tremendous pressure.

With Shastri, Manjrekar and Sidhu also struggling for form, the Indian batting which is so strong on paper is in reality quite brittle. Shastri is managing to stay at the crease but needs runs to back mere time consumed. Manjrekar is too classy a batsman to be kept down for long But Sidhu must be wondering if his rushed trip to Australia to rescue the struggling Indian batting was worth all the hassle

Since his arrival and before being dropped for the game against the West Indies, Sidhu managed a mere two runs in three innings for the unflattering average of 0.666 While he might think he has the devil on his side, there is little doubt that Sidhu would have spent longer going through customs and immigration at Delhi Airport awaiting his SOS plane than he was at the wicket till now



Srinath is proving to be very useful to the Indian team

Azharuddin is painfully aware of the hurdles ahead Our major problem is that our batsmen haven't clicked so far on this tour,' he says, we have a couple of blokes getting runs but without the necessary support of the rest of the team

Injury complaints also are not helping Raju is nursing a bruised elbow and his efforts in recent matches have been a little disappointing More's hamstring might set him back somewhat and Banerjee's shoulder injury laid him low for over two weeks Then there is Vengsarkar who has not played since the Sydney Test and has been idle far too long for his liking It could be a month in between innings when he takes guard at the Adelaide Test

Hirwani, often criticised on this tour as being too slow and an awful fielder did a sensational job replacing Raju against the West Indies and that is a positive sign Kapil's bowling still breeds fear and caution among batsmen and inspiration among the other Indian bowlers But if the underrated—yet performing—bowling receives the support of the overrated—yet non-performing—batting, then the worried frown on Azharuddin's face might ease a bit and we could uncork the champagne after too many days of mixing the cordial ●

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about

SPORTING TRIVIA

STUMPED OUT!

BATS, shirts, sweaters perimeter fencing and even on the outfield commercial logos have attacked them all What next? Come next summer and the stumps used in English cricket will join the endorsement brigade!

Those jarred by the picture of sponsored stumps in England s match at Hamilton, New Zealand must brace themselves for something similar next summer although it was stressed at Lord s that any logo or wording used on the stumps will not be as blatant as in New Zealand It will be clearly on view however for the first time in the Test and one dayers with Pakistan

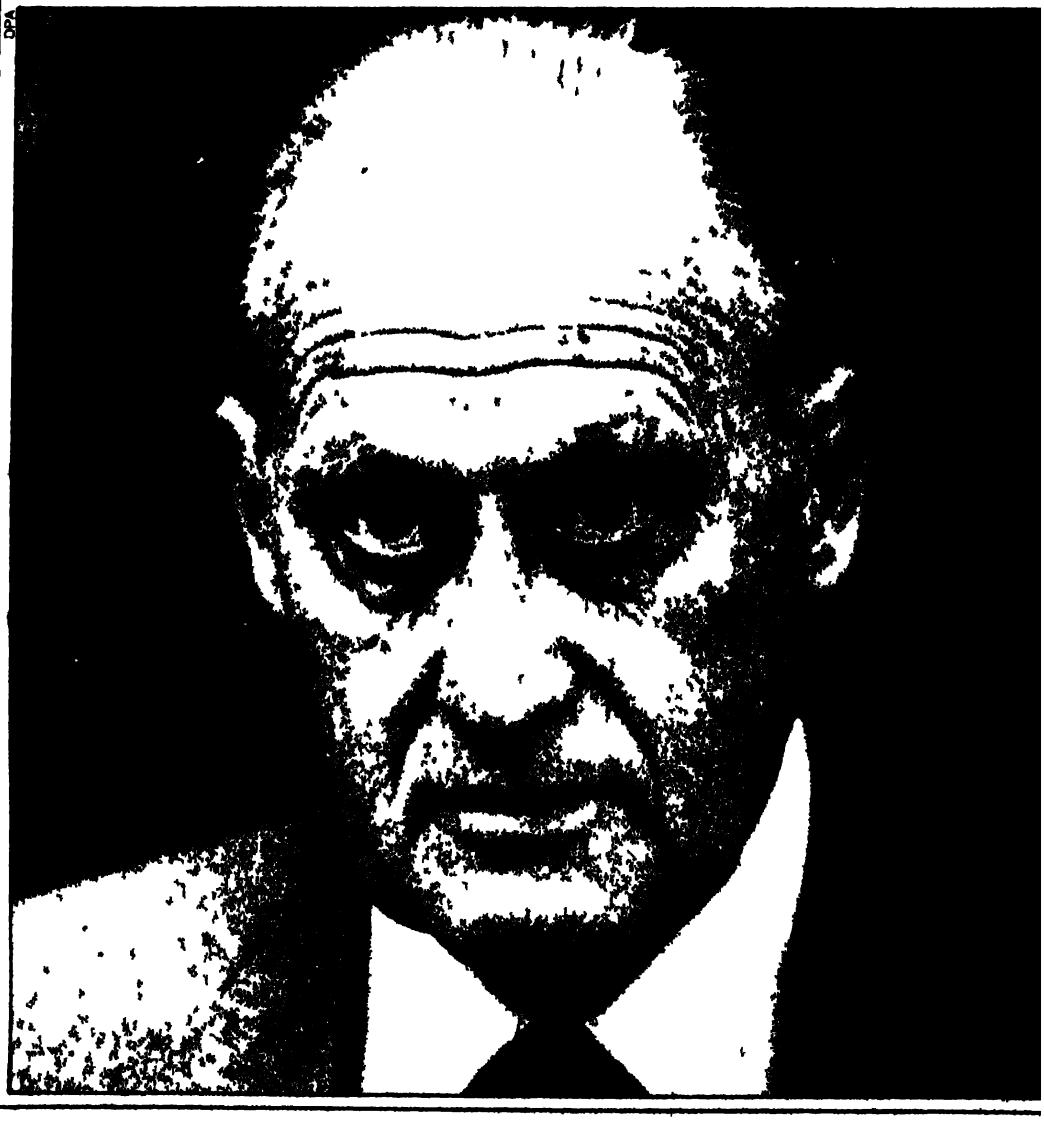
Trust the Kiwis to find a loophole in the International Cricket Council s (ICC) inaugural rules on advertising on players clothing and equipment drawn up in July 1990 It made no mention of stumps As Lt Col John Stephenson secretary ICC, said We laid down permissible measurements and colours for logos and other advertising in shirts, helmets, pads, shoes, gloves—you name it—but one overlooked the possibility of stump advertising Obviously, it is something we ought to discuss and I shall raise it next July

BMS IN TROUBLE

A BLOW for legibility was struck in the fifth round of the Foreign & Colonial Hastings Chess Tournament when two Grandmasters were sent back and told to make their scoresheets readable

Alexei Suetin and Julian Hodgson had both been desperately short of time during the final moves of their game and the frantic scramble that followed was reflected in their record of the game s moves

Suetin's score of the 43 move game tailed off



FIFA president, Joao Havelange, has cold feet about the feasibility of the United States hosting the soccer World Cup

with nothing recorded after a scrawl at move 30. Hodgson had made an attempt to complete the moves, but with so many mistakes, crossing-out and over-writing that the result was, if anything, even less readable than Suetin's.

Raymond Keene, the arbiter, was startled when the scoresheets were presented to him. He ordered, in somewhat school teacher manner, both players to get the moves right before the result would be recorded.

NO GO DIEGO

FALLEN SOCCER star Diego Maradona, who has said he plans to take up residence in the United States, may not find the welcome mat out.

Maradona told a Buenos Aires Newspaper, *La Nacion*, that he was planning to move with his wife, Claudia, and daughters Dalma and Giannina to Florida in about three months. But Duke Austin, spokesman for the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation service, suggested that Washington would take a dim view of Maradona's plan if criminal charges were pending against him.

"You can't just take up residence in the United States, you have to qualify for residency," Austin said. "Even if he purchases property it doesn't mean he can live here." He further added that State Department policy is to deny visa to persons convicted for drug trafficking.

Maradona with his wife and two daughters has plans to shift to Florida, but the Americans are not too keen to have them



BYE U.S., HELLO ARGENTINA

THE NEXT Soccer World Cup might not be held in the United States after all. It could be held in Argentina, if rumours buzzing around the higher reaches of the football world are to be believed.

It seems the sport's international governing body, FIFA, has suddenly noticed that the people of the United States do not give a damn about the game they call 'sah-kerr'. The World Cup draw, held in New York last month, was remarkable for its lack of Americans. The city's mayor was not there; there was not even Henry Kissinger. In a recession, nobody is going to risk millions on a game that nobody wants to watch.



John Barnes, Liverpool footballer, is team captain of BBC's quiz show

According to the rumours, the FIFA president, Joao Havelange, has cold feet about the feasibility of the US hosting the World Cup and has been talking contingency plans with Sepp Blatter, the secretary-general of the European Sports body, UEFA. Argentina, apparently, is the alternative. Needless to say, the Argentine Football Association is delighted.

TAILPIECE

JOHN BARNES, the England and Liverpool footballer, is to take over from Ian Botham as team captain on BBC's popular quiz, *A Question of Sport*. ●

RESULTS

OF THE

Who am I?



1. Clive Rice



6. Geoff Marsh

AND THE WINNER IS....

R. RAJESH

Address:

24/7, 4th Street, Abhirampuram,
Madras 600 018

(Since there was more than one all correct entry we conducted a lucky dip and R. Rajesh is the lucky winner of the Rs 1 000/- prize)



2. Clive Lloyd



8. Ian Chappell



3. Abbas Ali Baig



4. Dennis Lillee



5. Ian Botham



7. Richard Hadlee



9. Rodney Marsh



11. Graham Gooch



10. Terry Alderman



13. Mudassar Nazar



12. Bruce French



14. Madanlal

Too tough, was it? Whatever the reason, the 'Who Am I' quiz failed to generate the tumultuous rush of entries that we're accustomed to. But that doesn't stop us from applauding the die-hard cricket enthusiasts who did put pen to paper. Well done — and if you're not the lucky winner, better luck next time.

ALL CORRECT, BUT UNLUCKY

G Ezekiel, Saleem Khan, T J Mathew, Shankar Yagnik, Iswar, V S Shekar

ONE WRONG

R Pattabiraman, Vinayak Palkar, Saleem Ahmed, Sanjeev M Raje, Sudip Dasgupta, Utej Rao, Mohandas Menon, V Sethukumar, K S Raghuvir

TWO WRONG

Soumyarup Kahali, Sujoy Das, Sudeshna Biswas, Ramesh K, Sravik Deep, Ajay, Supratim Sarkar, G Sridhar, Nagesh V Shenoy, Tuli Kar, Rama, Iswar Singh, P B Mohan

THREE WRONG

Moosa Wala Asma, U P Avinash Rajan, Sanjay Singh, Dulur, Dr S, U, Ullal Nayan, Soyantar Raja Roy Chowdhury, Bilgu Ranga R Varada, Dr D B Ramdas Rai, Carlton Isaaks, K Rama Mohan Reddy, Shreyas Surya Dasgupta, V Guruth, Ravi Kant Srivastava, Soumitra Chakraborty

MORE THAN THREE WRONG

Jagdish J Jadhav, Ravi Kumar S, Mayur Chikramane, Rajneesh Tyagi, Srinivas Nyapathy, Subrata Ghosh, Kuntal Chakraborty, Dinesh T K, K S Sridhar, H Ila, C K Subramaniam, Anil Prabhu K, Avijit Sikdar, Ashis Dev, Krishnendu Banerjee, Md Majeedullah, T R Bhave, Gautam Choudhury, Pinaki Guha, Arpita Chakraborty, H G Jhingran, Rakesh Kumar Sinha, Sumita Mukhopadhyay, R C Krishnan, Rangan, Manoj Kumar Garg, Dr Madhukar B R, Sunayana Sarkar, Deepak Adige, Bharat Grover, Joydev Roy, Tapas Sahoo, P S Bhatnagar, Ravi Kapoor, Minhaj Alam, Sunil K, Dr Chandra Sekhar Yangalasetty, Atul Prabhunirkar, Ayan Mukherjee, Aftab Alam, Subrata Haldar, Debraj Sengupta, Kishore, Pawaskar, V Purushottam, Anil Prabhu K, Pinaki De, Partha Bas, B J Rajkumar, Saugata Palit, Shiba Prasad Roy, Abhik Kumar Bose, Deepak Gupta, Dr Yerajarao, C R Srinivasan, K Ajaykumar, Sandip Kumar Roy, Vinod Rajpal, Rattan, N Surya, Pakhale, Subhrangsu Datta, Tanmoy Dhar, Mrinmoy Dhar, Niranjan R, Sarat Kaushik Dutta, Praveen Shrivastava, N Mohan Das, Saswat Sarangi, Prasenjit Basak, Dr Sauraen Chaudhuri, Shankar Lal Gulwani, Prartha Banerjee, Surinder Vohra, K Uttam Chand Jain, S R Malathy, I Venkatanathan, Pandit Prashant J

CLASSIC CALCUTTA DERBY STAKES

Memo

LAST year, you had to be a 'romantic' to believe that Romantic Dancer would lose the Calcutta Derby This year you would have had to be more than just a romantic to believe that his sister Romantic Memories would come out and win the Classic Calcutta Derby Stakes Ridden superbly by the diminutive Aslam Kader, Romantic Memories, who was trained by veteran Haskel David, should surely be looked upon as one of Haskel's greatest training feats. No one could have done a better job on this filly, and for Haskel this must surely have been his greatest triumph yet.

So, Romantic Memories became the sixth grey since 1987 to win the Classic Calcutta Derby Stakes, and that in itself must surely be something of a record. It is almost like saying that if you want to win a Derby in Calcutta, go and buy a grey.

Speaking of records, however, there must have been many more that tumbled on that second Sunday of January. To start with, Romantic Memories emulated the achievements of her illustrious brother Romantic Dancer and they are probably the only brother-sister combination to have won the Calcutta Derby, or any Derby for that matter, in successive years.

Secondly, the colours that Romantic Memories sported are the colours of the Khaitan family. The same colours passed the winning post first in the Calcutta Derby in 1990 and in 1991. So Romantic Memories had given her owners a hat-trick. And trainer Haskel David too basked in glory, having saddled all the three winners.

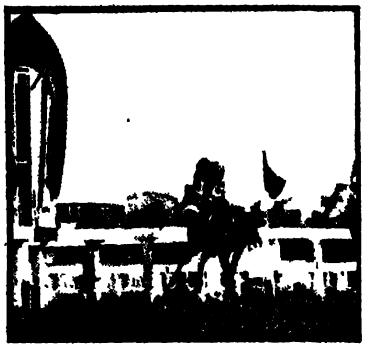
Last but by no means the least, Romantic Memories became the first filly of the roaring 90's to win the Classic Calcutta Derby Stakes.

But if the 1992 Classic Calcutta Derby Stakes was a race to remember for the owners of Romantic Memories, it certainly was the one to forget for Mr and Mrs Sumit Gupta and Mr and Mrs Amit Gupta, the



Romantic Memories after the memorable victory: romantic heritage; (Top, right) speeding past the winning post

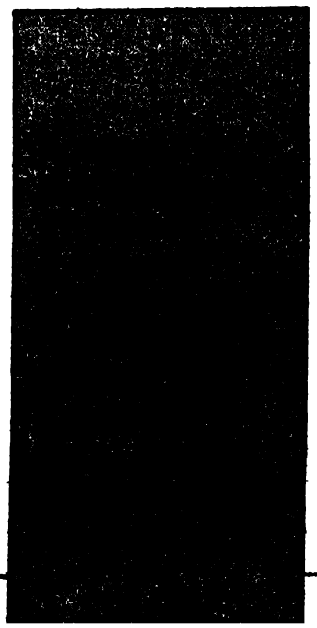
ries of The Dancer



owners of the vanquished Sentouki.

For the second time these two sporting owners saw their Derby hope unfulfilled. Back in 1980, San Francisco failed to deliver as a favourite and this time Sentouki came so close but was yet so far. A field of two colts, three geldings and two fillies lined up to face the starter for the Derby, with Sentouki the firm favourite at 6 to 4 against.

Own Ability, who was running in the Ramaswamy colours, was the second favourite at 9 to 4, while Romantic Memories came in for a great deal of support just before the race and her odds were 4 to 1. With 2 pacemakers in the race, Air Music and Royal Verse, one from the Romantic Memories camp and the other from



the Ramaswamy camp, it was obvious that the pace was going to be exceedingly fast. Sure enough, as the gates clanged open Air Music stormed out and shot into the lead. Sentouki settled beautifully as did Romantic Memories and before they hit the first right-handed turn the pair were trailing second last and last.

At about the halfway stage the picture, however, began to change. Flying Warrior wrested the initiative and led, followed in close attendance by Royal Verse, Own Ability, Flying Warrior, Sentouki and Romantic Memories. But, the Warrior did not fly for long, and Air Music soon went off the air. He was grounded with 800 metres left to run and it was Silver Sovereign who hit the front opening up a fair amount of daylight from the rest of the field.

Own Ability and Sentouki set out in chase, while Kader on Romantic Memories opted to sit and bide his time.

At the top of the turn things really began to happen. Paul Eddery who was astride Silver Sovereign tried to change gears, but found that his mount had only one left- -reverse. Own Ability was in distress and she did not seem to be going anywhere either.

It was here that Connorton astride Sentouki probably made the mistake which might have cost him the Derby. He put Sentouki into top gear while negotiating the bend and in Calcutta that is the fastest way to commit suicide.

As a result, he had to take the turn at least two horses wide and he unbalanced Sentouki to some extent as well. Kader on the other hand nursed Romantic Memories around the turn and got her going only after they straightened up. It made all the difference because after a brief battle down the straight, it was Kader and Romantic Memories who prevailed by half a length.

Own Ability plodded on to take the third place, while Silver Sovereign held on to fourth spot. Not surprisingly, the race was run in the mind-boggling time of 2 mts. 33.9 secs, which was just 0.1 second off the course record.

Cyrus J. Madan



PARGAT SINGH

HE CAN DO MAGIC



Amidst the crumbling edifices of Indian hockey the outspoken Indian captain stands out....

By Avik Lee

Stood at the end of an 8-km-long queue waiting to get into Punjab. The smell of burning rubber permeated through the early morning air. Truckers huddled around burning tyres, waiting for dawn to bring some respite from the cold. As well as open the border. The dusk-to-dawn curfew is self-imposed because Punjab is a State under the seige of fear.

'Welcome to Punjab' the road sign read, but this is a State where strangers are no longer welcome. This is reality; people killed by terrorists are just statistical figures, there is no reaction. Life goes on—so do the killings.

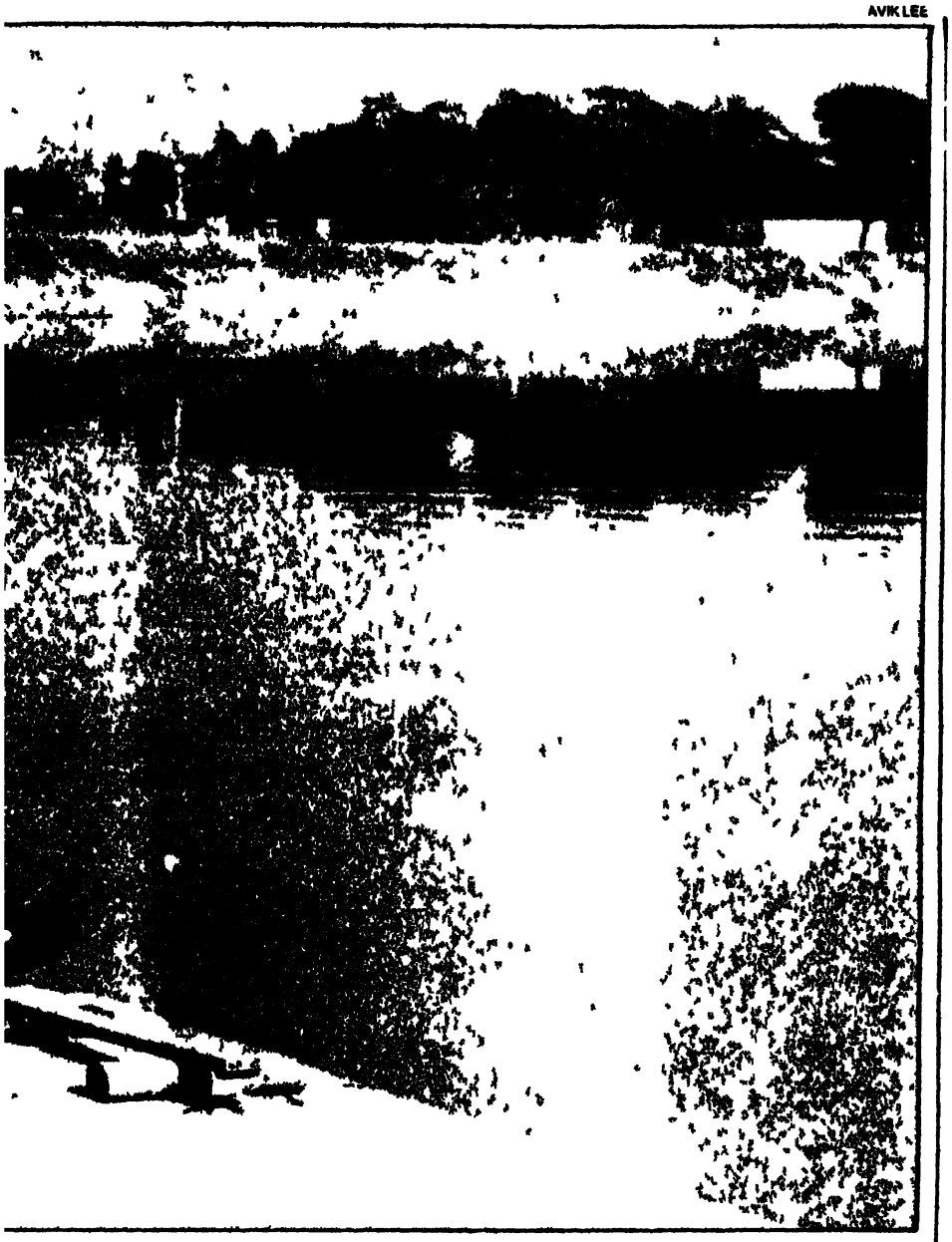
JERSEY No. 13. For the superstitious—unlucky. For the Indian hockey captain, Pargat Singh—a symbol of his non-conformist attitude. "I have never compromised for anything in my life so why should I be bothered about the superstitious beliefs associated with that number?" he queried.

It is an attitude that has brought him popularity with the players. It has also had the opposite effect on the establishment. He has been accused of being outspoken and a troublemaker by the establishment.

"People call me a lot of things," he said, "but whatever I have said has been relevant. I have done it for my sport and for the players. They deserve a better deal. How can you play if you are worried about your future and where your next meal is going to come from."

In the eight years that Pargat has been in the Indian team, he has been constantly embroiled in controversy. After the Lahore World Cup in 1990 when the Players' Association was formed, Pargat was once again in the midst of it all. Not being able to wield as much clout as the Cricketers'

AVIK LEE



Association, all the promises made by the Indian Hockey Federation were forgotten And Pargat being the president of the association has had to face all the criticism because of this

Our demands were very genuine We wanted each player to get Rs 2,000 per first class match Then we wanted a shorter season We needed to spend time with our families, but that is not so at the moment We are playing the whole year round We demanded that if a player was called for the camp he should get Rs 100 per day as pocket money When we go for national tournaments the conditions under which we live are inhuman So we asked for proper accommodation There was nothing wrong with our demands The IHF even agreed to most of them but nothing has happened after that he said

"Today Pargat is the only Indian who could walk into any World XI"—Former Indian captain and teammate, M.M. SOMAYYA

This breach of promise has upset Pargat and unable to disguise the anguish in his voice he said. 'The players are constantly complaining We made an agreement and if it is not met what can we do but carry on fighting for the cause

The only bright side of this messy affair is that during the Surjit Singh Memorial tournament last year which is a Grade 1 tournament the players were given Rs 75 per day and proper accommodation was provided by the organisers! he exclaimed

There are a lot of people willing to sponsor events and Pargat can't figure out why the IHF have not made an attempt to get in touch with these people His deduction is You can make money in hockey like in any other sport I don't know why the IHF is not doing it for itself as well as the players It seems that the IHF have lost their goodwill with their sponsors

Obviously irritated with the IHF officials Pargat lashes out The IHF officials are basically administrators How many of them have played hockey to know about the problems?

Returning from Jalandhar after an unsuccessful attempt to meet Pargat Singh we are stopped 40 kms outside the city by an Army officer He orders us out of the van Our IDs are checked and after innumerable questions—interrupted regularly by a voice over the walkie talkie—we are ordered to stay inside the vehicle A guard is posted to ensure our compliance with the order

Suddenly the night is shattered by the sound of gun fire It continues for three hours The brief interludes of silence are sliced through by search lights panning the foliage We are in the middle of a military clean up operation

INDIAN HOCKEY is plagued with problems but some of the reasons for the step motherly treatment of the players is because in the last few years the team's performance has been appalling Pargat who has been a part of the

"What do these people think.... we go out there to lose? We play to win, but the added pressure of someone saying that you have to win puts psychological pressure on us.... If you want us to win, just leave us alone"

Indian team for eight years has found flaws in the game.

"Our main problem is penalty corner conversion. If we can improve our defence and attack during a penalty corner the situation would be different. We fumble too often. During the Olympic qualifier at Auckland, we were awarded nine penalty corners against one of USSR. They converted; we didn't and that is what matters, conversion."

'Total hockey' is a concept being touted by most players But the name is not self explanatory. Pargat elaborates, "I have been called selfish when I move up with the ball, but this is not so. I'm just using the 'total hockey' concept. Position play is out, today a player should be able to play in any position, somewhat like an all rounder in cricket. The defenders have to move up during an attack and forwards have to fall back and defend. This requires a lot more from a player and fitness has to be 100 per cent.

"In fact we tried this system at Ipoh and the result speaks for itself."

In many ways the approach to the game in Pakistan is similar to that of our country yet, their success ratio—especially against India—is higher. Pargat accounts for this success to "just determination."

He also points out the fact that before a match against Pakistan a lot of officials and politicians come up and say, "*Jeetna parega* (You have to win)."

What do these people think..... we go out there to lose? We play to win, but the added pressure of someone saying that you have to win puts psychological pressure on us. We are human beings, we are affected by this and tend to be over defensive. If you want us to win, just leave us alone."



"The coming generation thinks 'what is the future of Indian hockey?'. It is better to study for seven or eight hours than to play because at least a job is there at the end of it. It is simply a question of survival and priorities"

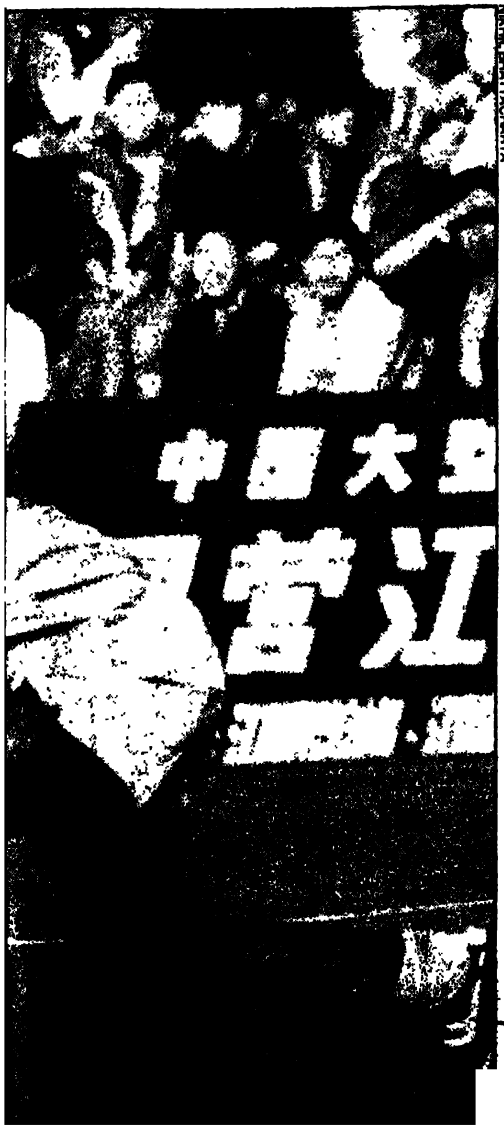
Chandigarh is a fortified city. Barriers and sudden checks are part of the daily routine. Every street corner houses a bunker with a machine-gun snout playing tag with all vehicles till they disappear out of range. The overbearing presence of uniform makes one feel more insecure than safe.There is an atmosphere of uncertainty. This is where I finally meet Pargat Singh.

Fame, friends, a car, he has everything. Yet Pargat is still fighting for his teammates



AVIK LEE

Beijing Asiad '90: A mistake by Pargat and India lost their match against Pakistan



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

THE FUTURE of hockey in India is very bleak, they win one tournament only to lose the rest. Pargat feels the same way:" The coming generation thinks 'what is the future of Indian hockey?' It is better to study for seven or eight hours than to play because at least a job is there at the end of it. It is simply a question of survival and priorities—because if you don't get enough from sport then what is the use in carrying on with it."

The efforts being made to improve the situation are not enough because although the Sports Authority of India has sport schools, the incentive is not enough. Pargat speaks of the situation in a sports school in Jalandhar, "They have an allowance of Rs. 15 per trainee per day. Can you get four square meals with that sort of money? If the future of Indian hockey is being considered, then a lot more money will have to be pumped in."

And while most players struggle on the fine line that marks off poverty, Pargat is lucky because he has land, a house (he is building another in Jalandhar) and a car." I guess I'm lucky. But maybe because I have these things, I want my players to have them someday and that is the reason why I fight for them."

Why does a man need two houses? A very embarrassed Pargat explained, "I'm getting married....., but I don't know her name." For the first time his veener of self assurance had cracked.

Even Pargat is scared of what is going on in his State. A true Puttar da Punjab *(son of Punjab), he doesn't condone what is happening. He prefers to maintain his silence on the subject.*

And while other troubled areas might once again see peace, the situation in Punjab doesn't seem to have improved. We live in a free country, but where is the freedom to live in peace? Leave alone, play sport! ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week the movements are exactly the same as last week's, except that they're done with the opposite leg or hand. Once again we'd like to remind you that all movements of this part of the kata are being done facing the camera only for your convenience. In reality, they are done in the opposite direction.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

In case readers are in interested in joining kyokushinkaikan karate—full contact karate—classes under Shivaji Ganguly they are requested to get in touch with him at the Kyokushin Karate HQ at Harish Park (Bhowanipur)
Classes are held at
1 Harish Park (Tue & Fri 7 to 8.30 pm, Sun 7 to 9.30 am)
2 Lake Training Centre, Safari Park, Rabindra Sarobar) (Sat & Sun 4.30 to 8 pm)
3 Behala Training Centre, Barisha Akata Sangha Ground, Biren Roy Road (Fri 5 to 8.30 pm, Sun 7 to 8.30 pm)
4 Dhakuria, Babubagan Cultural Ground (Wed & Sun 6 to 7.30 pm)
5 Ranikuthi, Ranikuthi Regent Park, opp. Ranikuthi bus-stop (Tue & Sat 6.30 to 8 pm)
6 Salt Lake, BA-CA Play ground, opp. PNB bus-top (Wed 6.30 to 8 pm, Sun 7 to 9 am)



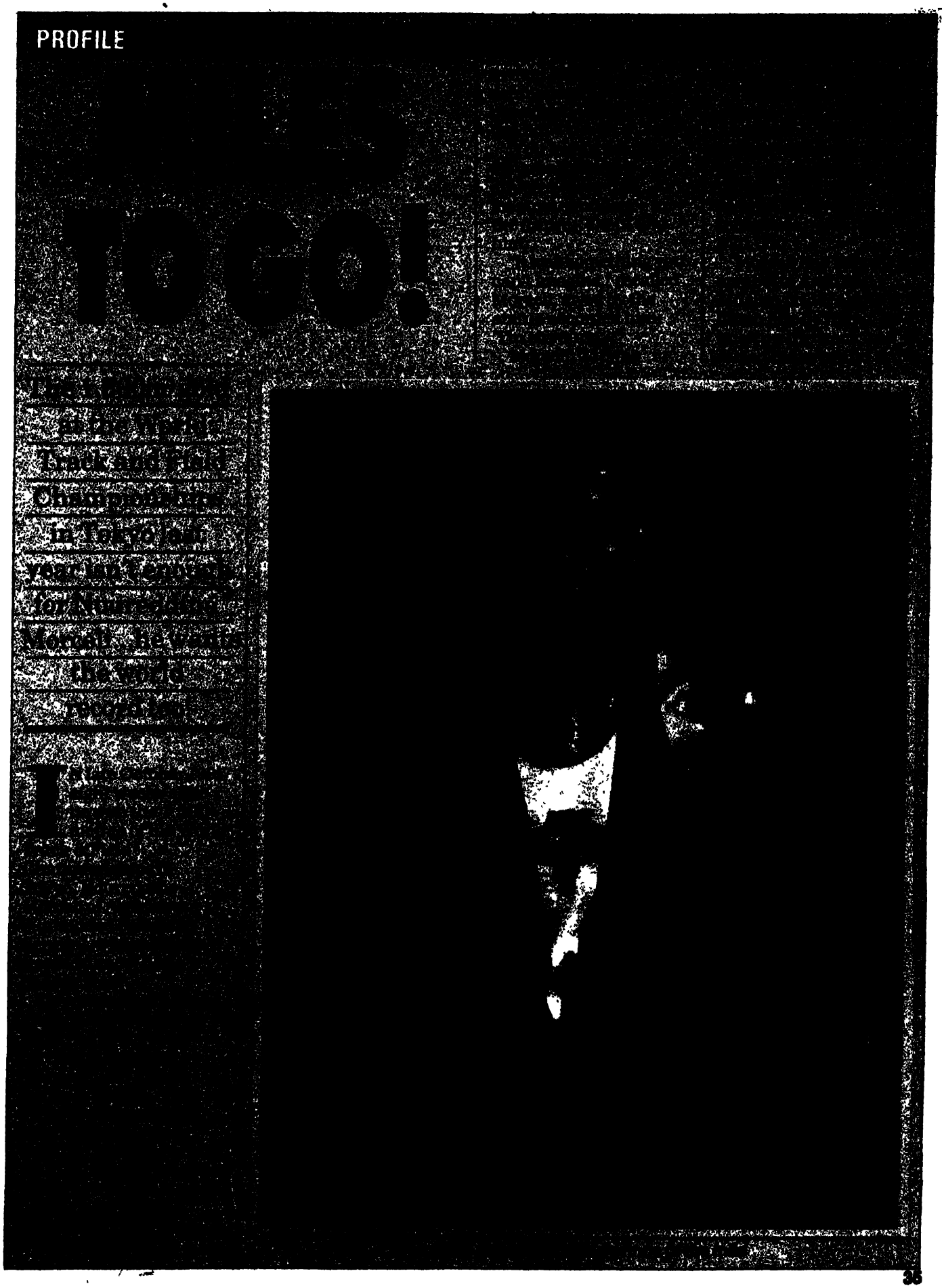
Turn your left foot forwards as you launch into a right jodan mai-giri, landing with right foot forward

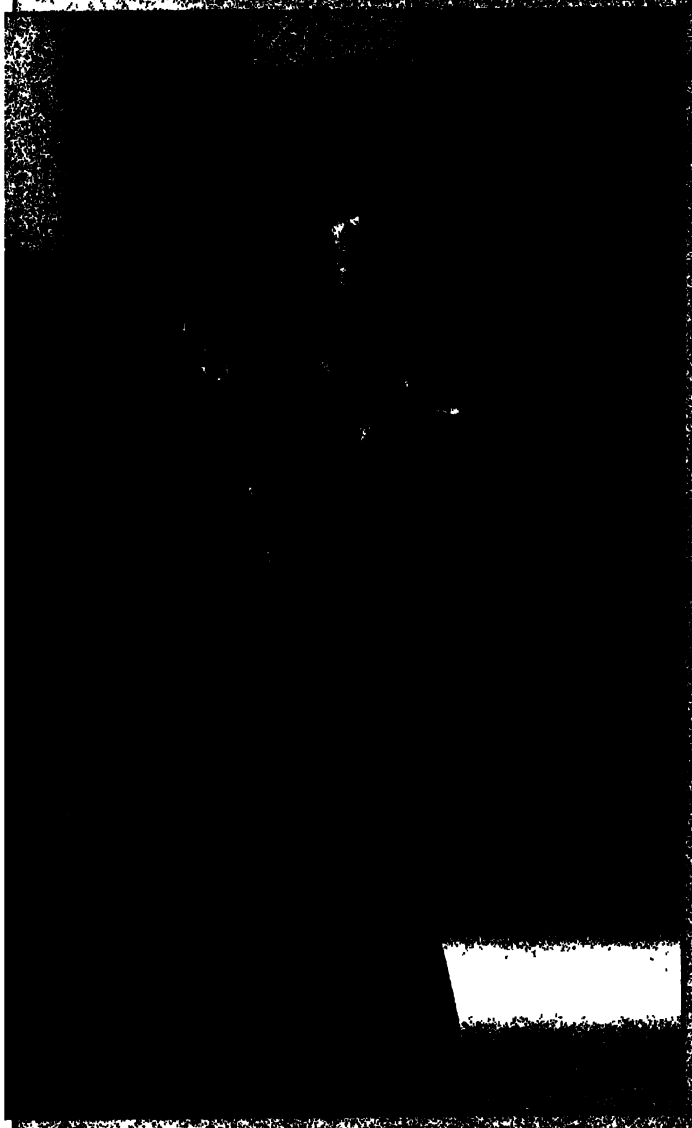


Go into kiba-dachi and perform a right empi-uki or elbow block



In the same stance, deliver a right uraken-uchi or back fist strike at face height







"I want the world record for the 1500m. If you are the world champion and dominant for two or three years, you have to get the world record...." Morceli

END OF AN ERA?



There is a watching brief for [illegible] railway crossings in [illegible] an item pencilled in [illegible] (Beware—one man's [illegible] another). During the [illegible] slight amendment. [illegible] been appropriate for British middle-distance running —"one champion can always succeed another".

If it was not Sebastian Coe winning a major title or setting a world record, it was Steve Ovett. If not Ovett, then Steve Cram. During the decade, Britons won 10 gold, 11 silver and four bronze medals in major championships. The 1984 Olympic 1500m final in Los Angeles provided the apotheosis.

With 350m left to run, Jose Manuel Abascal (ESP) was leading from Coe, with Cram and Ovett third and fourth. In all Olympic history no trio from the same nation had ever won all three medals at this blue-riband event.

Yet, in this case it was almost expected. After all, Coe was the defending champion; Cram was World, European and Commonwealth Games champion; and Ovett was world record holder.

An instant later, illness upset a scenario so devoutly wished for by every watching Briton. Ovett dropped out. The 1980 Olympic 800m champion was wheeled to hospital and put on a drip, suffering from a respiratory complaint. He was never the same again.

Back at the LA Coliseum, the final act was played out. Coe won, with Cram second and Abascal third.

It is still a result to be reckoned with. Coe became the first man in history to successfully defend a 1500m title. Cram—coming back from injury—ran within 15m of holding all four aces in the middle distance pack—an equally unprecedented European, Commonwealth, World and Olympic titles, held consecutively.

The unfortunate Ovett [illegible] into history as one of the greats, undefeated in 45 races at 1500m or one mile between 1977 and 1980, and a multiple world record breaker.

Seven years later, a look at the Tokyo World Championships results—no one in the 800m final, and only Matthew Yates at 10th in the 1500m—prompts the inevitable question: "What has happened to British middle distance running?"

That was my belief [illegible] considered it. [illegible] necessarily such a [illegible] rivals sometimes. Ovett [illegible] TV rather than try [illegible] Coe is chasing power [illegible] can world records [illegible] greatness.

Cram, whose [illegible] Championships [illegible] world record [illegible]







Sebastian Coe: first man in history to defend a 1500m title

Steve Cram: left wondering

like a knight

Commonwealth Games gold in 1990. He withdrew injured before the start of the 1991 World Championships and the only man to beat him afterwards was Noureddine Morceli, the Tokyo winner.

Elliott, at 29, is far from finished. Yates, 21, went on to win an admittedly decimated fifth Avenue mile, and he and Kevin McKay, also 21, who won Grand Prix races in 1991, are as good as any European or United States hopes. So all is not lost for the British. It is just that none of these runners look like repeating the feats of Coe, Ovett and Cram.

George Grandy, the famous Loughborough University Coach, who was involved with Coe's early conditioning work, has some interesting observations on the impact of professionalism:

"When Ovett, Coe and Cram first came on to the scene, it was still the tradition for athletes to retire in their mid-twenties. So the opportunities were there straightaway for youngsters—Cram going to a Commonwealth Games at 17, Ovett winning a European silver medal at 19."

Derek Johnson, Olympic 800m silver medallist in 1956—thinks that the decline is part of an inevitable historical cycle. Johnson was one of a world-class quartet of British 800m runners—with Brian Hewson, Mike Rowland and Mike Parnell—who

New Zealanders. Then later it came back to

with Coe, Ovett and Cram. We just got lucky

now got lucky with sportsmen and numbers. I

expect that to last six or seven years. It is just

much to expect it to last forever."

The Kenyans have taken on the baton, and with such effect that Ivan Morceli not been able to win in Tokyo for any reason. Outside hitting in silver medallist Wilfred Kirochi, the Kenyan men would have won every gold from 800m to 10000m, plus the steeplechase.

The problem of how the rest of the world will respond to such dominance has yet to be addressed for Kenya's continued premiership seems, for likely, for reasons of topography alone—

many potential world-class athletes

at altitude. The temptation to blame

lowland opponents will become

another story.

Morceli is unbeatable at the

to miss the Olympic Games

another Algerian, would

Aouita and any other

That in essence, lack

accusation being

every new departure

The real problem

for any country

athletes with

other

DIFFERENT STROKES

DIRTY HARRY'S PERVERT



Ice skater Katarina Witt is 'Dirty Harry's' obsession

Dirty Harry, the nickname of the notorious San Francisco police officer who threatened criminals with the barrel of a .44 and repeating the words, 'Go ahead, make my day'. But the 'Dirty Harry' we're talking about is sure ain't making anybody's day, because he is behind bars. Talk about a reversal of fortune!

Harry Veltman, alias 'Dirty Harry', was picked up by FBI agents when he threw sexually threatening letters at Katarina Witt while she was performing at Denver, USA. Veltman is obsessed with the German ice skating star and has written 60 letters, some of which were accompanied by dirty photographs with graphic descriptions of his desire for her.

Veltman, 47, will remain in prison as long as the ice queen is in the country, where she has been performing sell-out shows.

ALL FOR FAME

FOR some people, fame is permanent. For others, it comes the hard way. For example, Juan Antonio Samaranch the president of the International Olympic Committee is the man for whom presidents wait but nobody ever complains.

To add to the already long list of titles and honours before and after his name, he has received a new one from King Juan Carlos of Spain. From now on he will be called 'The Marquis of Samaranch'.

On the other hand there is Nelson Piquet, the Formula One driver. Trying to stay in the news in his old age he has announced that he is going to launch a motor racing team to contest the 1992 International Formula 3000 Championship. Piquet confirmed that his team will run a pair of the latest March-Ralt RT 24 cars.

Well, fame comes one way or another!

Juan Antonio Samaranch or the Marquis of Samaranch?



'SAVE A LIFE': LINEKER'S PLEA

GARY LINEKER, who has received more than 10,000 messages from well-wishers, has delivered one of his own.

He said that as long as his son, George, responds to treatment, he intends to lead England into the European Championships final in Sweden this summer before he retires from the international arena.

Lineker, speaking publicly for the first time since he learnt his three-month-old son had acute myeloid leukaemia, said, "I'm playing every game for Tottenham Hotspur, and I hope for England too."

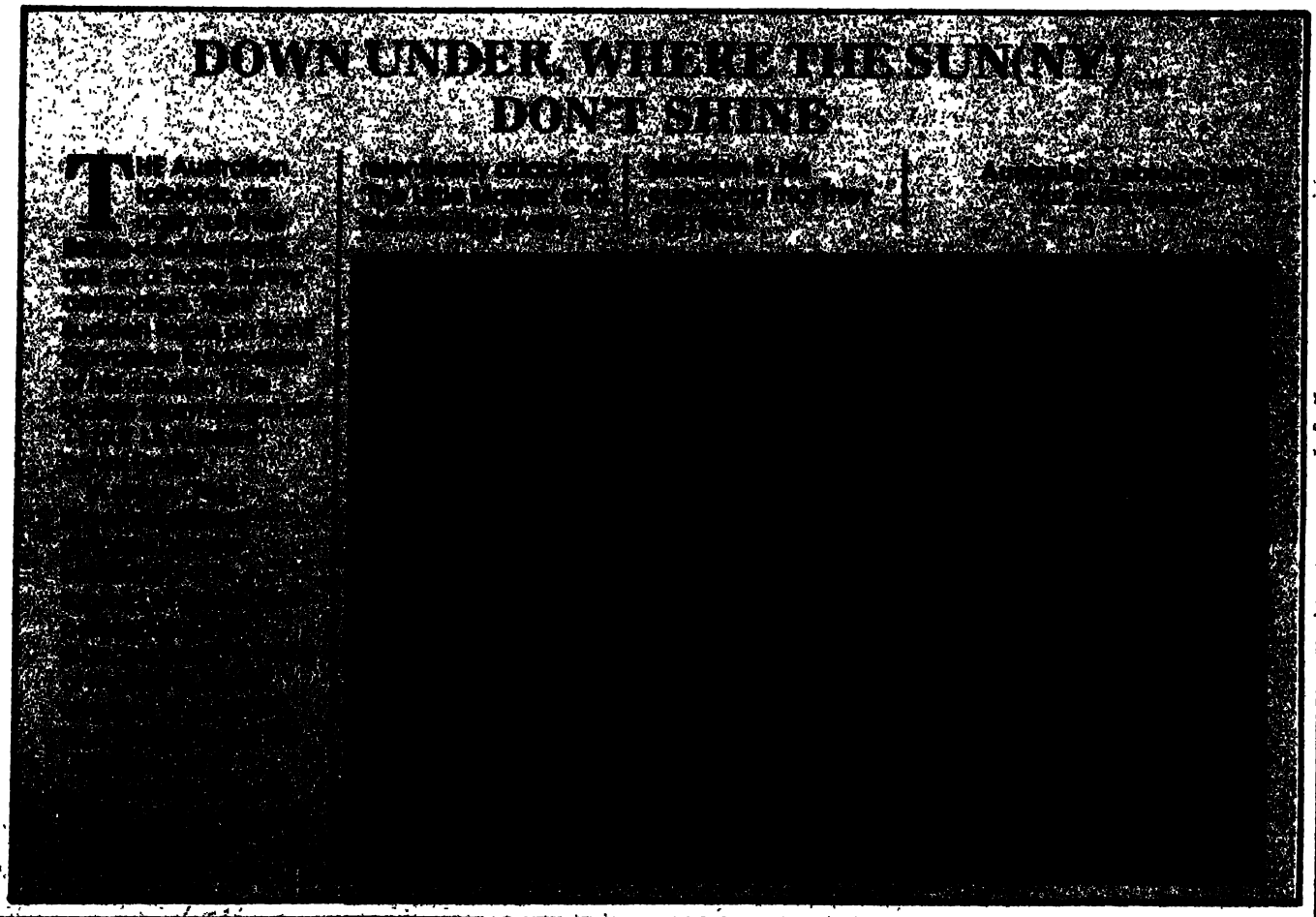
Commenting on his son's chances of survival, he said, "Everything is going as well as it could, but it is a long haul. It is like the Grand National, with every fence the size of Becher's Brook".

A lot of people have asked him what they can do for him, and his answer is simple, "There is somebody in the next cubicle to George who will die shortly if he doesn't have a bone marrow transplant... Help him. What a wonderful feeling that would be, to save somebody's life."



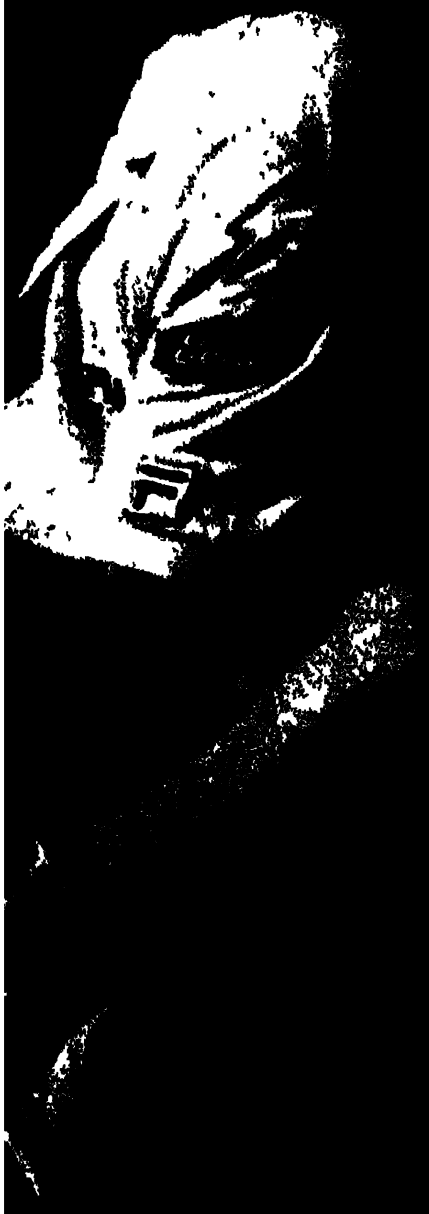
The future of England's soccer team rests on Lineker's son, George

DOWN UNDER, WHERE THE SUN(N)Y DON'T SHINE

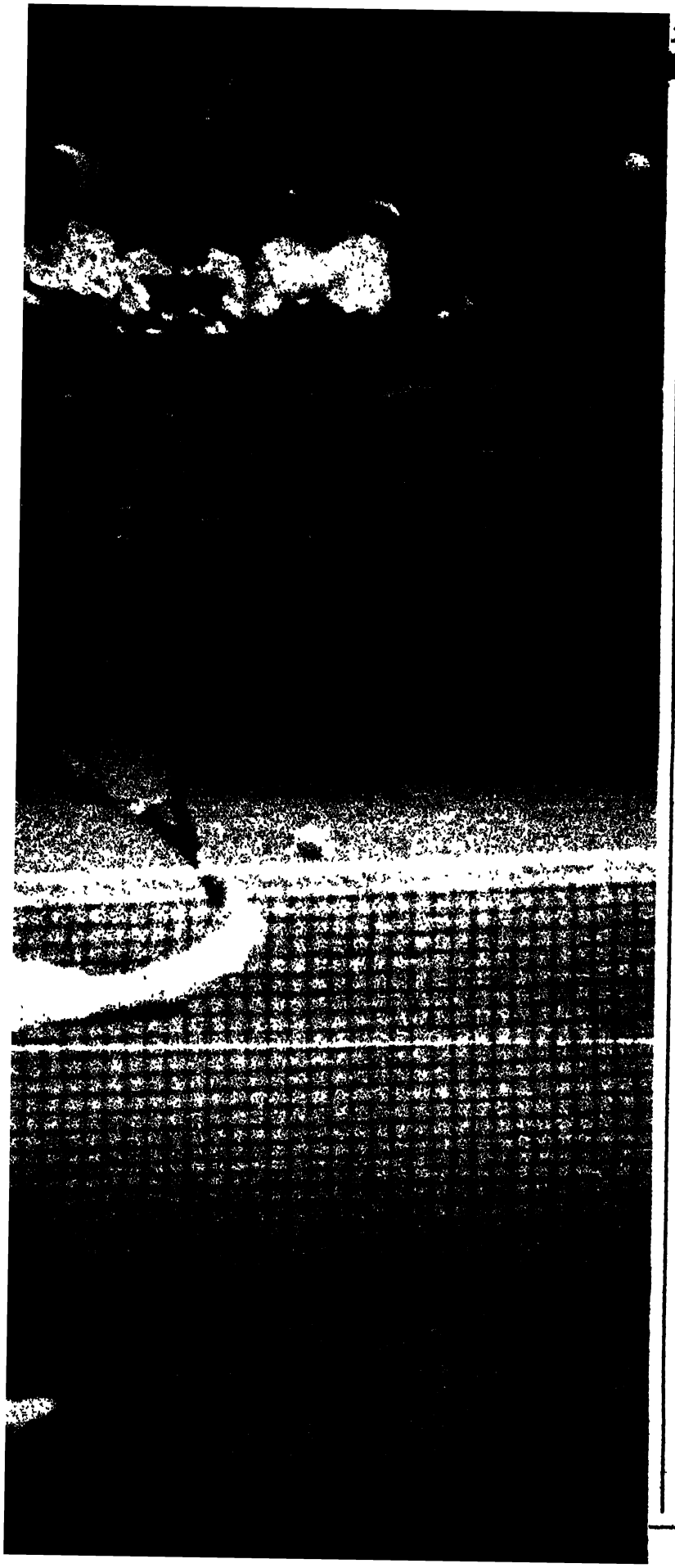


CRY FREEDOM





THE AMAZING STORY OF BORIS BECKER'S RETURN FROM THE EDGE OF SELF-DESTRUCTION, BREAKING AWAY FROM THE SHACKLES OF THE HIGH-STRUNG LIFE THAT COMES WITH BEING No. 1



TOMMY HINDLEY

Loose overcoat, sturdy shoes, cap pulled over the eyes—he stood in front of the door like that—a superstar like you and me. Boris Becker visited Arno Luik, in his Hamburg flat and talked about how it felt to be the star in Melbourne, how he had to shake off doubts and anxiety in order to be ready for being "No. 1", why he now feels "free, free, free". Luik recorded what the liberated Becker had to say about himself and the world; after countless cups of coffee and bananas both went to the movies. Afterwards he disappeared again—the big blonde fellow in his loose fitting overcoat who confesses to the great desire of not to be so well-known anymore...

I REALISED for the first time in 1989 that I could become the best tennis player in the world. After the match ball against Lendl in the US Open I knew that I could beat them all on all lawns, slow or fast ones, sand or grass. I had played good tennis, sure, I had Wimbledon twice and thrice and also a few Grand Slams, a few great titles and tournaments, but at that stage I did not as yet believe in my strength. And I was

I have worked out a new philosophy of life for myself. It all started in September 1984. I was rich, I had everything in material goods—money, women, everything. But I was unhappy. My values were wrong. All was only tennis, I had screwed it out the ass.

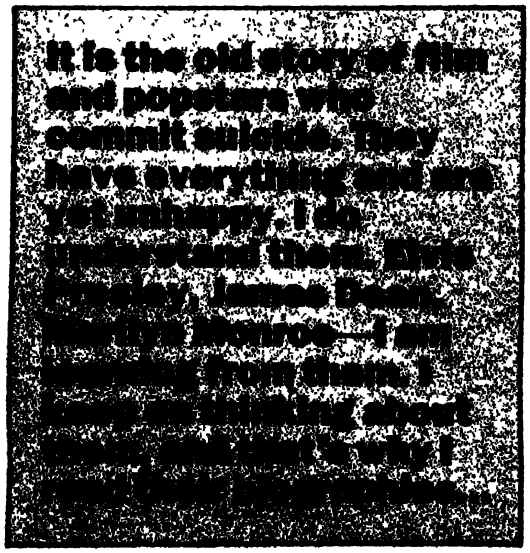
somewhat afraid, I shied away from responsibilities, afraid to carry a burden—afraid to fall flat on the face and end up like Mats Wilander.

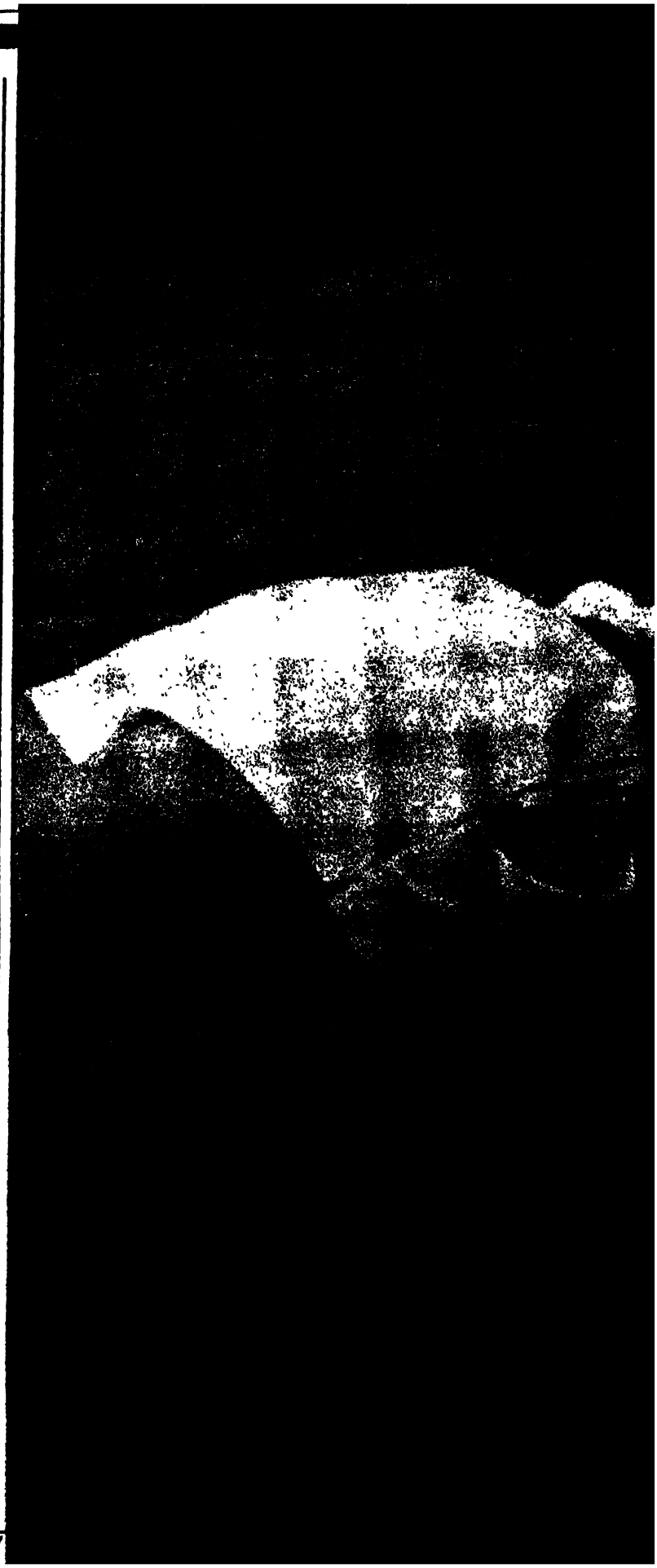
But a day after the win, the ten best players—only Lendl was absent—met and all of them stood up and applauded me. That's when I knew: I am on a different level now—they have confidence in me.

From this moment onwards I started to believe in my ability to become the best on all courts, all the year through I pulled myself together, started to work in a different way; more motivated, with more concentration. Now I wanted to be No. 1! But it took another 18 months—I had to adjust myself to a different goal. I thought of Mats Wilander—his triumph and the sudden fall. Mats is in many ways like myself. I was afraid I would have the same fate after I had reached the desired goal; that suddenly all would be deflated like a pricked balloon.

Wilander has as much will power as I have. It is nearly impossible to beat him by margin only. To play always as if there was no life after the match, no morning after, takes a lot out of you. It burns you out. You fall into a black hole, the way it happened to me after the US Open or after Wimbledon—and I was afraid of this. This depression after euphoria is a horror trip—I'd rather remain No. 2 than go through that again.

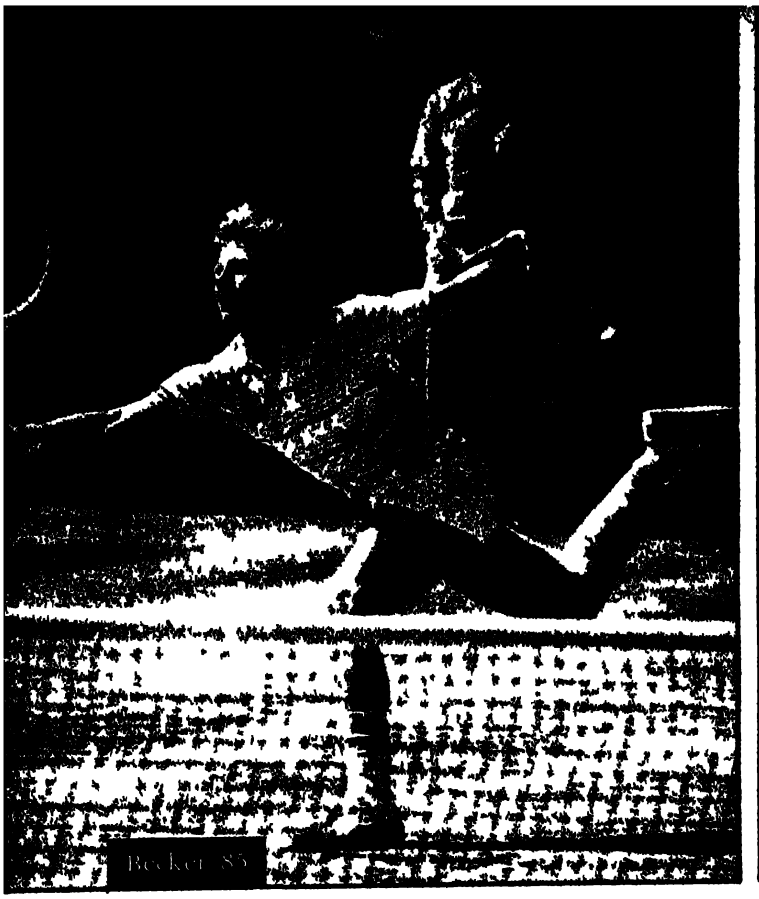
It took a long time to understand that I cannot go against this, I cannot loose intentionally. I suddenly realised that it doesn't matter at all whether I am No. 1 or No. 2...nothing changes. It doesn't make me happier or sadder. This realisation made me feel free—to realise that life went on normally also the day after. That means having to accept that tennis is not all, that I have to look beyond this and can do it too! That I may be a great tennis player, maybe the best even, but that I have to live without tennis also one of these days. That life has to make sense for me also after I am 33 and that I can





TOMMY HINDLEY

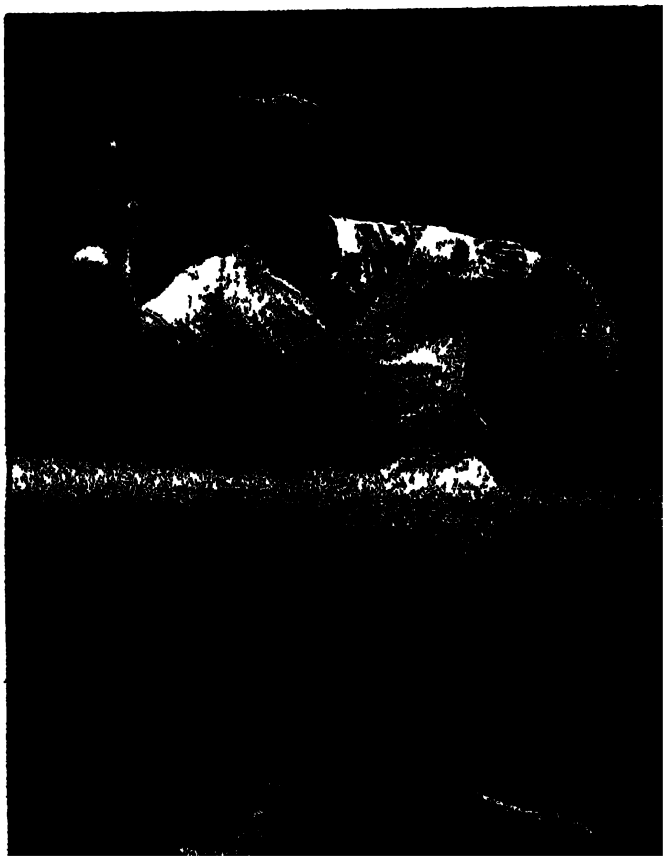


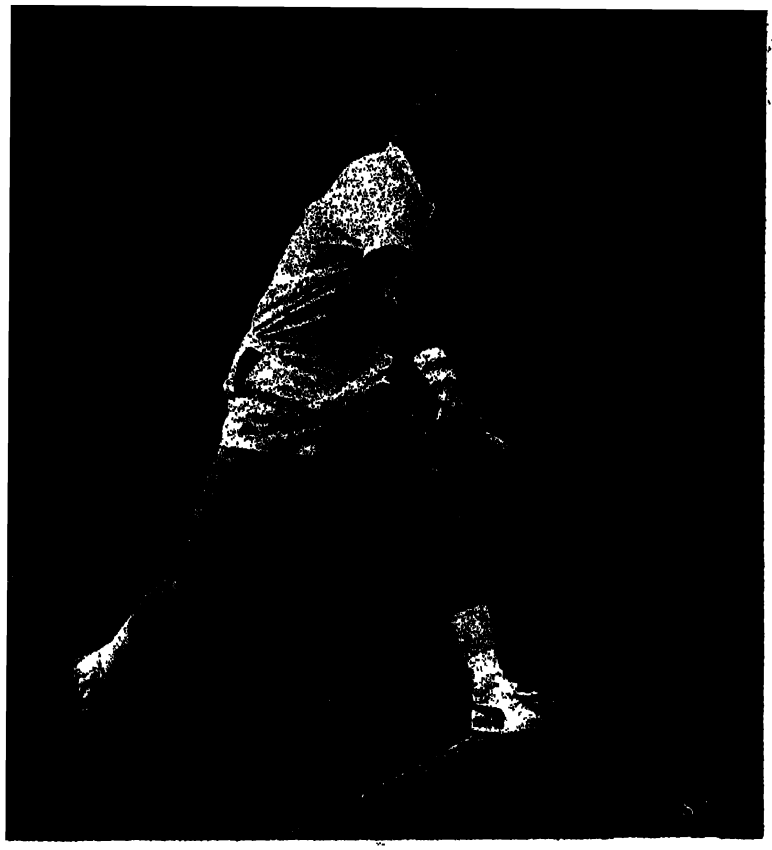




The Changing Face

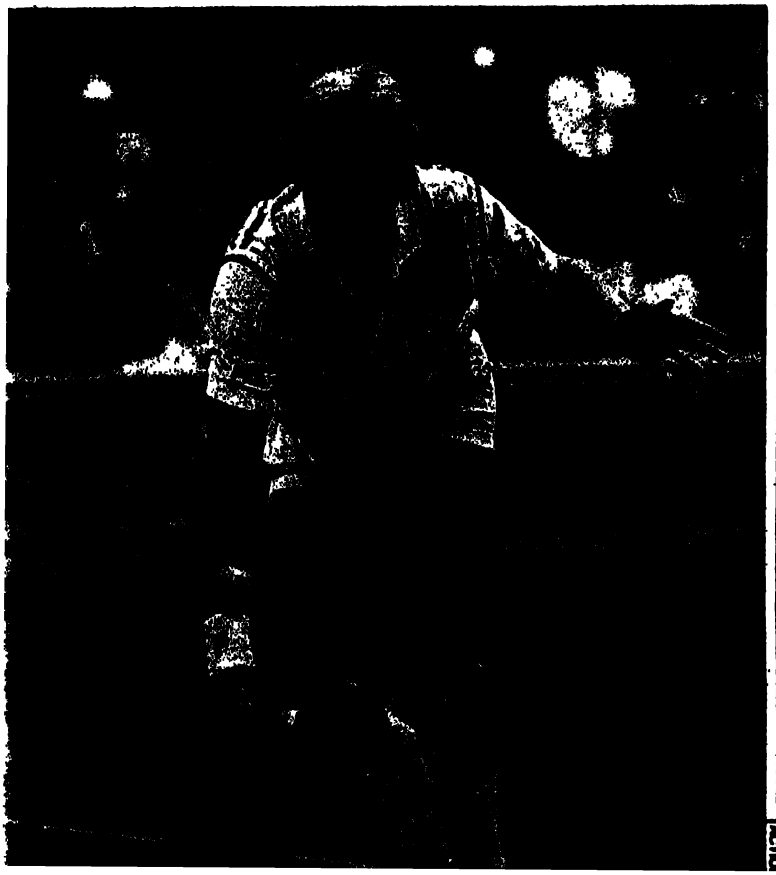








of Boris Becker



experience great things too after that as well.

Had I lost in Melbourne last year I would not have become No. 1. But I would still have left the Centre Court with my head held high. I had to learn and understand this and of course friends, also my parents, helped me. I also realised that I have to win in a different way, that I cannot always depend on the head alone, that I should not win with 'mental power', as they say, alone.

This is too much in the long run, it ruins you, burns you. In the end, I understood

My goal was to win Wimbledon, and win I did. But life has to go on next day. This is impossible when you have achieved your heart's desire— suddenly you become depressed, you are the unhappiest person there is, even though you won Wimbledon.



TOMMY HINDLE

that I had to change my style of playing and started to work on it I improved my conditioning, second service and backhand and also worked on my volley I did improve and suddenly lost this anxiety I knew I would make it and was mentally prepared for it

I also was not afraid of injuries any more Each sportsperson has to reckon with torn muscles, and I do have my dependable Doc It didn t upset me therefore, when I tore a muscle in Paris in November '90 Edberg became No 1 and he deserved it in 1990 I don't think it has anything to do with luck—he was better that year My back problem in Melbourne annoyed me—was I never going to make it?

1990 was a trial year for me, a year of maturing Nothing came easy to me, no such thing as luck no net rollers—I had to work hard The first six months were like a roller coaster I separated with Karen in March I didn t think of tennis then, I wanted to settle my private life first and it showed in my game

And then Wimbledon!

At Wimbledon I never played as badly as I did in '90 but in spite of that I reached the final—and had almost won the match too! How badly I played! I got through only on account of my will power—this helped me to realise that I could make it! I celebrated after Wimbledon and was happy I ate and drank what I wanted hardly slept, hardly practised That was the celebration for me I didn't do after Melbourne as No 1 Wimbledon 1990, my final defeat was a triumph for me—my start to the top



IS it crazy the way all players glance at the points spat out by the computer? The computer list is our bible. Lendl, Edberg, Agassi all look at their lists and whoever says he is not interested is a liar. On Monday, when the rank list is on display in the changing rooms, there is absolute quiet for one hour. Everyone is calculating, checking, figuring out how long it will take to get here or there.

For seven years this is part of my life. It is absolutely normal for me and does not put me under pressure. I am only of the opinion that Grand Slam tournaments deserve a higher evaluation. These are the four most important tournaments and who is best there is No. 1!

Tennis used to be a means to gain love, to be recognised by my elders. But now I can pick up my racket on a nice Sunday at 5 p.m., play for one hour and I find it simply great to experience this perfect harmony of soul, body and spirit...

I want to play tennis as well as possible. If necessary, I'll live 24 hours for this, maybe even a couple of weeks. But then comes the break, and I consider this as important.

It wasn't always like that but I have changed. I have worked out a new philosophy of life for myself. It all started in September 1984. I was rich, I had everything in material goods—money, women—everything. I know it sounds corny but I was unhappy.

It is the old story of film and popstars who commit suicide. They have everything and are yet unhappy. I do understand them. Elvis Presley, James Dean, Marilyn Monroe—I am learning from them. I keep on thinking about them and that's why I read their biographies.

My goal was to win Wimbledon, and win I did! But life has to go on next day. This is impossible when you have achieved your heart's desire—suddenly you become depressed, you are the unhappiest person there is, even though you won Wimbledon. Or is it because you won? I thought hard about all this, and then decided in future to do only what I think is right and am convinced it is best for me.



Boris Becker with his mother (left) and sister: recognition from the elders and all family

I was a product, a puppet on a string. Is it possible that the failure at Wimbledon in 1987 actually saved my life? In any case, I became a different person; I turned from market product Becker to Becker the person.

(To be continued)

As told to Arno Luik

COURTESY *SPORTS*

TUFF TURF

Graf's gone. Becker and Courier want to be No. 1. And Capriati's the star. ANDY O'BRIEN finds the 'Oz Open' a little like Maggi sauce....different!

IF, like me, your only other pilgrimage to a grand slam event was Wimbledon, then you would find the Australian Open to be almost blasphemous. Even if you forget about corporate boxes, sponsors' buntings, fast food outlets and fancy retractable roofs, this tournament is still the Oz open. It's different.

Where else will the official souvenier shop stock everything from t-shirts to coloured zinc oxide and—hold your breath—tampons?
Where else would semi-clad men and women guzzle beer, scoff monster sandwiches and watch some tennis in between?

Perhaps the stone and steel structure that is Flinders Park is very ironical. It is a modern centre for a modern game which has a lot to do with concrete and steel. It is known as the friendly Open. But really, it should also be the relaxed Open. It is only if you strip the Australian Open to the bones, that you get to see that in reality it is a grand slam event.

Two hundred and fifty six tennis players from all over the world. Of these 208 (104 of either sex) gained automatic entry because they had the minimum required ranking last month (132 for men, 137 for women) 16 were given wildcards and the final 32 battled through a four-round pre-qualifying tournament. The organisers conducted 128 men's and women's singles matches on the three stadium courts and twelve outside courts by midnight on day two of the championships thus eliminating half the title aspirants even before they had been in town long enough to run up a decent room service bill. The unfortunate few departed even before the cheese and greens were served in the corporate lunch tents on the first day. Thanks for coming, guys and gals. Pick up your cheque on the way out and maybe we'll see you again same time, same place, next year. As cruel as it may sound, that's the nature of the beast.

Where else will the official souvenier shop stock everything from t-shirts to coloured zinc oxide and—hold your breath—tampons?

Grand Slam tennis is nothing if not a tale of two worlds. While the would-bes and could-bes drop away one by one, no doubt wondering how far the remuneration (5,400 dollars for a first round loser) will stretch after tax and



other expenses the elite few begin the quest for the serious money After the middle weekend all but 32 players (plus doubles specialists) will have used the return half of their air tickets Those remaining supposedly being the 16 seeded men and women whose draws are tailored to ensure a speedy removal of the less talented players

It was Steffi Graf's withdrawal that plunged the tournament—and her immediate future—into disarray

Why did Graf leave so suddenly

At least that s how it is supposed, but never does and hopefully never will, work. What happens instead during the opening week is a mass confusion of upsets five set thrillers heat exhaustion (as contrasted with rain delays at Wimbledor) and night matches that go close into early morning It is little wonder then that the early rounds are always a source of palpable tension for the superstars So much at stake so much of ambition and guts on the other side of the net and so easy to slip up Upsets apart Flinders Park might indeed have made as good a venue this year for a medical convention as a grand slam tournament

Stefan Edberg Henri Leconte Guy Forget Goran Ivanisevic Pete Sampras Monica Seles and Steffi Graf were among others those in doctor s hands prior to the start of the tournament Sampras withdrawal with a strained right shoulder opened up the bottom half of the draw making Jim Courier s path somewhat easier But it was Steffi Graf's withdrawal that plunged the tournament—and her immediate future—into disarray She had already left the Flinders Park when German team coach Klaus Hofsaess announced it She apparently sprinted to her plane that was to connect her to a Quantas flight to Frankfurt fleeing from the photographers that awaited her appearance and exit at Melbourne airport

Yet on the Monday the tournament began, according to Hofsaess the number two seed and three time winner was hardly able to move Her joints were aching she was running a temperature and blood tests were called for Only the day before she was signing autographs while promoting a clothes line in a Melbourne department store She told reporters that she would only play if she was 'hundred percent well

Apparently Graf fell ill after a practice session with Jimmy Arias, and the doctor consulted told her to abandon thoughts of chasing a fourth title While there is no doubt that Graf is sick fear can do strange things The German media were buzzing with theories that she was jaded after nine and a half years on the tour Also for the first time Graf, this year, refused to give a pre-Open news conference traditionally organised by her sponsor Adidas

Unfavourable reports over the Hopman Cup debacle, when she twice defaulted had upset her, an Adidas spokesman said



Becker: Mr. Confused

When asked if he would return if he won the Open this year, Becker replied, "I don't know if I will be even playing tennis next year."

Whatever the reason, it is learnt that Graf may be out of action for about four weeks and that her entire 1992 programme hinges on the results of the blood tests taken in Melbourne

But in spite of Graf's withdrawal the adrenalin was still flowing in the first week at Flinders Park the struggling lowly ranked and just plain desperate using all their ammunition and the seeds dodging bullets The strong survived the weak perished

EVEN though there was not too much drama in the opening days of the tournament that didn t mean the show wasn t stolen There was this girl who looks like well like the fifteen year old that she is In front of the world s media she acts like one bubbling but despite her familiarity with the attention there is a streak of shyness Look up her records and her feats generally begin with the phrase youngest ever female to fill in the blanks yourself

There are few age records Jennifer Capriati has left intact Making her first appearance in Australia as a pro she seemed to enjoy the surroundings and the Melbourne sun just as in turn, the crowds took to her After her games she stayed on court signing autographs and if it wasn t for the fact that the next match was to get underway, she would have happily stayed on court all afternoon The Florida schoolgirl has proved it around the world the two years she s been on the circuit and on her first visit to Melbourne she has effortlessly underscored it—that she is blessed with star quality multiplied by a factor of X Talent plus personality is always a formidable gift but with her, even the wrapping is right

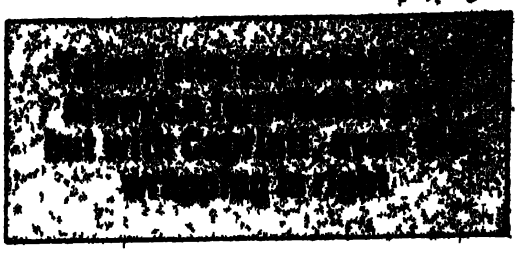
Incredibly she is already listed at No 26—with an income of over five million dollars—on an American magazine's list of the 40 highest paid athletes in the world By comparison, the girl she beat in the first round was nearly five years older, has been on the tour three years longer and has earned $ 225,578 It's a tale of two worlds, all right

And at the top of the men s world is one Stefan Edberg He remains there having twice put down Boris Becker

GRAPHS TOMMY HINDLEY



Capriati's got the crowd eating out of her hand



insurrections last season His game is not flashy but consistently, lyrically spectacular his mind and his appetite unsated He has been known to hiccup under pressure But lately no one has been able to apply any While his body did betray him prior to the start of the Open (tendinitis in the knee preceeded the forearm muscle strain) but that has not been his major problem What must stand the test of confrontation with Becker and Lendl (who are both in his half of the draw) is his two month lack of match practise. I hit the ball on Christmas Day for the first time in two months he said It's the longest break I've ever had and every win is giving me more confidence

And that's precisely what Edberg will need to get through his half of the draw and eventually fight off the likes of Jim Courier in the final

With no visible physical dents, no psychological weariness Courier's half of the draw seems to be infinitely more attractive than Edberg's Not unnoticed, but hardly exuding star quality he seems to be simply taking care of his business at Flinder s Park If Edberg loses in the quarter finals and Courier goes on to win the tournament we could well have a new world No 1

That present event is out of my control' he says claiming that his goal is to win this tournament" But there is a man out there who has once again found the eagerness to be No 1 Boris Becker And, as usual, Becker insists on thinking too hard On one hand it s nice to be in a place where you know you have done well, on the other side there's more pressure because you know the only thing actually you can achieve here is to win .

But Becker is a very serious man nowadays, When asked whether he would return if he won the Open this year he replied 'I don't know if I will even be playing tennis next year ' Some people laughed Becker didn't He's determined to get back to No 1 and the Australian Open will be the first step in that direction But as Courier, the other man gunning for that spot says there are no freebies out there in the draw Not even John McEnroe! ●

ANDY O'BRIEN profiles the new McEnroe he discovered in Melbourne who over the years has metamorphosed in his own special way, becoming more and more philosophical in his attitude to life, while on court remaining the same old brat the world had so familiarly known...

SPECIAL FEATURE

JOHN McENROE

THE WIZARD OF OZ

BACK at the scene of crime, the villain was so immaculately mannered in the beginning that he might almost have passed through incognito Still when you come in public in red, white and blue shirt, blue shorts, scarlet knee bandage, white and grey and white shoes and you begin to hassle the umpire there is a chance you might attract people's attention Sure enough on examination this proved to be John McEnroe, all right.

Tennis' tormented genius turned up at the Australian Open for the first time since the uproar two years ago when he was disqualified during a fourth round match for well, the usual—misbehaviour

This time, though, it seemed, at least during the first round that his notorious sense of black theatre was safely under tight wraps It seemed to justify what tournament referee Peter Bellinger, the man who threw him out two years ago, was saying before the tournament, 'welcome back, all is forgiven

But when the 31-year old 28th ranked and unseeded McEnroe met Andrei Cherkasov, the heat was on from the very first set McEnroe argued a service call and then during the crossover continued the argument over the linebeeper

Of course, he had a point, but when McEnroe argues all that is normally said is 'superbrat is back' and he was If it makes Dyke and Cherkasov feel any better, they were the victims of the vintage McEnroe



strokeplay—glimpses of that old magic are still detectable at least when his game is not under pressure from his opponent

McEnroe was in good form and that brought him face to face with Boris Becker—a showdown between two of the all time greats was the most tantalising prospect for the first week of the tournament

Some compared his form to his golden age when he reigned supreme from 1981 to 1984 that RAGE TOUR But this was the Farewell to the World Tour

Why seven years after he won his last grand slam title—the 1984 US Open—is John McEnroe keeping on? Does he still think he is capable of exerting an impact at these lofty levels of tennis? Well, it is a delicate matter which McEnroe seems to be only slowly coming to terms with

Back at the scene of crime, the villain was so immaculately mannered in the beginning that he might almost have passed through incognito. Still, when you come in public in red, white and blue shirt, blue shorts, scarlet knee bandage, white and grey and white shoes and you begin to hassle the umpire there is a chance you might attract people's attention. Sure enough, on examination this proved to be John McEnroe, all right..

There's always hope he says repeating the words for emphasis It's been a long time now seven years and certainly it is a long shot, but if you don t think you have a chance, there is no way you can do it At this stage if I win one big tournament I'll probably quit on the spot Otherwise quitting cold turkey does not seem to be an attractive proposition for McEnroe Yet, with 15 years of mental and physical strain taking its toll, McEnroe still refuses to commit himself to when or even whether he will depart *altogether* The only thing he guarantees is that the days of putting himself under the sustained pressure that comes with pursuing and protecting the top rankings are over

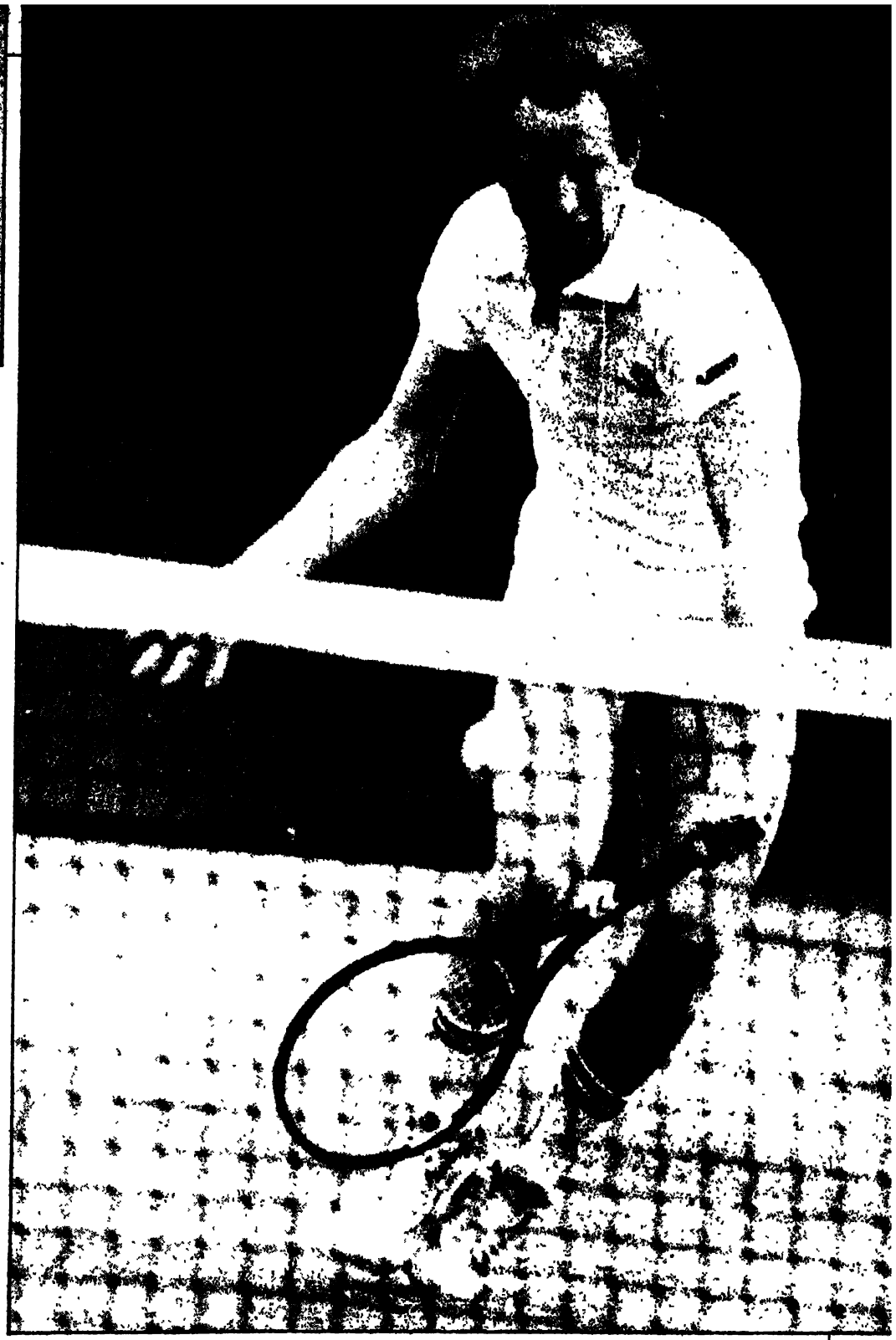
Now every McEnroe press conference seems to be a philosophy session McEnroe may be a yard slower on his feet, but not with his mouth And never interrupt him when he is in full flow And here he goes

Everyone has his time, and I had my time In the deepest part of my heart and soul I believe I can do it, because I have done it There's another side of me that is more of a realist, so I try to keep the realistic side away from me as much as possible, but it's difficult The good part is that I am the underdog against a lot of players and I have nothing to lose No one can take away what I have already done. Realistically, I'm happy that I had my time in the first place. As a





[redacted] press conference [redacted] to be a [redacted] session. McEnroe may be a year [redacted] of the field but not with his mouth. And never interrupt him when he is in full flow.



kid, I never dreamed that would happen."

"After being number one or two in eight different years and among the top three for ten years, what difference does it really make what my ranking is now, 28 or 10, 30 or 50. The others have the pressure of trying to be the best, like the Edbergs, the Beckers, the Agassis, the Samprases. They should have to take that burden from me now. I'm not even going to pretend that I'm going to be at my best again. If by some miracle that happens, I'll deal with it then."

Like most players McEnroe too has done little else with his time and so it was no surprise that his vision of life even after the game, still revolves largely around tennis and nothing beyond.

He finds some appeal in the idea of doing TV commentary, of course promising to contribute a perspective people haven't seen before. And deeply patriotic as he always professed to be, he has the ambition to coach the US Davis Cup team to which he was recently recalled after being overlooked, much to his pain and dismay.

For the moment, though, his mood seems to be mellow. He even confessed to believing that there is too much money in tennis and every other sport. Not that the winner of 11.5 million dollars is complaining about that. "If people are going to put up that kind of money then the players deserve it more than anyone else," he said. But there are such people, he noted thoughtfully, as policemen and firemen who save people's lives. There are school teachers...the comment trailed off, but the essence seemed clear enough; perhaps, such things could be more in proportion.

"But that's not the way it is right now," he shrugged, finally declaring another long philosophy session closed as he went on to face reality in the form of one Boris Becker. ●

Double

GRAF'S MARRIAGE PROPOSAL

"IS Steffi Graf there?' inquired the man on the phone. "Yes" replied Marie Kelly, players' liason officer at the Australian Open. This was before Steffi suddenly withdrew from the tournament. 'I'm calling from Montreal, Canada," the voice on the phone said. "I'd like to speak to Steffi." Kelley inquired why—the answer 'to date her' heads the list of strange requests leading up to the Open. 'I'd like to marry her", the caller said. "You", Kelly said, "and a thousand others". The caller rang back later, but was again denied his request because Kelly decided this was one request she could not entertain.

In her six-year dealings with the best tennis players in the world, she claims she's yet to be stumped by a 'within reason' request. That includes organising a jet to take Chris Evert to a holiday island. A whole night of telephone calls did the trick but Evert cancelled the trip the next morning.

"Everything from players wanting to play golf—which is the most popular one—to finding a tailor at short notice, there's really not many things we haven't been asked for," says Kelly.

"When McEnroe was thrown out of the tournament in 1990, he wanted to go home immediately and organising to slip him out without the media getting to know about it was, ah, interesting. I suppose they need us to keep things close to our chest. That requires trust," explains Kelly. But one thing she does admit to: "It's the rock and roll treatment for the bulk of the world's best tennis players.

INSIDE INFORMATION

TALKING about lifestyles, former Australian tennis star Peter McNamara was asked to give inside information about the lives of tennis players. Some of his 'insider' comments included:

- "You don't see many guys at the bar having a beer after they've beaten an opponent these days.
- "A lot of tennis players wear clothes they don't like. If some company offers $25,000 to wear their clothes because they are good and another offers $100,000 but it looks bad, I can tell you, most of the players will go for the latter. Clothing endorsements keeps agents alive, it provides most of their 25 per cent. I can guarantee that there are certain players wearing certain clothing not because they overly enjoy doing so but because of the pay cheque they receive at the end of the month. There are a lot of fringe benefits that go with clothing endorsements; they help enhance the deal when you're wearing ugly clothing. The worse the clothing the more you can negotiate.'

Some more questions, Peter.

Does winning a $120,000 tournament mean you pocket $120,000? "Not true. The layman would probably think that but unfortunately that's not true. After the tax man gets you and after all the other expenses, you would probably end up with something like 10,000. And then you pay for things like air fares, so you would probably come out with a whopping 7000, which may not be bad for a week's work for anyone, but when you win a tournament.... These guys have got good accountants behind them but the take home pay is not nearly as great as everyone thinks it is."

Is sex rampant on the circuit, Peter?

"I don't think so. I don't see anyone doing it out in the open so I don't know how it could be rampant especially these days. Tennis might have that image—obviously there are some boys who like going out and having a good time after they have lost—but it's definitely not in the same league as the rock and roll industry or anything. Most players are more concerned about their on-court performances rather than their sexual performances."

That was revealing Peter, thanks.

IVANI...WHO? OH, GORAN!

YOU would think that Croatian Goran Ivanisevic is a local boy at Flinders Park. Even when he played Aussie Jason Stoltenberg in the first round! Ivanisevic always attracts a large vocal following for his matches here. Croatian flags are prominent as are shouts of 'Goran, Goran? When he played Stoltenberg, court one's 6000 capacity was tested to the limit; so much so that queues stretched a long way from each entrance. Information for many fans came by the running commentary given by a gate attendant who described the final moments of the memorable first set tie-break won by Ivanisevic 14-12. "Stoltenberg dumps one in the net...set point to Ivanisa..Ivines....ah, Goran."

fault

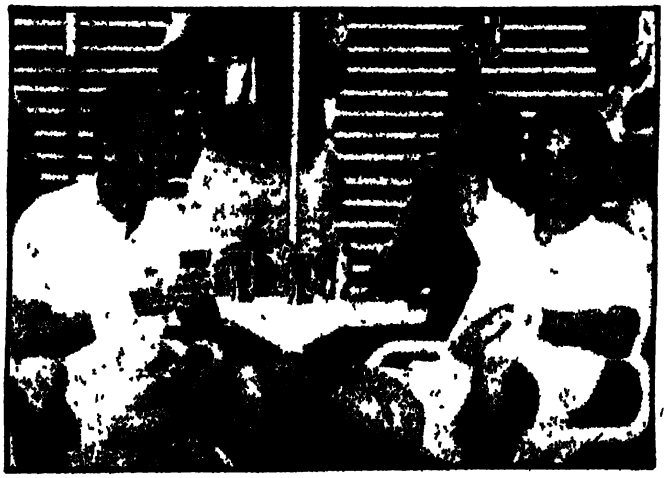


CASH WANTS CREDIT

GOMEZ'S example won't do any good for Pat Cash's demand that the ATP tour consider reserving wild cards for older champions There is no doubt that the public still wants to see the like of McEnroe, Connors, Leconte and Cash. But in some way this will be a selfish move since it does deny a chance for a youngster and it does deny the work that others have put in to improve their rankings. In fact Cash himself was asked to consider an 'undercurrent' of opinion that he might be keeping younger local champions down by requesting and receiving free entry into this year's Australian Open

But Cash's suggestion also makes a lot of sense from the spectator point of view. Leconte has said that, under medical advice he couldn't play for more than two weeks in a row. Then he has to rest, stretch, exercise, have treatment on his multi-scarred back.

Friends or foes? Wild card Henri Leconte toasts his first round conquerer and Davis Cup teammate Guy Forget



Leconte cannot pursue a reasonable ranking under those orders. Yet he is still a tough opponent and an eminently attractive player. It's up to the tournament if they think someone is worthwhile If you're not required, then that's different, said Cash.

What Cash is asking for is an easy way of getting into the glamour tournaments while he continues to pursue his part-time player plans. Didn't do him much good though...even though he did leave his guts strewn all over the court after the five-set loss to Emilio Sanchez.

THE GHOST WHO PLAYS

REMEMBER Andres Gomez? One man who might was not here: Andre Agassi, the man Gomez downed in the 1990 French Open final. But you can be forgiven if the name is a distant memory. Since Gomez won his first Grand Slam title he has not tasted a single victory in a single Grand Slam match That succession of first round losses continued at Flinders Park this year when qualifier Aki Rahuenen fought back from two sets down to continue the Ecuadorian's Grand Slam drought.

BECKER WANTS A HOME

BORIS BECKER is fed up with living in Germany and Monte Carlo. He is apparently looking for a new country to set up residence and is tossing up between England and America, or to be precise, London and New York.

The Aussies too are bidding for Boris. One Melbourne newspaper pleaded: "But Boris, have you thought about Melbourne?" The defending champion was asked to consider these (tongue in cheek) advantages:

'You will automatically be ranked number one in Australia (a sarcastic dig at the poor state of Australian tennis);

home loan interests are down because of the recession, so you will be able to afford a nice house;

we have a suburb called Heidelberg and that should make you feel right at home;

the low Aussie dollar means you could make a real killing converting those German marks;

Australian beer is as good as anything you are used to drinking in Germany;

instead of just supporting a soccer team you would probably be good enough to get a game;

the weather is...well, six out of seven isn't bad.

And since Melbourne, together with New York and London, is a venue of Becker's grand slam wins, the Victorian capital feels it must be included in Becker's list of choices.

Andy O'Brien, Melbourne



The smile is still very much there. But, at times there's a taint of melancholy

Maybe it's just fate. I cannot really blame anyone for what happened to me. I'm sure I could have done much better in the 400m. But when it came to the 400m, I always had a psychological block



VANDANA RAO throwing the discus Reeth Abraham throwing the javelin Hey, what's happening here? Well, these were some of the sights that one witnessed during the just-concluded All India Inter Banks Athletics Meet at Calcutta

Reeth Abraham and her epoch making long jump at the same venue last year created ripples in the athletics arena—and she became an instant hit But Vandana Rao? One has to take one's mental machinery back to 1985 to really remember her

1985 was her year. At

the Asian Track and Field Meet in Jakarta she clocked a personal best of 23 7 secs in the 200m (she incidentally was training for the 400m) and got India the bronze in the event She was also instrumental in getting India the silver in the 4x100m relay and the gold in the 4x400m And she herself rates the Jakarta performance as her best

In 1986 at the Seoul Asiad she injured herself while running the 200m and pulled out of the race But then a determined Vandana (still not fully recovered) went on to anchor India for the gold in the 4x400m relay That was the time when she was looked upon as the latest sporting sensation in the country



SANTOSH GHOSH

Ashwini Nachappa and Vandana Rao look on as mama Reeth says hi to daughter Shilpa

were told that the trials were to be held in the evening As we were too tired we refused to take part in the trial and only Usha ran

But even her timing was not too good And that was it Nobody understood that a full workout for the 400m is a very tiring affair and that we just had no steam left to take part in the trials

Back home all the athletes involved were slammed with show cause notices and eventually the AAFI announced general amnesty with a warning that such an incident should not happen ever again

ONLY IF DREAMS HAD WINGS...

VANDANA RAO looks back at her much interrupted career and recalls the dreams that never blossomed

By K. O. JACOB

The very next year the government of India recognised her services by awarding her the Arjuna Award. But in 1988, during the Seoul Olympics, she fell from grace Along with Ashwini Nachappa, and Vandana Shanbag she stirred up a hornets' nest and the controversy that followed caused her to lose her motivation and her faith in the AAFI

When asked to elaborate on the incident, a flicker of sadness crossed her features as she recalled the bitter episode. 'One morning in Seoul, Nambiar told us that we were to report for the trials for the relay We waited for quite some time but nobody turned up I was down with flu, Ashwini was down with fever and even Usha was injured Yet we waited for a long time, and then when no one (read Usha and Nambiar) turned up I started practising for the 400m I went for a real strenous workout and then suddenly we

This, rather unfortunate controversy, somehow dealt a mortal blow to her confidence and personality and she never was the same again. "In fact, I stopped training after the Olympics but it was my friends and parents who prodded me on. They were the ones who told me not to give up." Vandana somehow shrugged off her frustrations, and returned to athletics, but only to find that it was a gruelling, painful process.

It almost seems like Vandana was fated never to see eye to eye with the Federation, supposedly the mentor of the talented and promising athletes in the country. The trouble began way back during the Asian Track and Field Meet in Kuwait. Vandana simply was at her very best brimming with confidence to get a medal for India in the relay; but much to her frustration a relay squad was just not sent to Kuwait, for reasons best known to the Federation.

That was one shock Vendana has still not quite overcome: "It was a rude awakening for me because I was pretty confident and was in very good nick. That certainly was the biggest disappointment I ever had in my career." Politics and sport do not make strange bedfellows, at least not in India, and she confirms that when she says, "The Federation that time was only selecting North Indians. The Federation only chose athletes who were in their good books and the selection was not done on merit."

Keeping all these facts in mind, it was a very angry and bitter Vandana that I thought I would encounter. Little did I know there was a surprise in store for me. The Vandana I met was a very mellow person, an athlete with no hard feelings towards anyone. A woman at peace with herself, and immersed in her own world at happiness.

It was a very angry and bitter Vandana that I thought I would encounter. The Vandana I met was a very mellow person, an athlete with no hard feelings towards anyone. A woman at peace with herself and immersed in her own world of happiness

The genuine, warm smile that I was greeted with, however, was soon replaced by a nostalgic look when I asked why she gave up athletics. "I was training for the Beijing Asiad and I ruptured my hamstring. After that I had to give up serious training."

There is also a feeling of disappointment, the feeling that almost unmistakably accompanies shattered dreams, the frustration at not being able to live up to one's fullest potential.

'Maybe it's just fate. I cannot really blame anyone for what happened to me. I'm sure I could have done much better in the 400m. But when it came to 400m I always had a psychological block because I always felt that I could not complete the race and that was one barrier that I could never overcome," she says ruefully.

And that was the end of her athletics career, a career that saw more than her fair share of con-

Thank God it's all over; Vandana seems to be saying





NIRMAL BHATTACHARYA

Circa 1986. The victorious foursome in the 4x400m relay at the Seoul Asiad.(From left) Vaisamma, Vandana, Shiny and Usha. Those were the good times

troversies, injuries et al. So how does this athlete, sorry ex-athlete, fill the void that athletics has left in her life. "Well I'm married now and I have a full time job at the Corporation Bank in Bombay. But I had a tough time just after I decided to give up athletics. In Mangalore, I used to feel depressed sitting at home doing nothing. Before that athletics ruled my life. But after I got married and came down to Bombay there's literally no time left for anything else. I have got offers from some schools to train their students. Let's see I might do something about it."



Before athletics ruled my life. But after I got married and came down to Bombay there's literally no time left for anything. I have got offers from some schools to train their students....I might to something about it

Marriage and the company of Joaquim Carvalho, the former hockey international, and Arjuna Award winner in 1987 seems to have brought some kind of harmony back in her changing life.

A feeling of contentment that she had been longing for. When asked if there were any chances of her throwing away this serene lifestyle for another chance on the tracks the answer was an emphatic. 'No'. "My leg has still not fully healed, and things are very much the same as far as the administration is concerned." Which again brings us back to the subject of politics in Indian athletics. When asked if she saw any future in Indian athletics, she did not take long to respond, "The talent is there, but it is going to waste. There is still a lot of politics in Indian sport and eventually it is the athletes who always suffer. The blame always is put squarely on the athletes and the officials get away scot free."

A pause, and then she continues, "During our times we were made to run trials for the 400m every other day. That is nothing except exploiting the athletes. They never realise what a tough job it is. It is the same scene even now. The athletes have no say in anything. If you notice something, there are always more officials in an Indian squad than athletes. And worse still, the officials are cleared first and only then are the athletes cleared." Sad, but true. That remains the unchanging face of Indian athletics and the recently-concluded SAF Games at Colombo saw Indian athletics at its worst ever.

But in spite of all the drawbacks and all the disappointments that she encountered, in spite of the dreams that remain unfulfilled, this girl, who first caught the eye in 1982 when she came second to P.T. Usha in both the sprints in the Universities Meet at Varanasi, would give anything to turn the clock back. Would she then still have taken up athletics, "Oh sure. Even now the feeling of nostalgia is there when I see others on the track." Only, if dreams had wings...

So, now she leads a normal married life and her interests these days are cooking, reading and music in that order. What a waste of talent one might say. But this is not the first time it happened in Indian athletics and will certainly not be the last time if things don't change...but that again seems to be wishful thinking.

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

PUNJAB regained the Santosh Trophy in football after six years by defeating Railways 2-0 at Cuttack in the replayed final played on **Jan 22, 1981.**

FRANCESCO MASSER of Italy established a world record in the men's cycling in an open-air track by pedalling 20 km in 23 min 21.592 sec at Mexico city on **Jan 23, 1984.**

ON **Jan 24, 1988** Esuke of Cameroon descended 3180-mt. from the 4095-mt. summit of Mt. Cameroon, achieving a record vertical speed of 51m per minute in mountain racing.

DAVID Rigert of USSR set a world record in weightlifting (light-weight category) by lifting 165.0 kg/363.3/4 lb in the snatch on **Jan 25, 1975.**

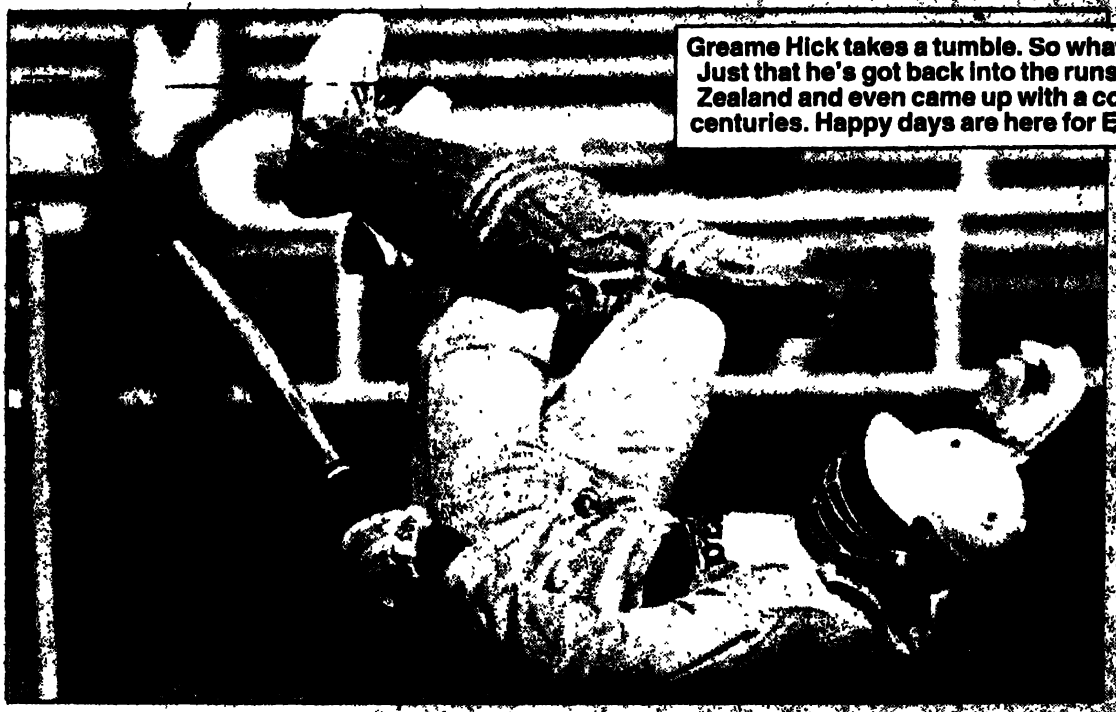
ON **Jan 26, 1968** at Clinnton, USA, four women, Mrs. Tompkins, Weldon, Sack and Lester beat the odds, rated at about 54 sextillion (54,000,000,000,000,00-0,000,000) to one when they were dealt the four perfect bridge hands of 13 spades, 13 clubs, 13 diamonds and 13 hearts, respectively.

ON **Jan 27, 1899** auto racer Camille Jentzy achieved a world motor speed record of 49.29 mph at Acheres, France and on the same date in 1904 William Vanderbilt almost doubled the speed to 92.30 mph, at Daytona, USA.

THE San Francisco 49ers beat the Denver Broncos 55-10 at New Orleans, USA, on **Jan 28, 1990,** recording the highest victory margin in superbowl.

A. R. Sharif

MILESTONES



Greame Hick takes a tumble. So what's new? Just that he's got back into the runs in New Zealand and even came up with a couple of centuries. Happy days are here for England!

RETIRED: Graeme Wood of Australia from first class cricket. He played in 59 Tests and 83 one-day internationals.

CHOSEN: Abedi Pele of Ghana as the African footballer of the year.

CHOSEN: P.K. Banerjee, Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi and Milkha Singh as members of the general committee for the administration of the national welfare fund for sportspersons.

WITHDRAWN: Michael Atherton from the England A team to tour West Indies next month. An injured back was cited as the reason.

NOT TO PARTICIPATE: India in the Sharjah cricket tournament scheduled for April this year. This was decided at the special general meeting of the BCCI.

RETIRED: Fatima Whitbread the world javelin champion, following a persistent shoulder injury.

RETAINED: By Uttar Pradesh the C. K. Nayudu Trophy for the national school's cricket championship. They defeated Delhi in the final.

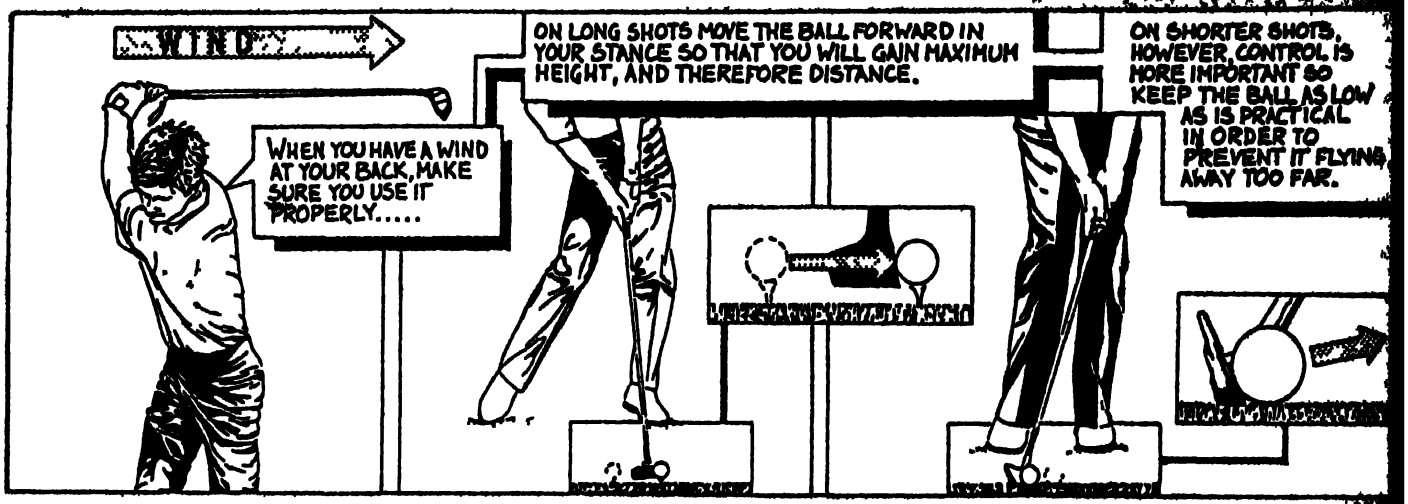
TO TOUR: A New Zealand women's cricket team to India during February and March of this year. They will play two, four-day Test matches, three one-day internationals and two, three-day games.

TO PARTICIPATE: A three member Indian team in Iran Open International Boxing Championship. The team will be led by ...

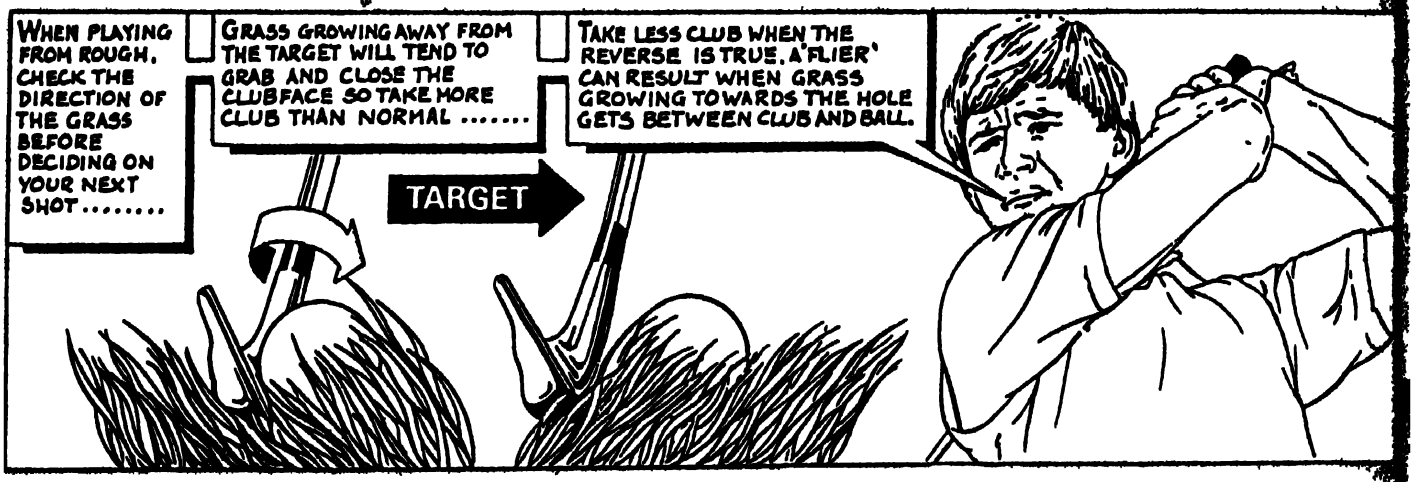
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

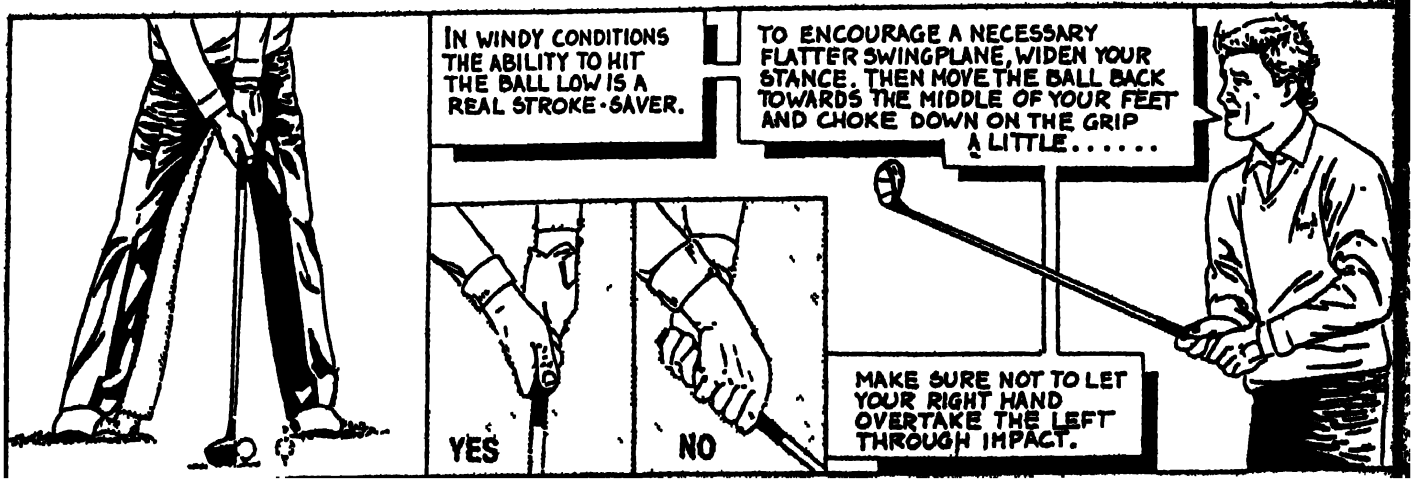
Use the Wind Behind



Playing from Rough



Low Stroke Savers



THE beginning of a new year is the time to make new resolutions, right? The onset of a new year sees everyone jumping on to the resolution bandwagon, but how many stick to them is totally another story As usual, there are quite a few of you who resolved to slim down in the year, to keep the calories in check or to sculpt a totally new physique This instalment is dedicated to the health freaks who are consciously putting in an effort to lose weight or are trying to maintain the shape that you have gained after months of hitting the gym.

Losing or gaining weight depends on your eating habits to a large extent. Basically eating can be divided into types; 1) Passive eating and 2) Active eating. Passive eating is when someone or something else seems to be in control of your appetite When you are hit by this compulsive behaviour, the burger, chocolate or the fries actually take control and you are reduced to a mere puppet whose strings are pulled by the chocolate or the fries

Active eating, on the other hand, is when you are in total control of your eating habits This is when you know you are eating the things that you should eat Active eating results in bodyweight that you can control. Passive eating on the other hand produces weight that is not controlled by you Hence it is active eating that should control you.

Here are some tips that will help you analyse what active eating is all about and how you can be in total control of your food habits. and eventually of your weight.

1) Always have something in your hand or close to hand that is nutritious and healthy for you to eat or drink. When you get hungry, eat by all means. But eat the right stuff. You can eat a ton of the right food and still not put on the



Exercise is the other half of the formula for keeping trim. The first half of course is sensible eating habits



EAT RIGHT... AND STAY TRIM

extra, unwanted weight.

2) Drink 8 to 10 glasses of water per day. It helps your system metabolise the food you eat and it is a natural, calorie-free appetite supressent.

3) Maximise your fruit and vegetable intake and cut down on the consumption of meat, specially red meat. By taking in more greens you can cut down on the cholesterol and increase your energy. But if you load up on meat, eggs and chocolate your weight will increase and so will your cholesterol. As your weight goes up and your cardohydrates go down, your energy level will also naturally decrease.

4) Make sure you get enough fibre in your diet. Fibre is the indigestable part of the food which is lost in today's modern diet. Why eat, if it is not digested? Well, it'll go a long way in saving you from the 20th century maladies. So eat plenty of fruits, vegetables and grains. All these are very rich sources of fibre.

5) Avoid caffeine. Caffeine has become the modern anti depressent. People in today's times of stress, drink coffee by the potfuls because it keeps them alert and on their toes. But caffeine present in coffee and in soft drinks also lead to insomnia, stress, anxiety and many other health related problems.

6) Try to be involved and busy all through the day when you are awake, whether at home or at work. This will keep your mind off food. Boredom usually tempts you to reach for the packet of potato chips or the pastries in the refridgerator.

7) Don't neglect your daily exercise. If you do not have an exercise regimen form one as soon as you finish reading this article. Diet control is only half the formula for realistic and long-term weight control. The other half of the formula is exercise. Do some form of regular resistance training, aerobic training and flexibility work. The catch word here is regular. It is always the consistency of the programme and not strenousness of the exercises that matter in the long run.

8) As much, as possible think about yourself. Hey, hold on, we are not asking you to become a totally self-centred and egoistic person. What we are implying here is that you should do your own bit of thinking, and should not let things like your office, the chocolate or the tele-serial dictate your thinking and your life.

9) Keep a log. A daily log or report that consists of a few lines of regular criticism, (positive or negative) will help you keep track of how active or how passive your eating habits really are. Without putting these things in black or white it is very difficult to maintain a correct perspective on these matters.

10)Do not expect an overnight miracle. Concentrate first and foremost on the correct eating habits that you should cultivate and once you do that, stick to it.

At times you might just be in the mood to go in for a binge...if the situation ever arises, do so, but stay off fattening foods for some time in the future. Expect long term goals only if you are serious. Expecting anything else will leave you frustrated before long.

11) Minimise your alcohol intake. Not only does alcohol contain tons of useless calories, it also turns your brain and your system into a passive vegetable controlled by a bottle.

12) When you eat a meal resist the 'seconds'. Desserts fall into these category and these foods usually contain wagonloads of calories. So don't get started on the journey because it is going to be tough getting off the hook.

Take note of these tips and follow them. Don't lose heart if the results are not seen fast. In fact don't expect that to happen. Just stick to sensible eating habits and before long you will end up where you wanted to be in the first place. So go for gold, guys! ●

DELHI

Inter-Railway Athletics

LOW key performances and Southern Railway's overwhelming superiority were the distinctive features of the recent 57th Inter-Railway Athletics championships at the grass tracks of the Karnail Singh stadium, New Delhi.

The solitary meet record was set by Eastern Railway's diminutive, but gutsy walker Kabita Garari in the 10 km- Walk, the first event of the three-day championships. Still her timing of 53:53.50 was well below her national mark of 48:10 set at the 1990 Beijing Asian Games.

Kabita later admitted that the early start and cold weather made her muscles stiff and prevented a better timing. Motivation to break the national record was adequate. The Railways Sports Control Board (RSCB) offered Rs. 4,000 for improving the national mark and Rs. 2,000 for eclipsing the meet mark. Kabita was the only athlete to get richer by Rs. 2,000.

Holders Southern Railway with their galaxy of stars, easily regained the team championships in both men's and women's sections. Southern won the Saudi Arabia Cup for the men's team championships for the eighth year running, while its women's team achieved the feat for the 20th successive year.

Long distance ace Molly Chacko was the only athlete to annex a triple crown. She won the 800m, 1,500m and 3,000m without much ado. National record holder in the 3,000m, Molly won this in 9:41.9 well below her national mark of 9:14.07.

Three Southern Railway athletes, strongman S.D. Eashen, sprinter K. Saramma and M.C. Sebastian annexed double crowns. Eashen recovered from a hand injury, which marred his season last year, to win the shot put and





JAGDISH YADAV

Ram Niwas beat the 1989 ATF champion Bahadur Prasad in the 1,500m

discus easily. Saramma won the 200 and 400 metres. In the 200, she received stiff competition from the well-built Rachita Panda of South Eastern Railway. However, her 400m timing of 56.5 secs was below her life best. Many of the athletes, it seems, either have not peaked or were reserving their best for the Open meet and Inter-State meets next month.

Sebastian did a Carl Lewis winning the 100m and long jump in style. After completing his first jump at the long jump pit, M.C. Sebastian dashed to the 100m starting point. He won the race in a creditable 10.8 sec, relegating ICF's M. Sridharan to second spot and holder and team-mate T.C. James to third spot. Trailing till the

Trailing behind at the 60m mark M.C. Sebastian (190) accelerated to win the 100m in 10.8 sec.



AHMEDABAD



All India Inter-Varsity T.T.

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI won the men's title, while Madras University won the women's title of the All India Inter-University Table Tennis championships held at Gujarat University.

University of Delhi defeated Calcutta University in the final, 3-0. In the women's section, Madras University beat University of Bombay 3-2.

Earlier, University of Delhi had won the North-Zone Inte -University T.T. championship held at Solan. They had defeated Guru Nanak Dev University 3-1. In picture: A proud moment for the Delhi University team. Two titles in almost a month

60m mark, Sebastian accelerated in the end to win. Bogged down by injuries, Sebastian nearly quit last year but has now made a welcome comeback.

But it was not all smooth-sailing for the established internationals. The 1989 ATF champion in the 1,500m Bahadur Prasad was beaten by teammate Ram Niwas in his favourite event. Ram Niwas, who missed selection for the 1990 Asiad and the 1991 ATF meet, won a tactical race. For the first three laps the persistent Ram Niwas never let Bahadur open a 'killing' gap. He trailed Bahadur till the top bend of the final lap and then with a final kick came first.

At the 1991 SAF Games in Colombo, British coach Harry Wilson had said, "Bahadur Prasad has world class potential in the 1,500m." But this was not evident here, as he struggled to second spot in a poor 3:55.8. Still Bahadur kept his reputation somewhat intact by winning the 5,000m gold medal.

Some promising youngsters to emerge were Alle Kuriakose in the long jump and long distance runner K.M. Chinnappa. The former inter-university champion

from Ernakulam, Alley leapt to a distance of 5 84m in her fifth attempt relegating international Mujitha Begum to second spot Twenty year old K M Chinnappa better known as a cross country runner made a successful track debut He won the gold in the 10,000m and the silver in the 5 000m In the 10 000m Chinnappa beat his elder brother and coach K M Suresh and international Danveer to second and third spots respectively

The best performance was by Northern Railway s Satnam Singh in the triple jump He beat SAF Games silver medallist Southern Railway s Mohammed Nizamuddin with an inspired leap Satnam s fifth round attempt of 5 97m was a quality effort In recent times in India triple jump efforts close to or over 16 metres are as rare and welcome as an oasis in a desert His fouled sixth jump was better than the Railway mark of 16 08m set way back in 1978 by S Balasubramanium Satnam deservingly won the Marshall Ito medal for the best Railway athlete

There were some hiccups in the championships Eldo s meet record bid in the pole vault was delayed by lack of proper uprights and the cross bar In the gathering gloom and chill Eldo failed to scale the heights Then the 20km- walk became a mockery when barring Saji of Southern Railway all the other walkers were running with the connivance of the track referee However some former athletes of Western and Southern Railway protested and the jury scrapped the event RSCB secretary Amrit Mathur hopes that a synthetic track at the Southern Railway centre in Madras would be ready next year which would be the venue for the 1993 championships

Novy Kapadia

TRIVANDRUM

All India Karate

MAHARASHTRA karatekas hogged the limelight on the final day of the 10th All India Karate Championships by winning five out of six Shiai events Tamil Nadu managed to retain the overall championship

Tall and well built Chandrasekhar Shetty, a 2nd degree black belt of Shoto-kan, was the star performer for Maharashtra Chandrasekhar demolished Kerala s Anil Kumar and Tamil Nadu's Ponsingh, (both 2nd degree black belt of Shito-Ryu) in the men's open Shiai and 70-75 kg category respectively

Maharashtra men (Sandeep Rana Xavier and Chandrasekhar Shetty) bagged the team Shiai championship outplaying Tamil Nadu 3 0 But Tamil Nadu remained supreme in the men's Kata events

Ponmalar, a Shito-Ryu black belt, emerged triumphant in the women s Shiai above 53 kg defeating R Pushpa of Karnataka Sixteen-year-old Ponmalar (24 7) nearly upset five time national champion R Sujatha (24 8 pts) in the women's *kata*.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

SAJEEV KUMAR T K



Ponmalar, 16, emerged the winner in the women's Shiai (above 53 kg)

Be a sport, Gavaskar

SUNIL GAVASKAR, during his playing days had made innumerable fans because of his unflappable concentration and the style and finesse with which he tore apart the best bowling attacks in the world.

Today he has different roles to play. As a writer. As a broadcaster and even as an unofficial coach to some of our players.

But some things, sadly, do not change in life. In many ways Sunil is still the angry young player who years back, led his team off the ground in Australia. His article criticising the Australian umpiring, which said that the Aussie team played not with 11 but with 13 players was not expected of the great Gavaskar who incidentally is sort of a sports ambassador from India.

Gavaskar over the years have always stood up to the most hostile bowling and the most vicious forms of sledging and has continually proved a point about his own ability. It is certainly not becoming of a player of his calibre to aggravate a situation which is already strained. At the same time writings like these always put extra pressure on the umpires which certainly is unfair.

Remember Sunil, the world is your stage. You can achieve anything you wish. The world will forget the Dennis Lillees and the Ian Chappells but not the Frank Worrells. Build bridges of goodwill between countries. You have it in you. Please make it happen.

R. SRIDHAR,
Bangalore.

Next target: 400

IT was a great sight seeing Kapil levelling Botham's record of wickets in Tests. In fact, it was one of the saving graces for the Indian side which otherwise performed very badly till date. And what a relief it was to hear that Kapil has



Kapil Dev: going great guns

rediscovered his outswingers. In the Brisbane Test, it was these deliveries that spelt the end of Border and Dean Jones.

Keep it up Kapil! Show to the world that you still have the potential to give nightmares to the best batsmen in the world. And here's wishing you all the best for crossing the 400 wickets record soon.

NAVEEN GOYAL,
Jodhpur

A sad loss

IT is indeed shocking to learn about the sad demise of John Arlott. Regarded as the most peerless commentator, he was associated with the Test match Special Team of the BBC for nearly three decades. Interestingly enough, it was against India that he made his debut way back in 1946 and ended his broadcasting career in 1980 during the Centenary match between India and Australia. Arlott, who endeared himself to millions for his fascinating description of the game with his unique voice, had always believed that cricket went much beyond the simple matter of bat striking the ball and the fielders chasing it.

Who can forget the evenings spent listening to TMS especially when Arlott was on with those lyrical descriptives-"As Lillee's balding head turns lightly tonsured you might say—and he Boycott is gone, his helmet now off and in the crook of his arm, like a knight at arms, alone and palely loitering...."

No one can ever take his place nor erase the memories that one associates with him. May his soul rest in peace.

SRINIVASAN UMASHANKAR,
Nagpur.

Disappointing

THE year-end issue of *Sportsworld* was a real disappointment. The only readable and enjoyable article in the issue was the list of events that occurred in 1991.

Please do not give us mediocre fare like this in future.

ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack.

Keep it up, Ravi

IT was really a pleasent surprise when one heard about the double century that Shastri scored against Australia. There couldn't have been a more appropriate time and venue for that score. Just when people were again questioning the efficiency of his batting and in some cases the logic behind his selection he did a wonderful job with both the bat and the ball. Proves that he is still a long way from becoming a spent force. One hopes that he could keep up this good form in the later matches. Indian cricket could certainly benefit from it.

Here's wishing him all the best.

RAJEEV GANGULY,
Burnpur.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who is awarded the George Halas Trophy?
2. For which game is Toronto Maple Leaf famous?
3. What is Wanderers Stadium?
4. The yellow jersey, we know, distinguishes the race leader in *Tour de France* But what is the 'pink jersey'?
5. For what do the initials NAYC stand?
6. In which year did the erstwhile USSR host the first goodwill Games?
7. Who is regarded the father of rhythmic gymnastic?
8. What is *pesapallo*?
9. Who are the *wallabies*?
10. How many members did the ITTF have at its foundation?

ANSWERS

1 The 'outstanding defensive player in football' in USA's national football league (American Football)
2 Ice hockey
3 Cricket ground in Johannesburg, South Africa.
4 Obviously an imitation of the French idea, it distinguishes the race leader in Giro d'Italia
5 National Association of Young Cricketers (England)
6 1986
7 Emile Jacques Dalcroze, a Swiss teacher and composer
8 Finnish baseball, although literally it is 'nestball' (in English)
9 Representative Rugby Union teams of Australia, popularly so called after the animal found extensively in Australia
10 Eight.

CHESS

GARRI's Gremlin is Harvard Don Boris Gulko who has a three-love lead in personal encounters.
Twice-Soviet-Champion Gulko Beat Kasparov in '81,'83 and 90. The reason for Garri's remarkable minus score according to GM Keene is Gulko's especially provocative style. Gulko likes playing apparently dubious positions that in reality are totally sound. Kasparov has always overreached in attempting refutation.

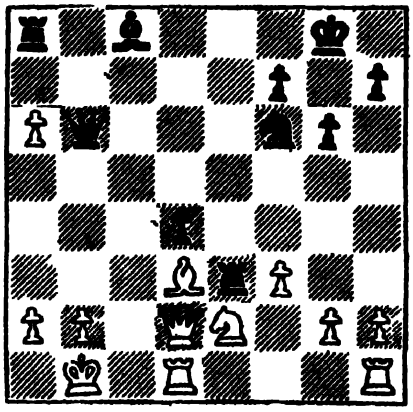
White: Gulko Vs Black: Kasparov Linares '90.

1 d4 Nf6 2 C4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 E4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 Be3 c6 7 Bd3 e5 8 d5 b5 9 cb5 cd5 10 ed5 e4 11 Ne4 Nd5 12 Bg5 Qb6. Having sacrificed to rip open the long diagonal and the center, black plays a novelty. 12-Qa5 13 Qd2 Qd2 14 Bd2 Bb2 15 Rb1 Bg7 was Timman-Kasparov '88. But 15 Rd1 is an improvement as in Rezuvaev-Lautier '89 **13 Qd2 Nd7 14 Bc4 N5f6 15 Nf6 Bf6?** Later Black said that 15-Nf6 16 Be3 Re8 17 Kf2 Re3! or 16 Ne2 Re8 17 Bh4 d5 18 Bf2 Qe6 19 Bd3 Ne4! would be better. **16 Bf6 Nf6 17 Ne2 Re8 18 0-0-0 d5 19 Bd3 a6 20 ba6 d4 21 Kb1 Re3** (See Diagram).

White has to circumvent a few threats like 22-Rd3 and consolidate. **22 Bc4 Ba6 23 Ba6 Ra6 24 Nd4 Re8** The threat of 24-Rea 3 25 Nc2 Rc2 26 Qd8 Qd8 27 Rd8 Kg7 28 Na3 does not work.

25 Ne2! b8 26 Nc3 Qb4 27 Rhe1 Rd6 28 Qc2 Rdb6 29 Re2 Qf4 30 h3 Rc6 31 Qd2 Qf5 32 Ka1 Rb7 33 Qh6 Rc8 34 Red2 Qa5 35 Qe3 Kg7 36 g4 Re8 37 Qd4 Rd7 38 Qf2 Rc7 39 Rd3 Ra8 40 Qd2 h6. White now goes over to the attack and forces the issue. **41 Rd6 Rc4 42 Rd4 Rac 43 Kb1 Qe5 44 f4 Qe6 45 Qe2 Rd4 46 Rd4 Qb6 47 Qd2 Qa6 48 Qd3 Qc6 49 a3 Qg2 50 Rd6 Rb8 51 Qe2 Qh1 52 Ka2 Re8 53 Qd3 Re1 54 Qd4 (1-0).**

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

BRIDGE is a strange game. Once one knows the solution to a bridge problem, it seems so easy that everyone feels he could have found the right play. When the solution is not known, however, the simplest things do not strike one's mind. The best play award in the 1991 European Community championship at Athens went to Shmuel Friedman of Israel for a hand which involved no complicated coup but simply required the ability to keep one's eyes open for hidden entries. Now there, I have given away a vital clue, but even so I doubt whether there would be many who would find the right play:-

Dealer North — N S vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ AKQ
♥ K875
♦ AK104
♣ 32

WEST
♠ 10964
♥ Q103
♦ J653
♣ 108

EAST
♠ 853
♥ A962
♦ 92
♣ KQ97

SOUTH
♠ J72
♥ J4
♦ Q87
♣ AJ654

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	PASS	1 NT
PASS	3 NT	All Pass	

West led his fourth best spade, dummy winning Friedman, South, led a club to the jack, which held. What next?

Even though four tricks are there in diamonds, with the 4-2 club break and the heart ace offside, there does not seem a way to score nine tricks unless one can convert the fifth club into a winner. The problem was that declarer could give up a club, win the spade return, come to hand with the diamond queen and give up another club but there would be no entry left to enjoy the set-up club in hand.

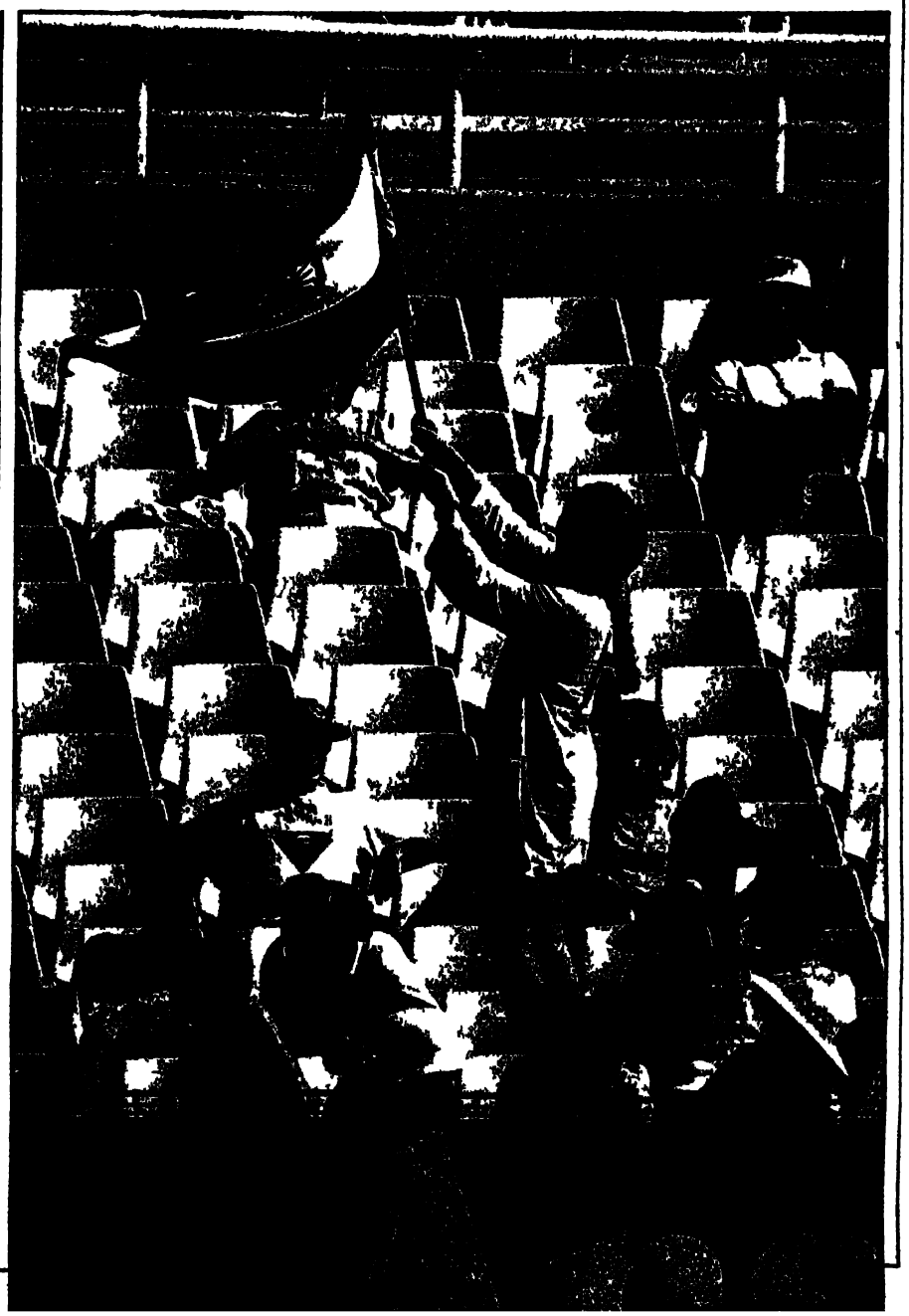
However, Friedman found a simple solution to this knotty problem. He played a second spade and then led a club to the ace and continued with a third round of clubs, discarding dummy's blocking spade *queen* on this trick. Now East had to open up a red suit to give declarer his ninth trick or else continue spades which gives South an additional entry with the jack to set up and then enjoy the fifth club.

Santanu Ghosh

THE TEST SERIES

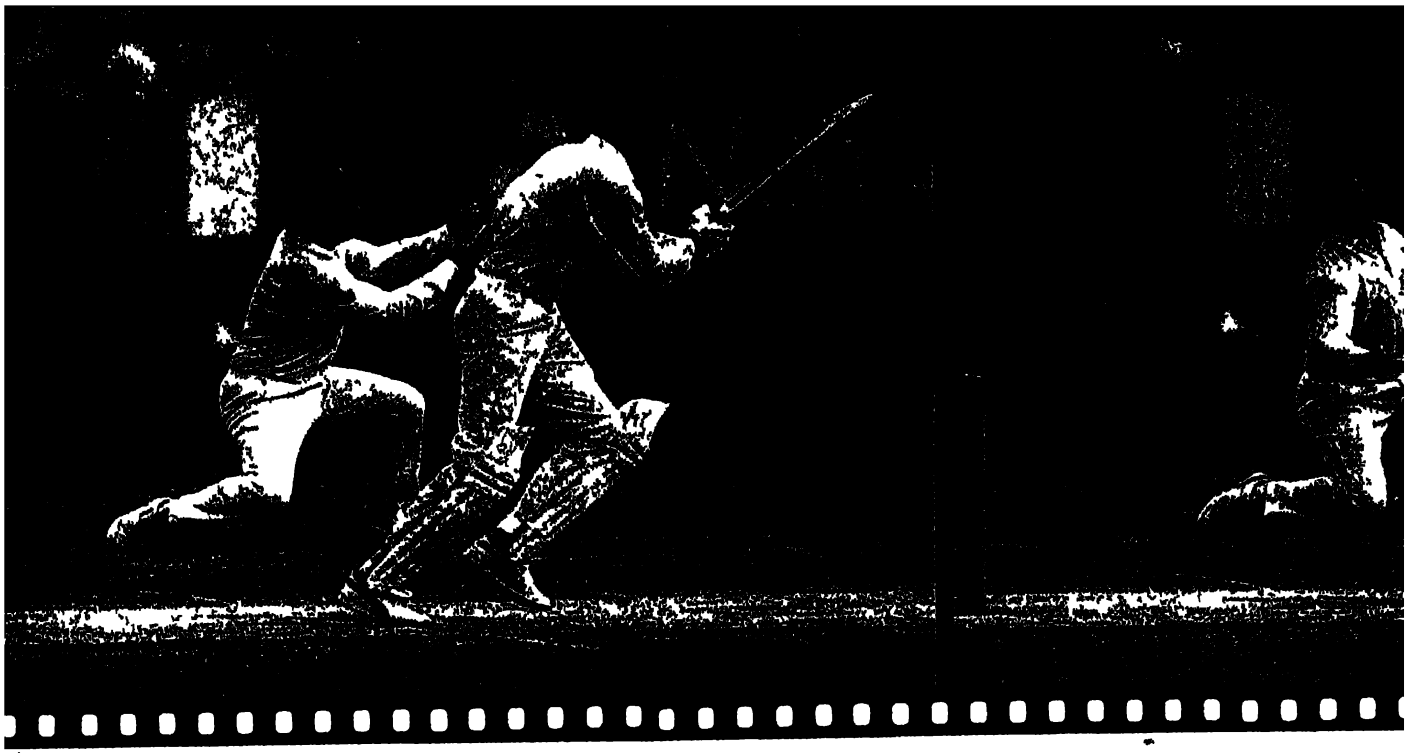
CAN INDIA SQUARE IT?

After finally getting their act together at Sydney, the Indians have demonstrated that they have the potential to square the series...and save some face. David McMahon points out why



IF there are still members of the breed who think Test cricket is an anachronism in this age of instant results and the thrill of the one-day game, then I have only one piece of advice to offer Ring Channel Nine headquarters, ask for the publicity department and ask someone to gave you a set of unedited tapes of the fourth day's play in the third Test at Sydney between Australia and India in the current series

You want drama? You'll find it there You want heroism? You'll find it there, You want great batting? Ditto. Great fielding? Ditto Courage? Ditto Skill, guile, guts, persistence, sheer class? Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto to all the above.



Ripley (he of believe it or not fame) would have revelled in the fact that the Indian squad, which had capitulated in the Melbourne Test only three days earlier, was suddenly playing to its true capacity This was a side of whose collective skills I had trumpeted great things even before the team left the shores of India This was a side whose potential batting strength—note, I use the word potential because, collectively, that strength had still not even been hinted at, let alone fully proved—and class had been unmatched for years So what happened? How is it that a side which had lost the first two Tests inside of five days suddenly found the inner fire and fortitude to spark a revival and a complete turnaround in form and grit?

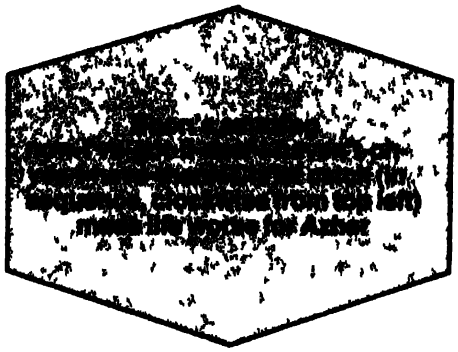
There was not one single factor that transformed the Indians into the cricketing equivalent of a commando unit

Cricket, they say, is a funny old

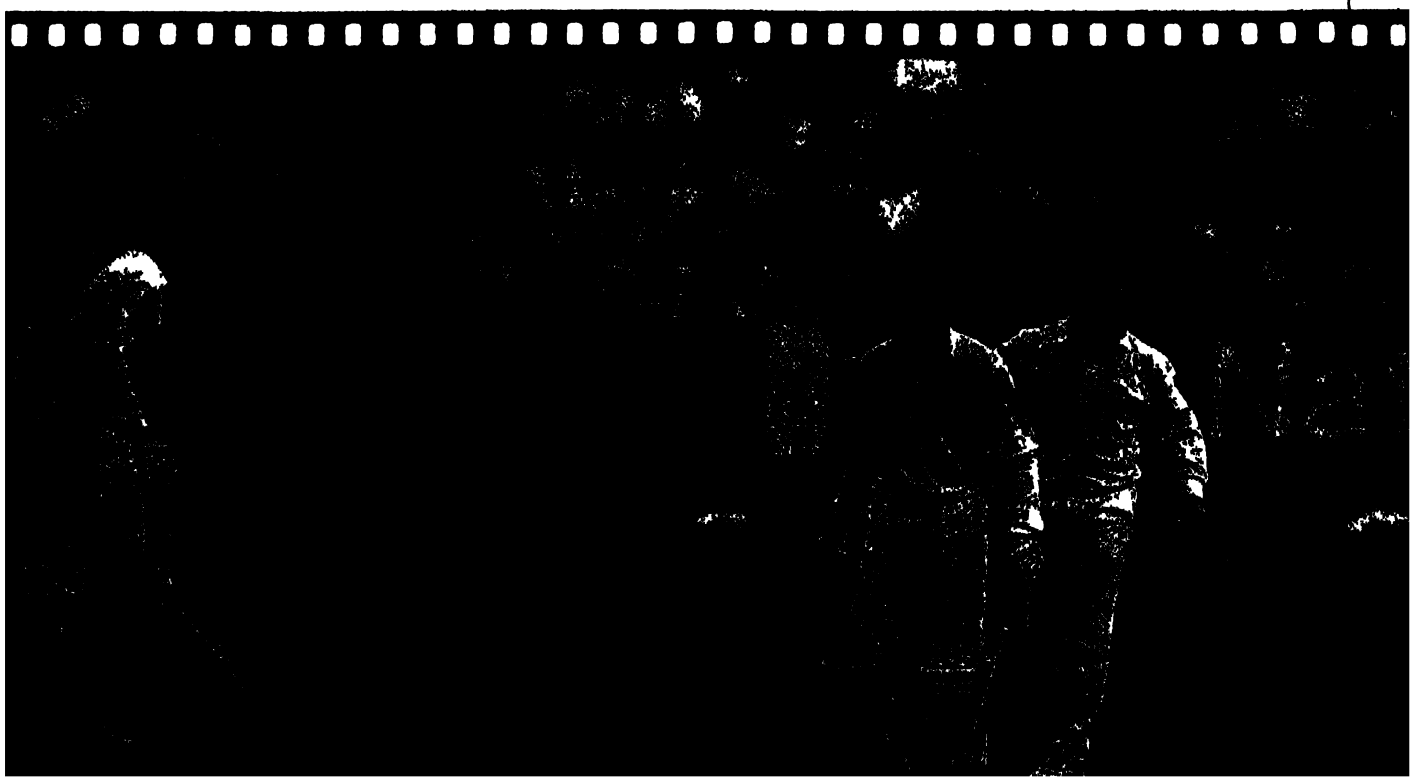


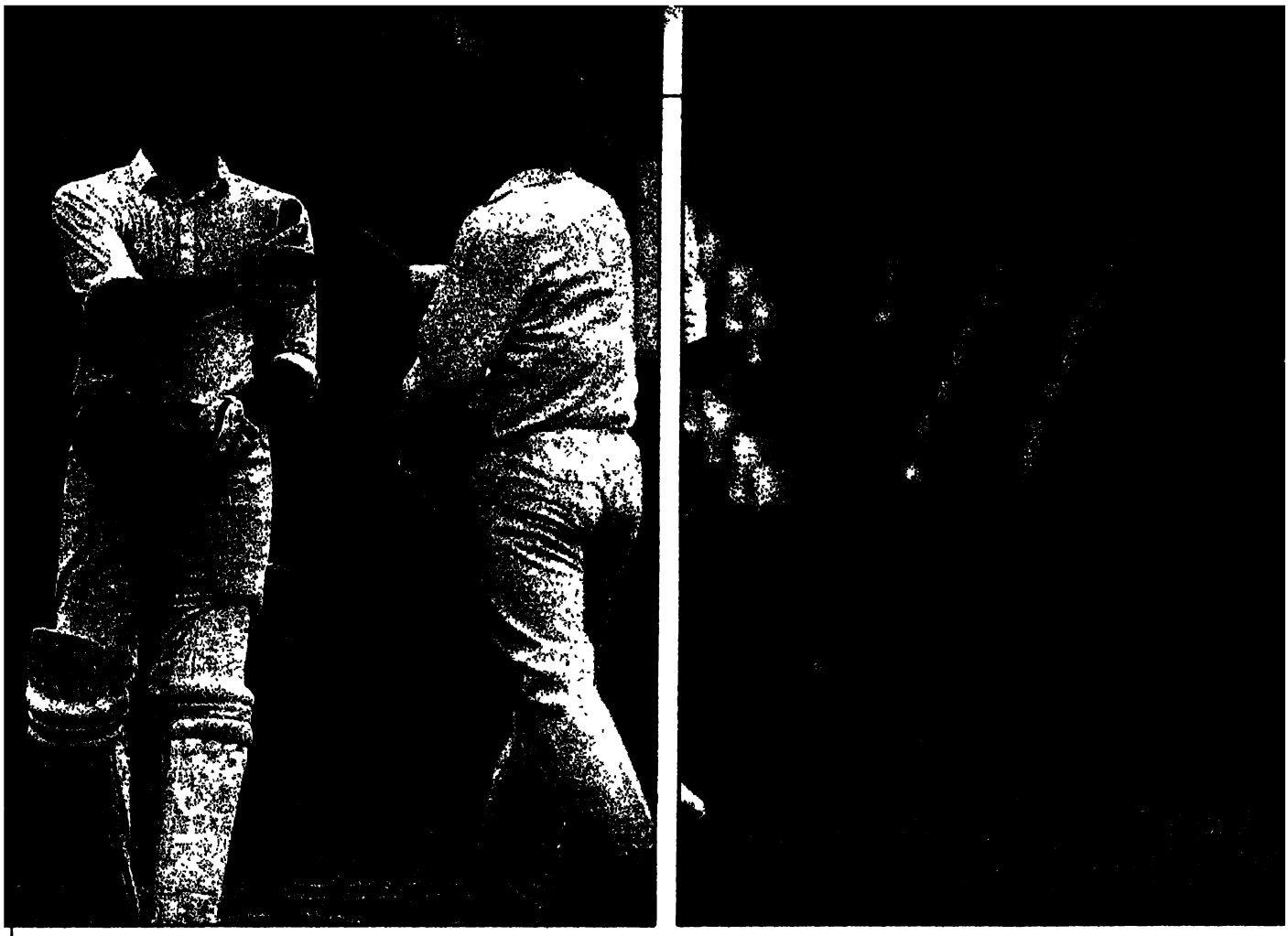


game The Sydney Test proved that with a vengeance. Having scored enough runs to put Australia under pressure when the home side batted for the second time, the Indians went for the kill and at 2 for 31 it looked as though they would succeed dramatically At six down things looked even better for the tourists, hungry for the kill At eight down, the issue looked almost resolved And then, when the Indians looked set to win the Test, Merv Hughes and Allan Border saved it for Australia.



Make no mistake about Hughes. He may carry a fair bit of girth, but he is about the most competitive cricketer in the land. And, like any tail-end Test batsman, he fancies his chances with a bat in his hand. I once saw him get 70-odd against the West Indies three years ago, when the rest of the team had made





little more than 150. Giving Merv Hughes a bat and saying "Go and save the Test match, mate" is the equivalent of giving Sir Francis Drake a few ships and telling him to sink the Spanish Armada. Hughes succeeded with about as much ease as Drake, too.

It is ironic, now, looking back on that Test match, to think that, when the light was less than perfect on the third evening, the Indian batsmen exercised the option of going off. With the benefit of hindsight, the time saved if they had batted on would then have been on India's side (as opposed to Australia's) when the tourists sought to drive the dagger home to the hilt on that eventful fifth evening.

There was not one single factor that transformed the Indians into the cricketing equivalent of a commando unit. No, nothing that you can put your finger on. But everything just seemed to come together, and they did it with such class that Australia suddenly looked startlingly vulnerable. The batting moved into high gear and just when it looked as if Azharuddin would cut loose, David Boon, century maker in Australia's first innings, pulled off an amazing now-I've-got-it-now-I-haven't-oh-yes-I-have-thank-Christ catch at short leg, going one way and then the other, snatching at the ball with his left hand, deflecting it and then diving the other way to take it in his right.

Shastri's knock impressed even Dean Jones, who took his catch

Giving Merv Hughes a bat and saying "Go and save the Test match, mate" is the equivalent of giving Sir Francis Drake a few ships and telling him to sink the Spanish Armada

Shastri had ended the fourth day five short of a hundred and it was a pleasure to see him in action on the fifth morning. The hundred, the 150, the double century, the landmarks came and went as he ground the attack to dust. True, Bruce Reid was off the field, the man who caused such havoc in the Melbourne Test, but even though Australia were without their strike bowler, the rest gave no quarter. Hughes and McDermott bowled as if their lives depended on it. Mark Waugh gave nothing away. The leg-spinner Shane Warne bowled more than 40 overs with few errors and little leeway for the batsmen. Border bowled his orthodox left-arm stuff with tight lips.

In fact, it was Border who almost had Shastri caught and bowled shortly after the tall all-rounder had got past 150. The ball was travelling hard and fast and it was on Border's wrong side, but that was the last chance Shastri gave. After the reprieve, he played some phantom straight drives before the



next delivery, steeling himself to go on, knowing that the chances of victory depended on his ability, not just to stay there, but to accelerate and force the pace

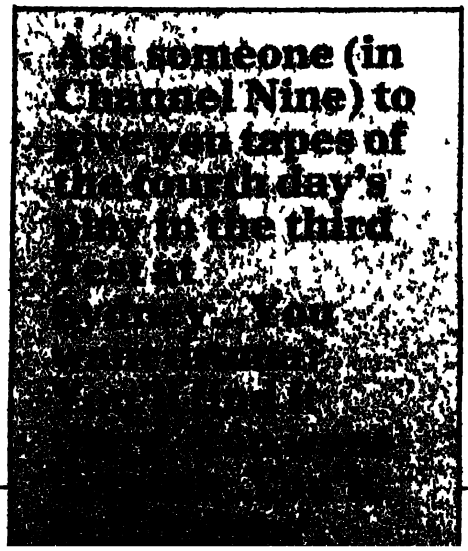
Shastri tackled Warne with consummate ease, threatening to blow him out of the attack, lofting him over the outfield as though he were playing a one-day match and contemptuous of the fielding circle. Tendulkar played and missed at Warne three or four times early in his innings and the television cameras did catch the leg-spinner mouthing an oath that rhymes with "truck" (it certainly wasn't "luck"!).

But it was fascinating stuff, the old hand and the rookie grinding the attack relentlessly. Warne bowled well enough to get four wickets, but he finished the Test with only one for 150, the only wicket being Shastri's when he finally miscued one well into the afternoon. These two men, Shastri and Tendulkar, brought the crowd at the SCG to its feet, Shastri revelling in the sort of form he had displayed in the 1985 Benson and Hedges World Championship of Cricket. There was a standing ovation for Shastri, both sheet-anchor and destroyer, when he finally departed and Dean Jones, who had taken the catch off Warne's bowling ran all the way to put his arm around the batsman's shoulders as he left the middle

Hughes: caught Prabhakar, bowled Tendulkar. But he'd saved the Test by then

One shudders to think how many more runs India would have led by if Kapil Dev had been fit to come in at the fall of Shastri's wicket, but one thing is for certain. The lead would have been closer to 240 or even 250 if the Australian fielding had not been so inspirational that day. Here was a side, one bowler short, struggling to contain two batsman who scored more than 350 runs between them, and still the fielders performed the cricketing equivalent of putting their lives on the line. Jones and Waugh in particular threw themselves at everything without them Shastri would have scored 250, probably.

So India cannot win this series. A pity, because they looked as though the Sydney win would inspire them to greater things in the next two. But it has taught us two things: if motivated, this Indian side could be the nucleus of the best in the world. And, more importantly, a historic one-day series against South Africa can never take the place of a proper warm-up for a five-day series against this Australian side.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAMAL JULKA

FITNESS

QUESTION TIME

...ll news ...ions, feel free to ...te in again, okay? Now let's see what we've got for this week.

The first topic is food. And that's one point which always raises controversy. One man's ideal diet might play havoc with his neighbour's constitution. So it's something you've got to work out for yourself. Of course, there are some medians that affect all of us, but if you're pushing limits, then you better listen to your body first.

Jayadratha Das of Calcutta and Ansuman Pattanayak from Orissa confess readily that they're fond of their food (hey, who isn't?) and would like to drop a few kilos of fat. M. Shafeeque Hassan is just concerned about his diet. First thing, guys, is to watch what you're putting into your mouth. All the exercise in the world won't help if all you eat are pastries and ice creams. On the other hand, if you ...

...the latter ... and the belly full! So try and snack on salads (lay off the mayonnaise, willya!) and drink a lot of water. That way, your tummy won't seem like a huge drawer craving for filling.

As for the exercises you can do, it's aerobic activity that you're looking for. Pull on those sneakers and pound the pavement. Join an aerobics class (hey, it isn't just sissy stuff). Or swing that skipping rope. Whatever you choose, you've got to get that heart-rate up and burn calories. That's the only way to combat the good life.

Pradipto Bhattacharjee, of Calcutta, has the opposite problem. He's heavily into his workout—six days a week, even we're impressed!—but complains of being bored...and too thin! Talk about luck. Know what, Pradipto? You should ease off a little. That way you'll give your muscles some rest, ...

...on days 1, 4 and 5 and on the other days, go for the legs and abs. That way you'll be working those areas more intensely... and not doing the same thing every day.

The next letter is from Leonard Khiangte of Kohima and he wants to build the muscles of his upper back.



Hope ... following the 'total workout' we've been serialising over the last couple of months. If you have, it's the barbell rows that you need to use. Just bend over from the waist, and pull the barbell up towards your torso. Try doing them with a narrow grip and wide grip. Both work your ... waist ... you'll give yourself the perfect framework to launch the final assault as you get older. Also, eat well. Nothing is possible without the right fuel.

The next letter is from Calcutta and Shahzad Ahmed wants



[illegible] and put [illegible], sorry, it won't do the mind and shoulders. The sit-ups or curl-ups will do the trick for the abdominals. If you're already doing those, then [illegible] together.

[illegible] anabolic steroids will give him better muscles. Sure, but it'll also kill you eventually. Stay off the dope, young man, and get high on your own sweat, that way your body building muscles which will stay with you a lifetime, not artificial stuff that'll play up hell once you lay off the workouts and drugs.

That's it for this week but, in the [illegible] these freaks out there have any doubts, write in to 'Question Time' and we'll try to help you out.

freewheeling

"WOULD you rather watch Edberg play Chang or watch Connors, Borg, McEnroe and Vilas?" challenges John Lloyd. "If in the next two or three years, all these guys join, then the senior (35-and-over)circuit could have bigger, better names than the regular ATP circuit."

That scenario would ignite interest in senior tennis as never before. Unlike pro golf, where senior tour star Lee Trevino amazingly earned more prize money in 1990 than everyone on the main tour, the Prudential Securities Grand Champions tennis circuit has struggled during its 11-year existence.

"Now we're reaching maybe 10 to 20 per cent of our potential," assessed Sherwood Stewart as a masseuse rubbed his 42-year-old body between matches at the season-ending $100,000 tournament at Turnberry Isle, Florida. "Tennis has golf's senior circuit potential.But it's going to take some high name recognition players.



TOMMY HINDLEY

Bjorn Borg: Will vintage memories come alive?

"All of us have names but none of us are superstars," points out the articulate Stewart. "Most of us playing now (on the senior circuit) have won our Grand Slam titles in doubles. Only Stan (Smith) and Ilie (Nastase) have won (major) singles titles. If you have big names, superstars, you'll get more sponsorship money, more prize money and then you'll get more TV (coverage).It's all interlocked."

The first key that will turn on the 35s circuit, which will be run by the ATP in 1992, is the legendary Bjorn Borg who'll make his senior debut at Indian Wells, California, in February. "Bjorn was such a huge name, and then he just disappeared (when he suddenly retired in 1983)," says Stewart. "There's a mystique. Now people will have a chance to relive those old memories."

Connors, 39, has expressed interest in joining the senior tour for the second half of 1992. The consummate street fighter, Jimbo helped spark America's tennis boom in the 1970s and magnificently boosted the sport again with his 1991 U.S. Open heroics. "Jimmy was paid one of the highest compliments when Joe Montana and Sugar Ray Leonard talked about admiringly watching Jimmy on TV," observes Stewart. "You see that superstars in other sports have a lot of respect for tennis players."

John McEnroe would have to wait two more years before becoming eligible, but the senior tour would give this extraordinary shotmaker a chance to revitalize himself against older players. "John is not in love with the game, and he probably now feels that once he's done with the proper circuit, that's the end," says Lloyd who won the Turnberry Isle tourney. "But retiring leaves a big void in your life. John is very competitive, and it's not easy to let it go. A lot of people miss the fun, the competition, and change their minds."

"Sitting around—even with all their money—gets boring," agrees Ross Case, a 1970s doubles standout. "They (former champions) have much more fun still doing what they do best and playing golf, having a beer and hanging around with your buddies."

Vilas, whose passion for tennis hasn't waned, is a likely 1992 senior circuit player. The handsome, macho Argentine is especially popular in South America, France, Italy and Germany. Flamboyant and outspoken Vitas Gerulaitis, a TV tennis analyst nowadays, would be another excellent drawing card. "With Mac and Jimmy playing, I have an idea h may play," says Stewart

The players and ATP Director of Senior Tour Jim McManus are discussing various 199 tournament formats both to maximize the drawing power of superstars Borg and Connors and to accommodate their demands for guarantees (viz., appearance fees). "If you went to Jimmy, he'd want $100,000 a week But he couldn't ge that," explains Stewart. "We'll tell them, 'If you drop your prices now, this circuit can be around a long time. If yo play 10 (events) a year, it's $500,000 for some tennis, golf and socializing'."

Besides the traditiona single-elimination format, there could be separate 35 and 45 singles divisions with older stars like Rod Lave and Ken Rosewall incorporated into the doubles events. Another scoring idea to keep the action fast and furious is best-of-3 tie-breaker shootouts. Perhaps, the most appealing format would be a slim, elite nine-player draw. Here eight players battle it ou with the winner facing Connors or Borg in the final.

Whatever the format, senior tennis appears on the verge of a golden era. "It's going to be huge in another two or three years," predicts 1980 Australian Open finalist Kim Warwick, "once corporations and television realize the heroes of Open Tennis are out there on the tour."

Paul Fein



CRICKET . . . WITH SG

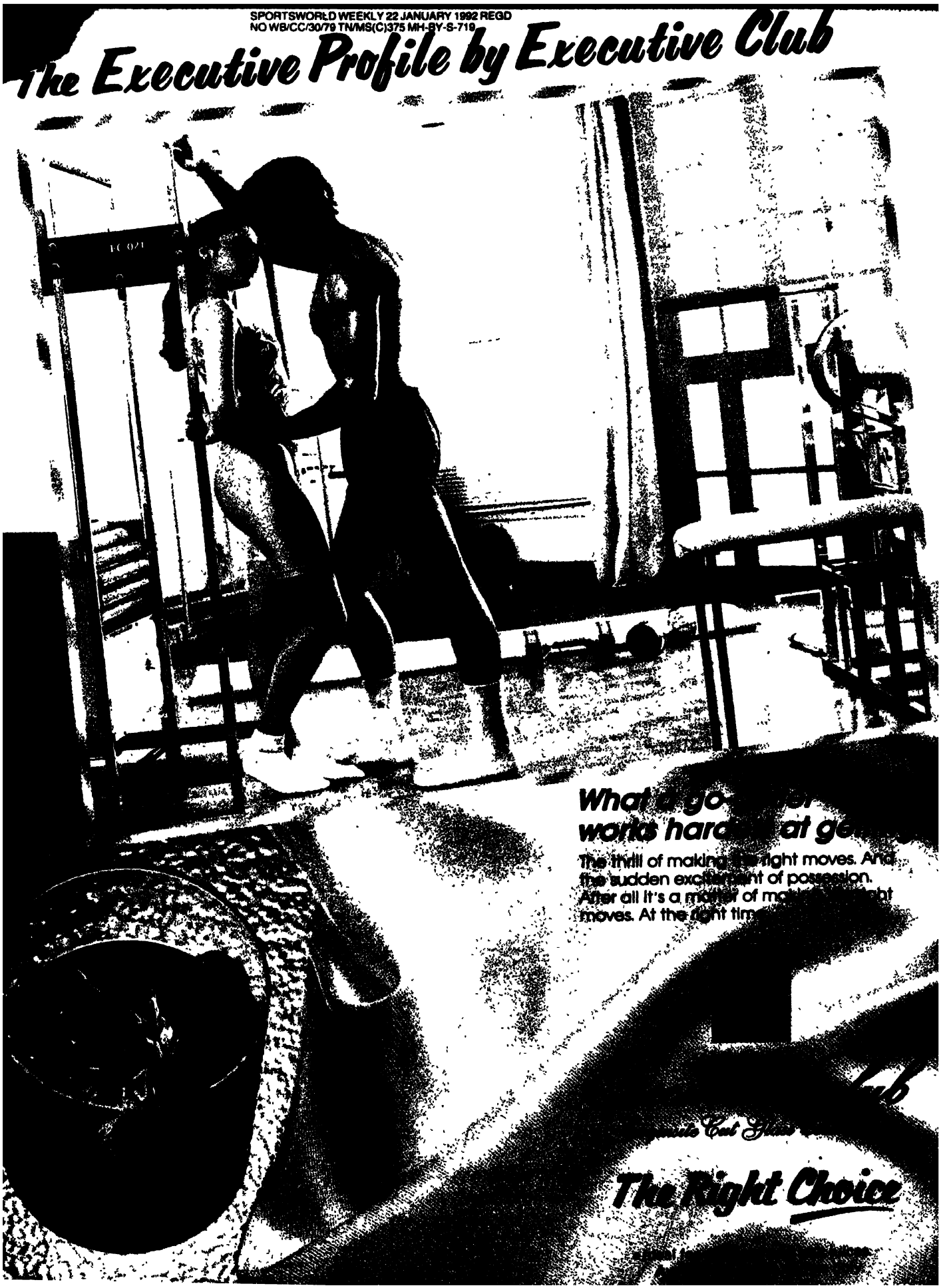
The Matchless Match

The Cricket People

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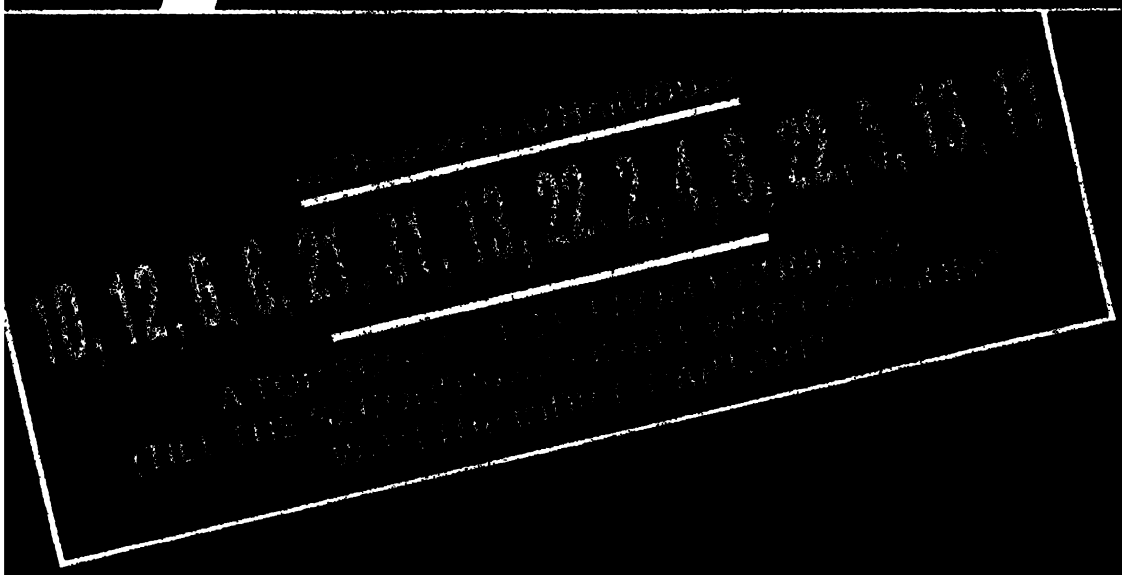
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The Right Choice

Sportsworld

29 Jan - 4 Feb, 1992 An Ananda Bazar Publication Rs. 10.00



GRANDMASTER V. ANAND ANALYSES HIS GAME... AND HIMSELF

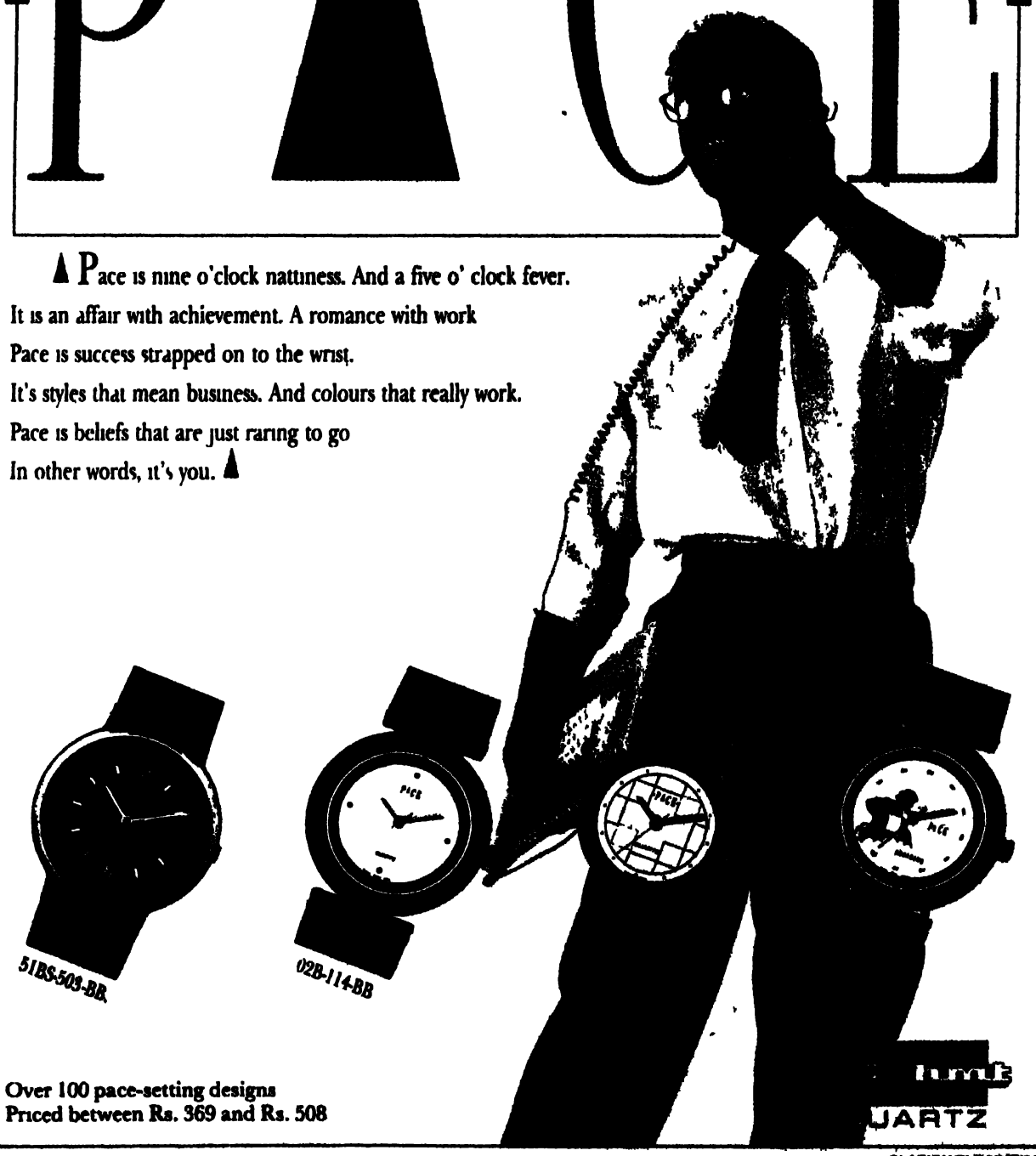
WSC FINALS: AUSTRALIA REIGN SUPREME



FREE POSTER: JIM COURIER

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Voices

I would love to finish my career on American soil. That would be a blessing. My long term goal is the Atlanta Games. And I'm not talking of just being out there. I'm going for gold.
JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE still has a lot of steam left in her. She makes this amply clear as she clears her goal for the Olympics at Atlanta in 1996.

I know he's Australian and he's coached by Bob Carmichael, I found that out on the golf course.... It's amazing what you can find out on a golf course.
IVAN LENDL'S favourite form of relaxation is playing golf. And it has its side benefits too ..as is revealed when he sums up his knowledge of his second-round opponent Roger Rasheed of Australia.

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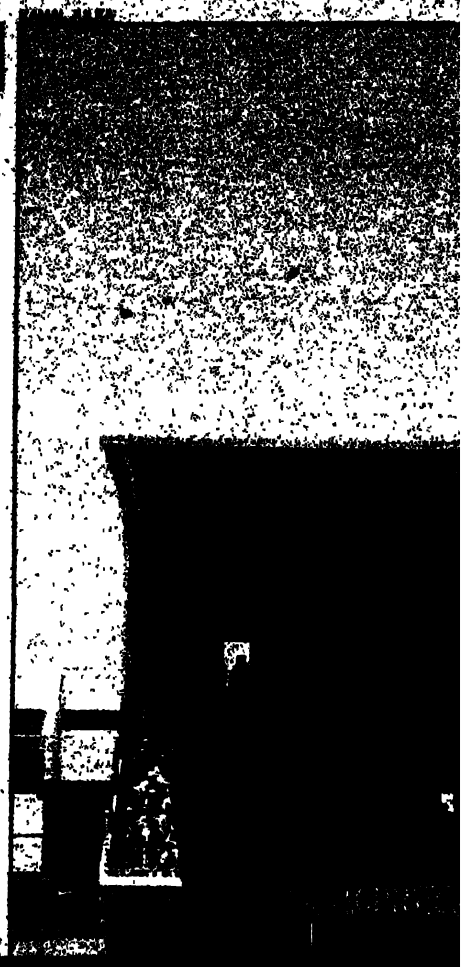
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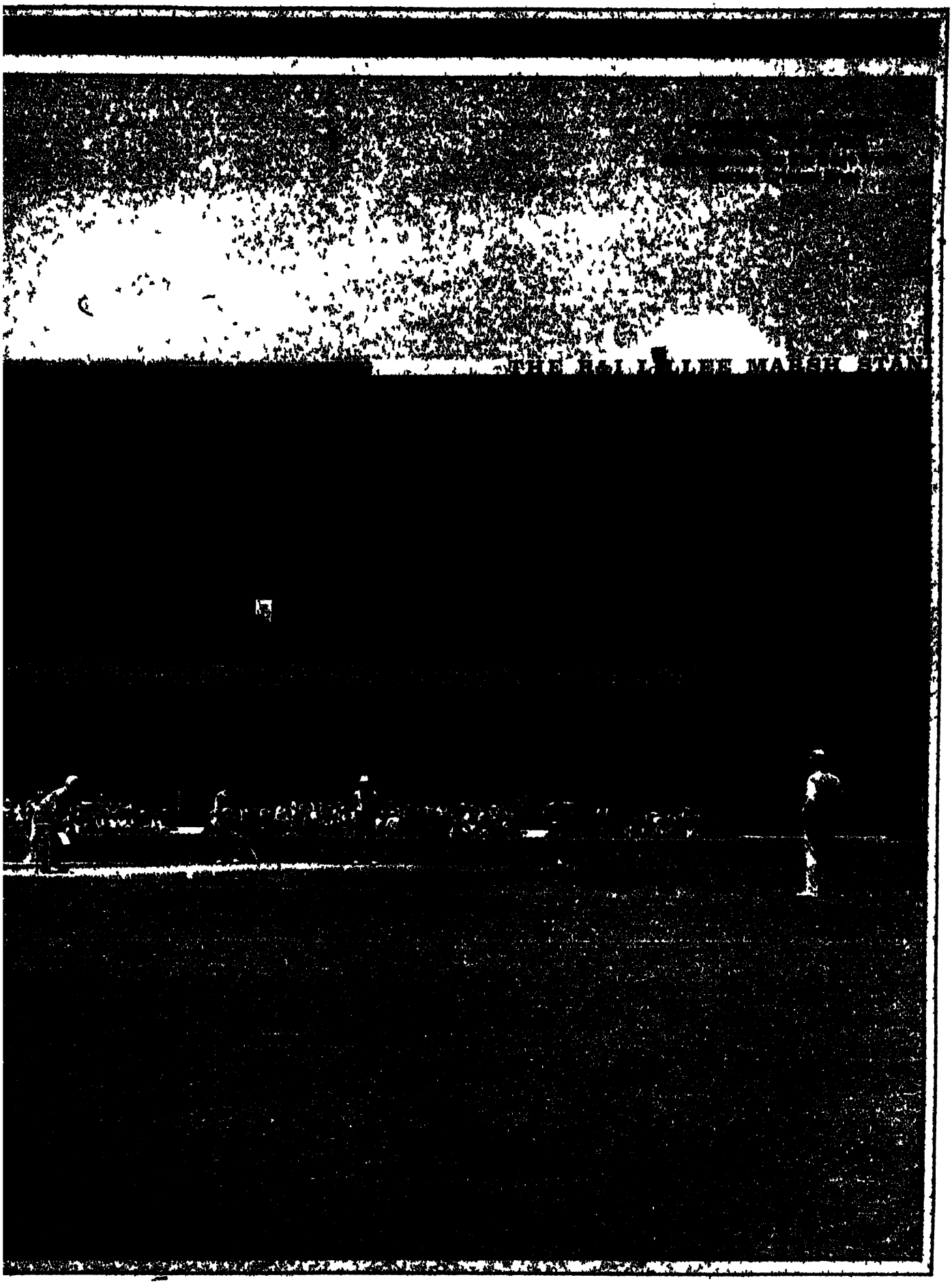


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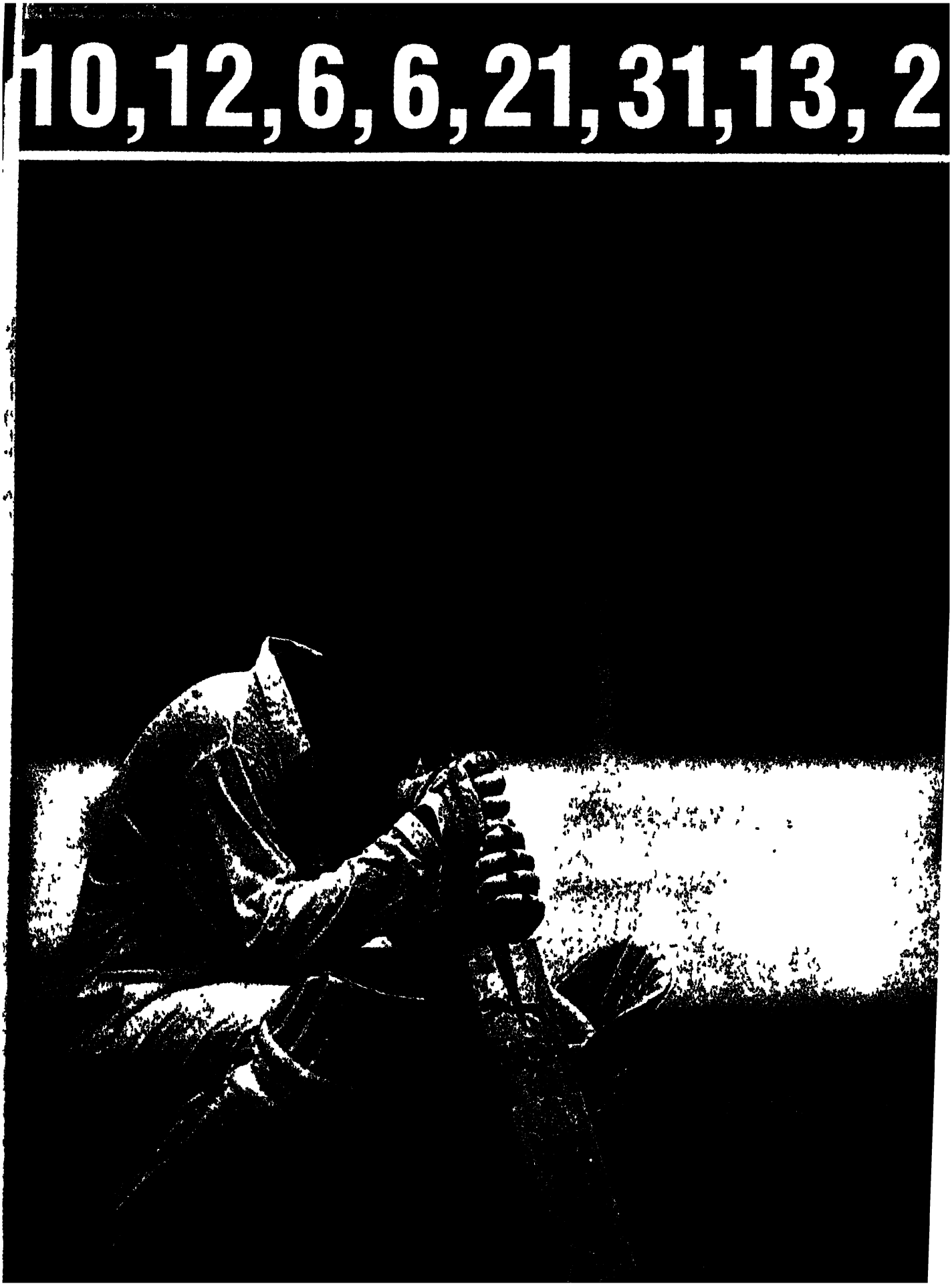


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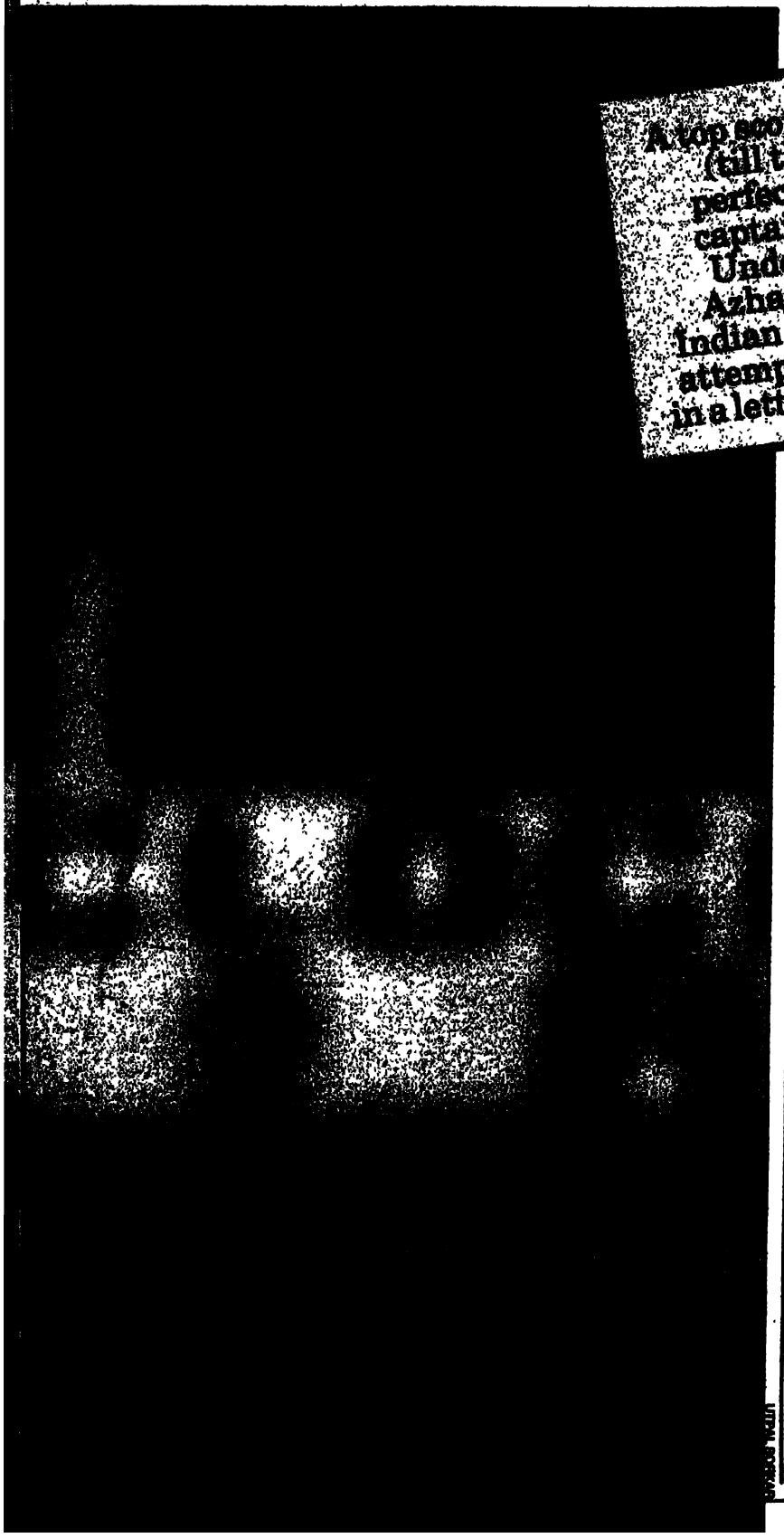


10,12,6,6,21,31,13, 2



2, 2, 4, 8, 22, 5, 13, 11

A top score of 31* from 15 innings (till the second WSC final) perfectly outlines the Indian captain's predicament Down Under. What is wrong with Azhar? After speaking to the Indian skipper, ANDY O'BRIEN attempts to explain the situation in a letter to the Indian cricket fans



Dear Indian Cricket Fan,

MY colleagues tell me that there is a lot of concern back home over the inconsistent and somewhat irrational performances of the Indian cricket team. They also tell me that there is a great debate and concern over our captain Mohammad Azharuddin: his batting form and his future as captain.

Both within and outside the Indian team there seem to be two contrasting opinions about the situation the team now faces in the last part of the tour Down Under.

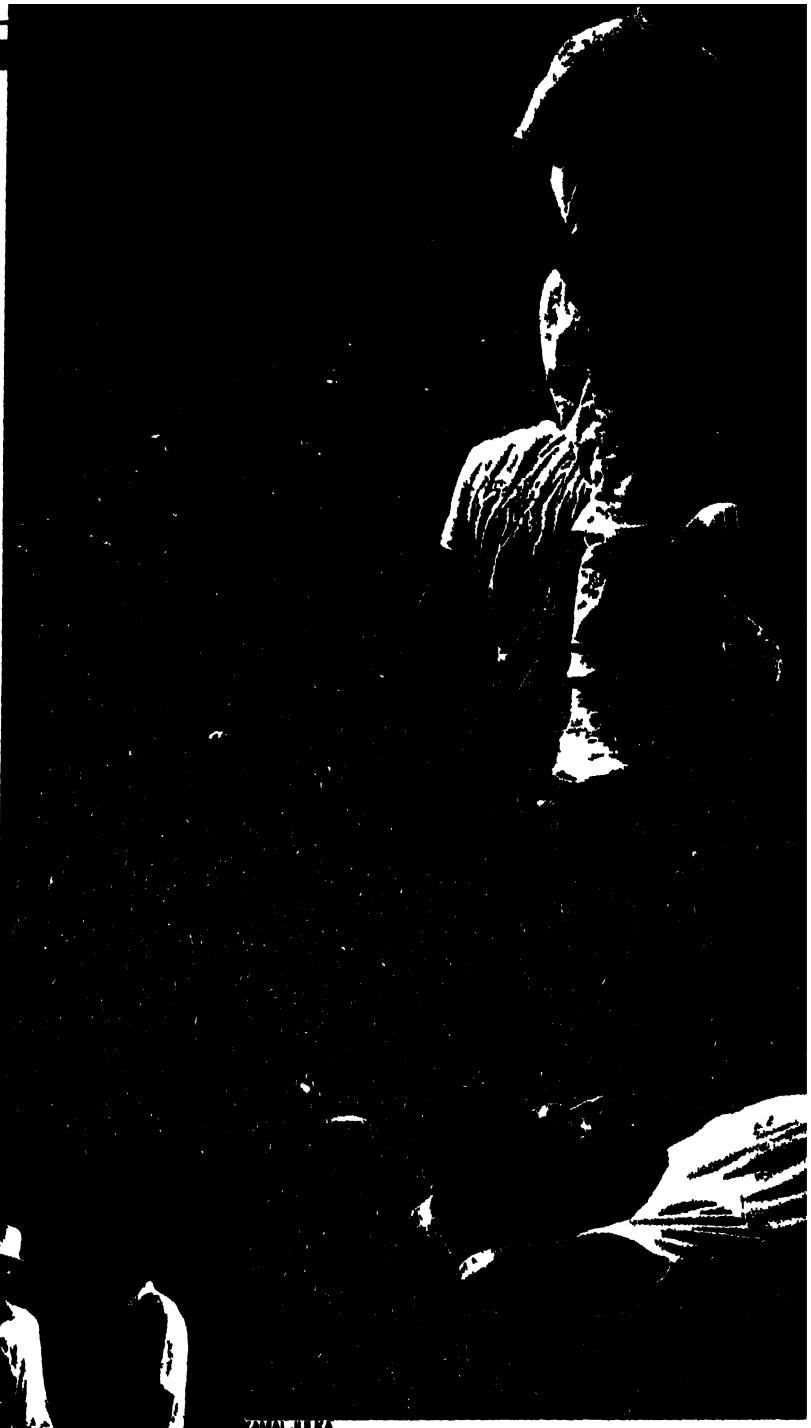
There are the sympathisers who feel that Azhar isn't doing too bad a job as captain, and though his batting form is a major problem, given time and the necessary support and taking his class into consideration, he can weather the storm. And there are people in the Indian cricket team as well as the Indian and Australian press, who believe that he can return to scoring runs; and as such, there isn't anything really wrong with his captaincy.

On the other hand, there are those who

are not so sympathetic. Who believe that it is both his uninspired captaincy and poor form that has contributed to a state of affairs where it seems that the captain has no faith in the team and the team has no confidence in the leader They point out that Azhar is too rigid in his strategy, not flexible enough to accommodate the prevailing circumstances on the field and moreover, his fickleness with the bat isn't doing his cause any good

What of course you want to know is, who is right? It would be difficult to give you a precise and concise answer but will attempt to provide the general picture from which you could make your own decision

It is no secret, and Azhar readily admits it even now when the Australian media pops him the question, that the captaincy was thrust upon him like an absolute bolt from the blue He was more or less a compromise candidate for the job: non-controversial, cut away from the politics



ZAMAL JUDRA

Border acknowledges the Indian team's congratulations after saving the Sydney Test Azhar (patting him on the shoulder) has much to learn from the experienced Aussie skipper



of the Board and at that time, a performer. Though his lack of experience as captain was cause for concern, he could always learn on the job. And Azhar still believes he is in the learning process.

"You are always learning. You keep learning especially when you are struggling. And in this game, everybody is learning all the time. No one can say that he knows everything about the game, so yes, obviously, I am still very much in the



process of learning," he says.

But this particular learning process is a lesson he would not like to go through a second time over because the Australian tour has been nothing short of a nightmare for him. And it shows on his face.

When I told him of the investigations I was doing and that I wanted to speak to him, he was a little reluctant. "I don't want to get into all that," he told me politely.

Can a non-performing captain motivate his team? That's the question

"I believe you are angry with the press, is that the reason?", I asked. "No it's not that, it's just no use bringing up all those things again. Things have been cleared up anyway," he told me.

He was both right and wrong. Normally a very cool and calm guy, Azhar is somewhat annoyed with the press especially with some Australian journalists.

Three rumours, of a serious nature, had

PEERLESS PEERLESS RADIAN 20



Even though he isn't making runs, Azhar's fielding sure saves runs



Azhar's getting his pants taken off by the Aussie press...but is he solely to blame?

led to confusion, back-biting, accusations and general bad blood both in the team and the media. And one suspects between the two.

First, and of major importance, was the rumour that Azhar would be asked to step down before the World Cup began.

Then there was the report that Srikkanth had asked to be left out of the Sydney Test because of his lack of form.

And lastly there was the revival of the debate over Manoj Prabhakar's action.

All three stories appeared in the Australian press and though much time has passed since, the repercussions are still being felt. Of vital importance here is, how the media got hold of the rumours.

Was it that the Australian press was just shooting in the dark or were the stories planted by vested interests? When the Azhar captaincy story broke and questions about the source cropped up, things came to a head when it was rumoured that it came from within the Indian team itself. Even if an Indian player had given vent to his feelings off-the-record to an Indian journalist,

both of them would have known the fruitlessness of the discussion. Azhar had been named captain for the entire tour which included the World Cup and therefore the question of him stepping down doesn't really arise.

Whereas the captaincy rumour had—and probably still has—some substance behind it, in the sense that the skipper was having a bad time with his own form and the team's performance, the Srikkanth episode was more bewildering. Srikkanth still claims that he said nothing of the sort. "My father phoned me from Madras and asked me what I was up to. I couldn't sleep that night", he recalls, still very annoyed with the whole controversy.

Manager Abbas Ali Baig even supposedly thanked Srikkanth for his "generous gesture in the interests of the team." Prabhakar's suspect action has come up before on other tours and unless the Australian journalist who did the story had known about it, which is very doubtful, there was no way he could have written what he had without a tip-off.

Abbas Ali Baig and Azhar prefer not to comment on the rumours calling them "a figment of someone's imagination." Azhar himself stopped speaking to Indian journalists for some time and still refused to talk to any Australian journalist telling them "Go to Greg Ritchie since he knows more about the Indian team than anyone else." Ritchie has been running down the India team whenever asked for his opinion, saying that the tourists are no team at all.

It was little wonder that Azhar was a little reluctant to talk to me. It was after India were battered in the first WSC final at the MCG that I decided to make my final attempt at speaking to the Indian skipper.

As soon as the game was over, Kapil Dev prolonging the agony perhaps to prove a point to his team, I went across to the Indian dressing room. Dilip Vengsarkar was the first to emerge. Annoyed at being continually ignored for the one-day games



in spite of the lack of stability in the Indian batting, he didn't seem too cut up about his team's loss. A pointer enough to the strife in the team. The rest of the players followed. Single file, no talking, no expressions on their faces. Then I spotted Azhar. He came through the door and before I could throw a question, grab my notes or my dictaphone he rattled off his monologue.

"This is the worst cricket an Indian team has ever played. If you keep playing this way you shouldn't be playing for the Indian team." Even if his words were a gross exaggeration one would have to forgive him, because the man seemed mentally shattered. It seemed he had lost all hope in his team. He just kept going: "I have nothing more to say. What else can I say. We keep repeating the same mistakes," he said while his players walked past. "It's the worst we've ever played," he repeated, half hoping some of the players could hear what he was saying.

And for that brief moment, you felt a wave of sympathy sweeping away all the criticism you had stored inside you. You were going to let him have it from the hip, but his face and his words made you feel nothing but sympathy for this man. He, very obviously, was struggling and very frustrated, but had nowhere to hide. "There is no sense of urgency in this team...no sense of purpose," he said. And in a sense he was right. For a team so full of youth, the Indian fielding has not rated above mediocre on this tour. For a side so plentyful in talent, the Indian batting has been the ultimate let-down.

Without wishing to mention names, I can tell you there are some players who feel there is a belief in the Indian team that if you score or do well in one game then you can afford to take it easy for the next game. There are some who feel that Azhar should take a tough stand on this lack of urgency or purpose.

How can a mother who has just spilt her soup all over the table, tell her little child to be careful with the glass of water he has in his hands? That's the kind of situation Azhar finds himself in. Having scored 10, 12, 6, 6, 21, 31, 13, 22, 2, 4, 8, 22, 5, 13, 11 in the 15 Test and one-day innings till the second final of the WSC series, how could the skipper pull up his batsmen for committing the same mistake over and over again? Desperate to score runs in order to gain the right to haul up his players, Azhar has tried







unsuccessfully to hit himself out of trouble while at the crease. And this makes matters worse.

"Everytime Azhar walks in to bat, we said this might be his day. We have been saying it for the last two months," said one Indian journalist travelling with the team. "We don't say it any longer. It's like we have given up hope. It's become a joke now."

Patrick Smithers, cricket correspondent for *The Melbourne Age* feels "India is sadly lacking leadership. It is greatly handicapped by the fact that Azharuddin is haunted by poor form and plagued by injuries. Azharuddin's basic decency is his most apparent quality, but at the moment he seems to be searching deep within himself rather than catering to the needs of the team."

Azhar's best moment on the tour so far. Catching Andy Cummins (in sequence clockwise from top left) off Tendulkar to draw the first match against the West Indies

PHOTOGRAPHS KAMAL JULKA



Smithers is probably right. Azharuddin's simplicity and basic goodness allow him to get on well with his boys. But even those who are willing to play their hearts out for their skipper and are ready to encourage him to do well, feel that he should take the situation under control rather than let it drift. In short he should be strict with the players as far as their motivation is concerned.

But how does a captain ask for performance from his players when he isn't providing it himself? How can a captain motivate a side when he himself is not performing?

Azhar feels the motivation should come from within each player. "You can't motivate everybody all the time," he says. "You can tell players once or twice, after that it's up to them. You can't motivate them everytime," he repeats for emphasis.

"I don't mind taking the flak. After all I am the captain," he says but adds very diplomatically, "I haven't seen much criticism about my captaincy."

The major criticisms against his captaincy on the field is that he is far too rigid, not flexible enough in his strategy. "That's if he has any strategy," said one wag.

"We play to a plan," reports Azhar. "But what can I say if that plan is not implemented on the field. I don't believe in too many instructions. Tell me, how can you give instructions to someone who has played 30 Tests or 60 Tests or 100 Tests? Everyone in this team knows what his job is. He has to go out there and do it. And things haven't gone our way."

"I don't read the newspapers at all. It's



very easy to criticise and all I can say is that if they criticise, it's their problem. They have to sell their newspapers and it doesn't worry me or affect me at all. When you're not doing well, everything seems to look haywire. This game is very easy when you are doing well but extremely hard on you when you're not."

That's surely an understatement. When the batting failed time and again during the opening days of the tour, it was attributed to lack of preparation and not being used to the conditions. Now even after two months the Indian batting, it seems, has still not come to terms with itself.

"On a tour you normally have one or two batsmen who score heavily and the rest back up with some decent scores. If you look at the previous successful tours of England and Pakistan that was what happened. Not all batsmen come good on one tour. But in this case no one has been exceptional and there have been too many batsmen out of form. We have kept repeating the same mistake time and again and that has been the reason for our inconsistency," says the captain. The Indian bowling, at first thought to be a fluke, has maintained its form. It would be very unfair if the captain isn't given credit when the bowling does well. For he obviously had a part to play in that success.

But more importantly how long does he think his bad form with the bat will last considering it is so important to his position as captain and the morale of the team?

"I just have to keep going at it and try harder," he says.

But the point is with so much of the tour remaining, how long does the skipper give himself.

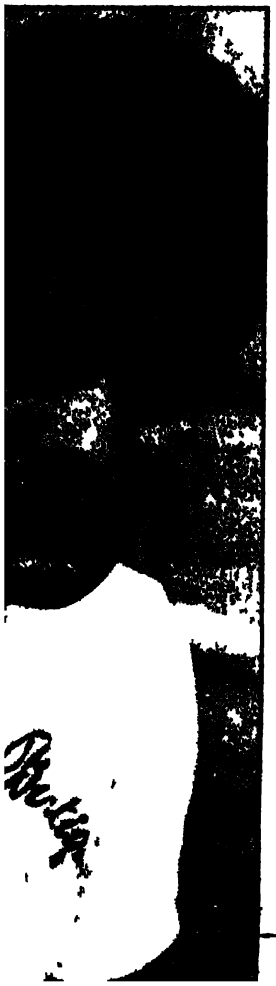
"I'm not setting any time limits for myself. I'll just have to carry on."

Carry on, even if the bad form doesn't end? Azhar answers that question with









the logic that he isn't the first captain to be in this position 'It's not the first time this kind of thing has happened to a captain Why, it happened in Australia itself to the great Gavaskar So its not the end of the world,' he says

But is Azhar as shrewd and as smart a thinker as Gavaskar was? In other words does he have the mental capacity to overcome the crisis?

Border feels that people are being too harsh and sympathises with the Indian captain When I first started off as captain, I too went through what Azhar is going through now I had problems with the press and problems with captaincy The only difference was that I was getting a few more runs than Azhar is at present, but there were times when I hated the press and hated being captain

Was there any time in the tour that Azhar felt the same? This is a question the skipper refuses to answer Just as he refuses to answer the other questions of vital importance

Had he not been captain would he have been dropped from the team for his lack of form?

No comment '

Or lets put it another way supposing another batsman in the team were to go through a similar bad patch averaging below 15, would he have been able to hold onto his place as Azhar has?

I will not answer those kind of questions, the skipper maintains Azhar turns down answering these questions almost in anger, his frustration getting the better of his good nature The next few questions are also answered in the same tone and mood

What do the players think of their performance? Are they satisfied or depressed?

'You will have to ask them that Ask the players that, he counters

But isn't the captain the spokesman for his team?

"Not in this case You will have to ask them," he says almost in disgust

What do they think about the skipper's form?

'Again you'll have to ask them, and then suddenly he allows himself an almost sarcastic smile, bad, I suppose

If it comes to the crunch will the skipper drop himself?

I told you I will not answer those kind of questions, he says and then tries desperately to end the conversation with a courteous is it over?'

It was indeed Because it was in the answers to those very questions that the solution to the problem lay And sadly the answers to those questions the captain refused to answer is unanimous Even the greatest of Azhar sympathisers and I m truely one of them, knows that in reality the skipper could never have been able to hold on to his place in the side but for his position And deep down in his heart Azhar too probably knows *that* is true But he desperately tries to keep fighting the truth keeping it in his heart rather than allowing it to travel to his head For in situations like these, it is the head and not the heart that governs a man and that s a pity because our captain is a man with a simple mind and a heart of gold

I m sure in spite of the disappointing moments they have provided you will join me in wishing him and his team the very best, for the rest of the tour, especially the World Cup Till then we can only wait

Regards,
Andy

The Spirit of

WORLD SERIES CUP

AUSTRALIA

HARSHA BHOGLE watched both WSC finals, in Melbourne and Sydney, and came away convinced that India could have put up a better fight...if they felt like it

IT was to be one of the biggest events of the biggest cricket season Australia has ever had. For the Australian Cricket Board, for Channel 9, for Benson and Hedges and for the cricket follower in Melbourne eager to be among the first to sit in the Great Southern Stand.

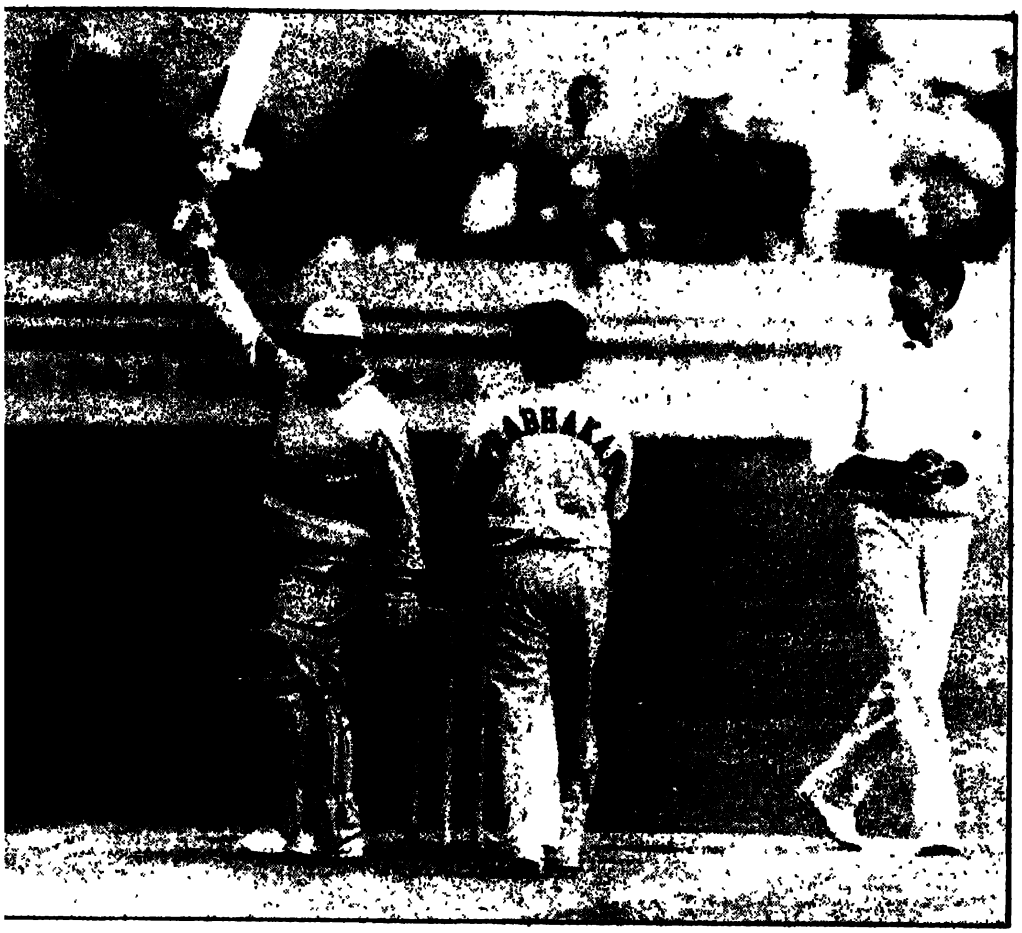
It could also have been a big evening for the Indian cricket team.

Strange as it may sound, both teams walked across from the Hilton to the MCG for the first final on a high. Australia were the favourites, they had annihilated India in their last group match and were head and shoulders above in the craft of one-day cricket. India, with a very *filmi* sense of timing, had left the biggest moment for the end and went into the final with a morale boosting win over the West Indies. They believed another moment of inspiration could have brought them another win.

They left that moment in the lobby. And without it, seemed strangely unarmed, putting up what Azharuddin called the "worst performance since I started playing for India."

There were 40,000 people at the MCG and they had their own little islands of expectation. They had put up banners saying, "If Jones is dropped, we jump". Sitting as they were, in the highest rung of the stands, it was quite a threat! And the loudest cheer of the evening came when Jones did walk out. "We felt Jonesy had got his message and that he now had a point to prove" Border said later. He did and a partnership with David





seemed that Australia would put up a record score and the Indian attitude in the field seemed to confirm that.

A dropped catch is often the most visible indicator of fielding poverty. But at the MCG, India displayed every single fielding crime: some so fundamental that there was a call to return to the coaches. Throws were not backed up to, short singles were allowed like it was donation time, there was nobody to receive throws at the bowlers' end and the half chance looked like a safe hit. In fact, at one stage it seemed there were only three men cutting off the runs: Azharuddin in the infield and Tendulkar and Amre in the deep.

Luckily the bowlers who have been the real

Indian elation, courtesy Ravi Shastri's left-arm spin. But it wasn't enough

The Geoff Marsh-David Boon (bat raised) combination was too strong for India in the finals. Not surprisingly, they shared the Man of the Final award



Boon provided the finest batting of the finals.

Just before the game began, Boon had been presented the Player of the Series award for the preliminaries. He batted like it was the opening course of a huge meal. When Boon gets going, it normally spells danger because of his habit of converting a good score into the starting point of a string. And as this quiet soft-spoken man let his bat do all the talking, one realised what a phenomenal job he had done for Australia. At 142-1, it

PHOTOGRAPHS DEV FEATURES

stars of this tour pulled it back a bit in the end and Australia only got 233, after having been a safe bet for 270 at one stage. And yet, the difference in the fielding standards meant that while Australia had effectively scored around 210, India would have to score something closer to 270.

They never looked like getting there once Shastri had been run-out and Srikanth had fallen to a brilliant catch by Peter Taylor. Those two events highlighted the difference between the two sides. Shastri applauded his partner for running him out and Taylor demonstrated why brilliance often emerges from perseverance. Eight Indian wickets tumbled for 67 runs after that to make it an embarrassing evening all around and lead to a quiet, contemplative flight to Sydney.

India could only have improved from there. Another excellent bowling performance saw them restrict Australia to 208-9 from 50 overs; Venkatapathy Raju having Australian critics in raptures with some excellent old-fashioned spin bowling which brought him 3-32 and opened up the debate on whether spinners aren't the more effective bowlers in one-day cricket.

A good wicket. A fast outfield. And a relatively small target. The perfect ingredients for a fightback. Or were they? Border said afterwards, "A lot of people from India and Pakistan feel a score like 208 should be an easy one to chase. In those countries, it probably isn't even a fighting total. In Australia, with long boundaries, and therefore fewer big hits, it can be a most challenging score."



Steve Waugh did more damage with the ball



The Aussie team spirit was a dominating factor

At one stage it seemed India would pull it off. Emerging from a slow start Shastri had begun to open out and Tendulkar was picking his runs like a magician would. But then Shastri hurt his knee, an injury which would require surgery later on and when he was out, the asking rate had already climbed to 7. It was to claim two victims in Azharuddin and Kapil Dev.

It was only after Amre came to join Tendulkar that, all of a sudden, it seemed that a sense of purpose had been injected into the proceedings. The singles were run craftily and the odd boundaries emerged. They brought it down to 20 from three overs when the bubble burst. Tendulkar's run of luck ended, Amre went for the slog and India ended up seven runs short.

Still, it had been a face-saving performance. And at the end of it all, it confirmed that for India to win a one-day match in these conditions, Srikkanth and Tendulkar have to combine. And that in his quiet style, Tendulkar has emerged as the backbone of the Indian batting.

On this tour, Tendulkar alone has shown all the ingredients of being a one-day star. He has run brilliantly between the wickets, has paced his

WORLD SERIES CUP 1991-92

FOR THE RECORD

Date						
8/12						
9/12						
11/12						
12/12	AUSTRALIA (T)	77-4/50		184		
14/12	INDIA (T)	262-4/50				
15/12		157				
18/12	AUSTRALIA (T)	264-8/50		165		
9/01						
11/01	INDIA (T)	161		WEST INDIES	182-4/46.2	
12/01	WEST INDIES	216			205	
14/01	INDIA (T)	47		AUSTRALIA	127	
16/01	WEST INDIES (T)	176-8/50		INDIA	179-8/49.4	
18/01	AUSTRALIA (T)	232-7/50			148	
20/01	AUSTRALIA (T)	206-6/50		INDIA	202	

Note: Teams in capitals are match winners; (T) stands for toss winner

EACH TEAM'S PLAYING RECORD

	P	Win	L	T/Tab	Runs scored	Overs bowled	Wkts lost	Runs conceded	Net run rate
AUSTRALIA	10	7	2	1	1665	466.4	66	5.68	
INDIA	10	5	5	(1)	1617	459	59	5.48	
WEST INDIES	8	2	4	2	1467	441.5	54	5.31	

EACH TEAM'S SCORING PATTERN

	Runs scored	Overs faced	Wkts lost	Runs per over	Runs per wkt
AUSTRALIA	1665	413.3	66	4.00	25.22
INDIA	1617	463.1	81	3.78	22.45
WEST INDIES	1467	382	69	3.84	21.26



KAMAL NARA

Manjrekar's death wish...run out in the second final!

innings beautifully, has joined Azharuddin as India's second fielder of truly international class and has shown a thinking mind with the ball. Perhaps his only disappointment would be that he did not slog as well as he can. A good slog for example would have won India the second final. But then without his measured innings India wouldn't have got there.

And in spite of the seeming gulf between the two countries, only one factor separated the two sides. Urgency. If you have it, you win. If you don't, you lose. Australia had it. India didn't. ●

WORLD SERIE



David Boon

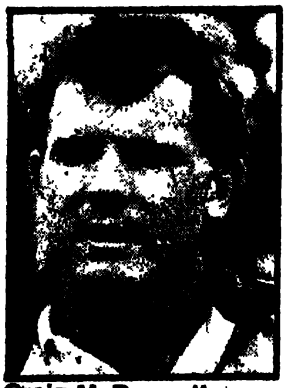
AUSTRALIA (Batting)

	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	HS	C	S	Ovrs
Boon	10	9	2	435	61.71	102*	1	4	75
Border	10	8	2	220	36.66	78	1	1	46
Marsh	10	9	1	252	31.33	82	2	2	54
Jones	9	9	1	196	28.00	73	2	2	57
Moody	10	8	1	184	26.28	87*	2	2	41
Taylor	10	5	2	52	17.33	33			11
S. Waugh	10	7	2	60	12.00	34			9
Healy	10	5	1	47	11.75	17*			11
O'Donnell	2	1		10	10.00	10			1
M. Waugh	5	3		20	6.66	17			1
McDermott	10	4		20	5.00	10			1
Whitney	5	3	3	3	—	2*			6
Reid	5	2	2	3	—	2*			
Reiffel	1	—	—	—	—	—			
Extras (All)				134					
		23	18	1863	29.69	102*	1	11	80

Century (1): 102* David Boon v India at Hobart

AUSTRALIA (Bowling)

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
McDermott	91.2	12	282	21	13.42	3-19
Reiffel	10	1	27	2	13.50	2-27
Border	2	0	15	1	15.00	1-15
S. Waugh	80.3	5	404	18	19.00	3-21
Whitney	76	12	280	8	35.00	3-39
Moody	60	1	193	5	38.60	2-36
Reid	49	7	194	4	48.50	2-29
Taylor	86	3	365	10	36.50	2-27
O'Donnell	17	1	71	1	71.00	1-35
M. Waugh	9	0	46	0	—	—
Extras (B, LB)(NB)			33	17		
	482.5	42	1910	86	22.04	5-15



Craig McDermott



K. Srikkanth

INDIA (Batting)

	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	HS	C	S	Ovrs
Srikkanth	10	10	0	341	34.10	116	2	3	70
Shastri	10	10	1	329	36.55	107	1	1	70
Vengsarkar	10	10	1	324	36.00	103	1	1	70
Amre	10	10	0	321	32.10	103	1	1	70
Azharuddin	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Kapil Dev	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Gaekwad	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Manjrekar	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Yadav	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Prabhakar	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Kirmani	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Sharma	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Patil	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Kumble	10	10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70
Extras (All)				319					
		10	0	319	31.90	93	1	2	70

Century (1): 116 K. Srikkanth v Australia at Hobart

INDIA (Bowling)

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Kapil Dev	91.2	12	282	21	13.42	3-19
Sharma	10	1	27	2	13.50	2-27
Prabhakar	2	0	15	1	15.00	1-15
Kumble	80.3	5	404	18	19.00	3-21
Shastri	76	12	280	8	35.00	3-39
Yadav	60	1	193	5	38.60	2-36
Amre	49	7	194	4	48.50	2-29
Azharuddin	86	3	365	10	36.50	2-27
Gaekwad	17	1	71	1	71.00	1-35
Manjrekar	9	0	46	0	—	—
Extras (B, LB)(NB)			33	17		
	482.5	42	1910	86	22.04	5-15

CUP, 1991-92

INDIA (Bowling)

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Manjrekar	0.5	0	6	1	6.00	1-2
V. Raju	36	2	143	6	23.83	3-22
Banerjee	24	3	97	4	24.25	3-30
Prabhakar	86	8	315	12	26.25	3-31
Srinath	86	10	309	11	27.18	2-24
Kapil Dev	88	17	275	9	30.55	4-54
Shastri	65.5	2	255	8	31.87	5-19
Hirwani	24	0	122	3	40.66	2-34
Tendulkar	37.5	1	152	2	76.00	1-5
Sidhu	0.3	0	2	0	—	—
Srikanth	7	0	52	0	—	—
Extras (B, LB)/RO	—	—	70	7	—	—
	456	33	1798	63	28.53	5-15



Ravi Shastri

WEST INDIES (Batting)

	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	HS	4	6	C/St
D. Haynes	8	8	0	293	36.62	69	4	2	
Hooper	8	8	1	178	25.42	77	1	2	
Best	4	4	1	73	24.33	36			
Richardson	8	8	—	185	23.12	72	2	4	
Lara	8	8	—	179	22.37	69	1	4	
Arthurton	5	5	1	83	20.75	58	1	1	
Walsh	7	7	—	124	17.71	52	1	1	
Ambrose	8	7	1	80	13.33	24*	1		
Cummins	8	7	3	51	12.75	24			
Patterson	7	4	3	10	10.00	8*	1		
Marshall	8	7	—	42	6.00	17		2	
Simmons	8	6	1	21	4.20	10			8/2
Kennedy	1	1	—	0	—	0			
Extras (All)/Subs				148					2
		80	11	1467	21.26	82	13	9	28/2



Desmond Haynes



Malcolm Marshall

WEST INDIES (Bowling)

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Ambrose	86	17	276	13	21.23	4-31
Patterson	69.3	12	261	12	21.75	4-39
Cummins	80	10	307	10	30.70	3-39
Marshall	76	10	277	9	30.77	3-39
Walsh	71	7	267	8	33.37	3-39
Simmons	76	6	307	7	43.85	2-39
Richardson	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Hooper	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Best	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Arthurton	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Lara	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Kennedy	24	1	97	3	32.33	2-39
Extras (LB, W, NB)/RO	3	0	12	0	—	—
	456	33	1798	63	28.53	5-15

CRICKET SNIPPETS

D'YA WANT ONE BALL OR TWO?

THE controversy over the use of balls for the World Cup continues West Indian captain Ritchie Richardson also entered the debate prior to his departure from Australia after his team failed to make the WSC final saying that excessive movement of the wobbly white balls was detracting from the spectacle of the one day game The way these balls are at the moment it would definitely be better to use one because they are doing too much he said



Do white balls (like the one being used by Ambrose here) actually make life tougher for the batsmen?

Richardson believes that the nature of the white balls and the rule of using one at each end in Australia was responsible for the low scores in the WSC competition where only two 250 plus scores were recorded It s taking a little bit away from the one day entertainment It s nice to see wickets fall but at the end of the day everybody is looking to see your score close to 250 he said

Asked if he would like to see the return of the days of white clothing and the red ball Richardson said No I like this kind of cricket the answer is probably the use of one ball It s just that early on it s very difficult for the batsmen because the ball is doing so much

The issue of how many balls to use per innings is in a state of limbo with the World Cup committee striking an unusual compromise of one ball for the games in New Zealand (where they apparently last longer) and two for Australia (where they damage easier on the harder wickets) Several nations have objected to this discrepancy in the rules and many players have commented that the white balls used this season have shown a greater tendency to swing than in previous years

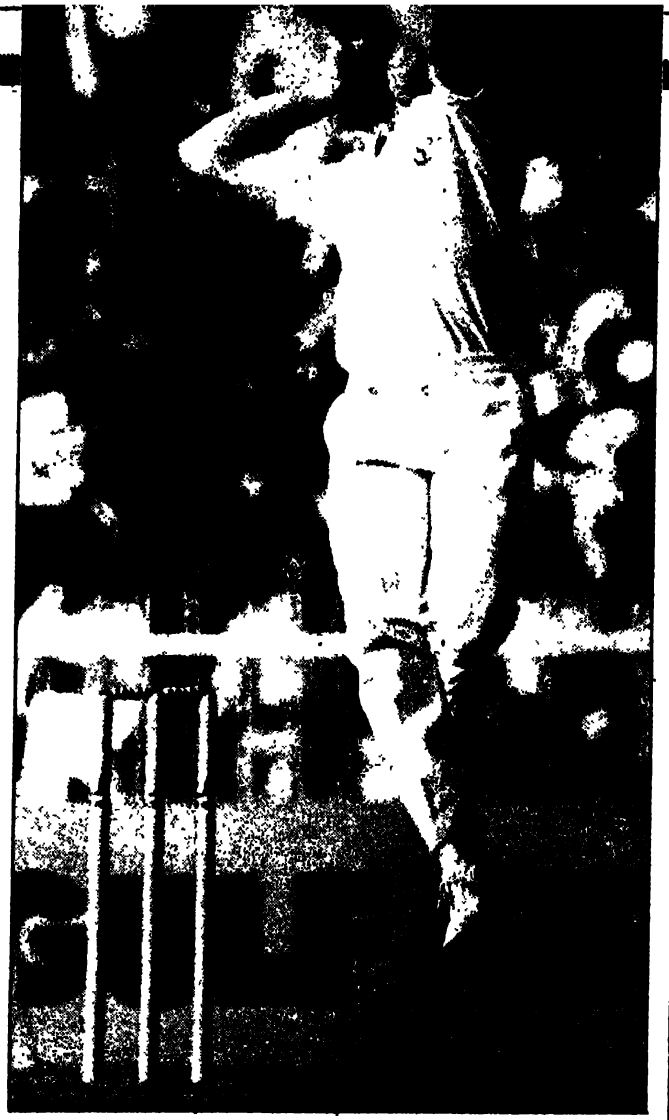
On the eve of what was his last one day international before the World Cup Australian captain Allan Border joined the call for uniform playing conditions for cricket s showpiece tournament Border said it was important that the same conditions applied on either side of the Tasman Asked if he thought that one white ball could last long enough to be easily sighted towards the end of 50 overs Border said I have my reservations I would prefer two but I think it s got to be uniform Whether it s one or two it should be the same for both

Sources say that though the playing conditions have been given to the participating teams the committee might reconsider its decision to adopt different playing conditions in the two host nations The fact that the playing conditions had not been formally released to the press is also an indication in this direction

McDERMOTT: IRONMAN HIMSELF

AUSSIE fast bowler Craig McDermott attributes much of his success this season to his fitness He s worked on his fitness he says especially during the off season and it's surely paying off

My aim was to be fit enough to be able to bowl as well at 5 30 pm as I would at 10 30 am he says He



You want fitness? Talk to Craig McDermott. While he may shy away from publicity, he's a maniac about his personal form

said the off season provided him with his platform. Five days a week he had two daily sessions consisting of a 8 km jog at 4 km pace. This was followed by a weight programme. The afternoon session was a 4 km run or a 45 minute bicycle ride and an hour at the gym.

McDermott claims he does not follow a strict diet and succumbs to McDonalds once every couple of weeks. He eats a lot of pasta, salad and pizza but little red meat. He does not drink alcohol at home at all. But on tour, enjoys a light beer or two after the day's play as well as a glass or two of white wine with his meals.

McDermott is also a strict non-smoker and makes sure that his roommates are non-smokers. At least five Australian players smoke; Allan Border, David Boon, Geoff Marsh, Simon O'Donnell and Bruce Reid. McDermott, however, admits it is harder to keep up the fitness regime while on tour, but constant bowling and regular jogging keeps him at peak..

The obsession with fitness began after he lost his place in the Australian side. "It has basically got me back in the side," he said. "I've learned my lesson." There will be many batsmen who wish he hadn't!

IF JONES IS DROPPED, WE'LL JUMP

DEAN JONES dropping to 12th man for the last league match of the WSC series received more coverage then the hosts winning the competition. The deep-rooted feeling in Jones is that he wants to entertain people; and the Jones boy likes to do it his way.

"Entertainment is part of the game," he explains. "I like to entertain people, so if you muck it up, it's going to be big news and if you do well it's going to be big news. That's good and bad for me but you can't have your cake and eat it. We have to entertain people."

"I try to come across as a player who enjoys the game and has a good time and I think you have to promote that because the kids who see that will want to play the game as well. If you look dour and sour, the kids don't enjoy that but if you are full-on aggressive it gets through to people."



Dean Jones is an out-and-out entertainer. When he was dropped, Australia mourned

Jones' indifferent form fell way below the standards he has set for himself, and the one-game lesson he was taught by the selectors has come as a blessing in disguise. But that was a bad time, says Jones." It was only a few days but it was one hell of a nightmare."

His return to the team was an obvious relief to him, his team and the vast fan-following he has in this country, especially the group high up in the southern-stands at the MCG whose banner read: "If Jones gets dropped, we'll jump." He wasn't. They didn't. And all was well in the one-day world.

Andy O'Brien, Sydney

ON SUNDAY, January 19, a grey filly named Rhythm threw the opposition off-beat when she won the Gold Riband Indian Oaks at Bombay. It was a gutsy and courageous performance by the daughter of Sovereign Silver and the victory earned her owners, a Gold Trophy valued at Rs.30,000 along with the winner's purse of more than Rs.7 lakhs. Trained by Imtiaz Sait and ridden by Paul Eddery, Rhythm won the fillies Derby well enough to prove that over a mile and a half she was the best of the fairer sex.

Of course, her work was made that much easier by the fact that the 1000 Guineas winner, Dangerous Liasion had given the Oaks a pass in order to take her chance in the Derby which is to be run a fortnight later. Had she been around the outcome of the race might have been different, but that is mere speculation Rhythm went well enough to stay every inch of the way and record books will always show that she came out and won What the record books will not show is that Dangerous Liasion did not take part.

Rhythm is owned by Mr. and Mrs Ashok R. Patel, Mr. P.R. Patel and Mr D.R. Thacker and for them this classic victory meant a great deal. These were the same owners who bought a got abroad colt named Flirting Vision,then sold the said colt after he won his first start very impressively, for a phenomenal price to Dr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy. After that they had to suffer the trauma of watching Flirting Vision win the Bangalore Derby last year. Hence Rhythm had provided them with a certain degree of solace and you could not have seen a more delighted set of people than the Patels and the Thackers that afternoon.

Eight fillies lined up to face the starter at the 2,400 metre marker. With Golden Horn the favourite, classified at the bottom of Class 2, it was surprising to see her installed as the favourite because she was yet to meet the class to

The grey filly upset the *Rhythm* of all the others to win the Bombay Derby



NALIN SOLANKI





Few people risked putting their money on Rhythm (extreme right) but when she came in first it was obviously a well deserved victory; (inset) Paul Eddery astride Rhythm definitely has something to smile about

start with Rhythm on the other hand, had already presented her credentials She had run 2nd in the Pune Derby behind none other than Astonish who subsequently went on to win the 2000 Guineas in Bombay. She was the only filly classified in Class I Hence it seemed to be staring you in the face, but few people chose to look and Rhythm was available at 4 to 1, while Golden Horn was at 13 to 10

Perhaps what made the vast multitude opt for Golden Horn was the fact that she was trained by none other then Uttam Singh,a veteran and a maestro when it comes to dealing with the fairer sex

Golden Horn—a big made, double boned Chesnut filly—went away to the front from the time the gates opened She had worked herself up to a great extent before the start and she was sweating profusely before she was stalled. This probably took the edge off her and jockey John Lowe who was riding the filly had no option but to let the daughter of Rihayi do as she wanted Turning for home Golden Horn was still in front, but she had run out of steam

It was at this juncture that Paul Eddery put Rhythm into top gear and the grey filly responded gamely to take over the running and then held off the challenge of an erratic running of La Bonnevae and Britainny The latter was finishing well after languishing in the rear for most of the way, but there was no hard luck story in the Oaks The best filly won and there was no doubt whatsoever about it

Cyrus J. Madan, Bombay

INDIRA GANDHI MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY

FOR the Indian hockey team, the Olympic year started with a flourish. The recent 6th Indira Gandhi Memorial International Hockey Tournament was the first step on the road to Barcelona. India emerged triumphant in the seven-nation meet played on a round robin league basis. They did it in style winning all the six matches, scoring 26 goals and conceding just seven. This was a vast improvement on last year's performance when at the same venue (the Shivaji Stadium) India finished third. Of the six matches played last year, India won just three, lost two and drew one, scoring 16 goals and conceding nine.

The query on every hockey lover's lips is that can India's victory at Delhi be interpreted as a good augury or a harbinger of success in the Olympics? Will Balkishen Singh's "total hockey" fetch India the most cherished Olympic medal? It must be stressed that India won her last Olympic gold medal at Moscow in 1980. Even that was a truncated Olympics with most top hockey nations boycotting. So the last medal for India in the Olympics was the bronze at Munich twenty years ago. Will the long wait be over?

Balkishen Singh is quietly confident. He said: "Winning six successive matches helps to develop the winning habit. Our success in this tournament has certainly increased our player's confidence." However, he admitted that the penalty corner conversion rate still needed improvement. India earned 40 penalty corners in six matches. They scored just 13 goals that is a ratio of 1:3. Of the 13 goals scored, four were against Japan, which was represented by a club side Hyojito of Nagoya; three against China and two against Poland which did not win a single match. It was noticeable that against Barcelona qualifiers New Zealand, India's penalty corner conversion seemed mediocre. Of the six penalty corners against the Kiwis, Jagdev struck twice, Pargat Singh thrice and Jude once,a scooped wide off an indirect attempt. But neither Pargat nor Jagdev caused much concern to the Kiwi custodian Scott Anderson.

Pargat and Jagdev were India's top scorers in the tournament with five goals each. However, Jagdev's only goal against a custodian of any calibre was against Kenya. The third defender in the side, the 26-year-old debutant,BSF sub-inspector Naman Murmur also strikes powerfully. He saved India's blushes by equalising when we trailed 0-1 against unfancied China. However Balkishen's caution, prevented Murmur from getting adequate chances to display his talent. Murmur who learnt his hockey at Khunti, the nursery of the game in Bihar, played just one match versus China and was quite impressive in his interceptions and tackles. However, he was not tried even in the second half against Japan when India were leading 4-0. Balkishen's logic was that, "Jagdev is our best bet in penalty corners and so he needs more match practice." It would be unfair to discard Murmur after just one match.

The other obvious weakness is the that besides Jude Felix, the team lacks a schemer. This was apparent in the match vs China. In the first half, India rested Jude and tried Sanjay Bisht in his role. The attack stuttered and the flow of passes was missing. Till half time, India and China were level at 1-1. Fearing a crisis, Jude was brought



Poland versus Kenya. The Kenyans are rebuilding their side

The New Zealand coach Kevin Towns admitted that Barcelona was the main goal and the Delhi tournament was used as practise for fringe internationals. So too much should not be made of India's victory...

From left: Shakeel, Jagbir and Edgar, the threesome who scored against the Kiwis, with the glittering Indira Gandhi Gold Cup



India's First Step To Barcelona

in and India won 3-1, not a heartening victory against an experimental Chinese team. They had just six players defenders Gao Giang, Wang Haifeng and Ren Hong, midfielders Zhang Jun and skipper Yu Hao and winger Yu Giwei, who represented China in the 1990 Beijing Asiad. The others were newcomers to international hockey.

Balkishen admits the absence of a replacement for Jude. His lament is that there is no other schemer in India. This is not entirely true. The junior India squad of 1991 had a Hyderabad-based player Mohammed Riaz with a style similar to Jude Felix and could have been tried out here. However, in the thrilling 4-2 victory vs New Zealand, it was obvious that Jagbir and Mukesh are also being used as schemers. Ball player Atif Idris was discarded after the Auckland Pre-Olympics as the brains trust felt he was slow and ineffective against the brawny European defenders.

His replacement,the shy 20-year-old Ravi Nayakar, the son of a college lecturer at Bagalkot in Karantaka, impressed whenever he got a chance. He has the stickwork, mobility and game sense to be a useful roving forward against tight marking defenders. He played just one full match vs Japan and scored once and was responsible for three of the eight penalty corners that India earned. So Ravi Nayakar would be groomed as a schemer. Another player worth watching is Zillur Rehman who was among the reserves.

Another distressing feature is the absence of consistency. Except for the opening 25 minutes vs Poland, 20 minutes vs Kenya and Korea and for most of the match vs New Zealand India struggled against tight man-to-man marking. When in fully cry, India scored goals, four vs Poland, three vs Korea and four each vs Kenya and the Kiwis. Balkishen is to be complimented on changing India's mode of attack. Gone are the days of solo thrusts and players sticking to positions. Now the Indian forwards also used



Mukesh trying to get past a Kiwi defender

roving role on the left flank. But India are still overdependent on the speed and silky skills of Mukesh Kumar on the right flank for developing attacks. Only once in the tournament did the attacking quartet, Jagbir, Mukesh, Edgar, Nayakar or Pillay clicked all together. That was in the match vs the Kiwis and the forwards scored twice and got penalty strokes from two other goal-bearing moves. Balkishen must aim for such consistency regularly.

The midfield is more settled. Harpreet has matured into a useful right half. His crosses and free hits now have more power and accuracy. He set up three of India's goals, two against the Kiwis and one vs Japan with his accurate free hits. Sukhjeet Singh is a tough defensive centre half. Shakeel is outstanding as a marker and moves into attack on the left. But he needlessly commits infringements or loses his temper.

Sanjay Bisht was still slow and tentative whenever he played. Coach Balkishen says, he is a utility player and useful as a substitute in all positions in the midfield. But with Sanjay Bisht shaky it may be wise to recall Ajit Lakra (Services) or Mohammed Arif (IAC).

Of the three Asian nations, South

one touch and wall passes and through passes in gaps to develop attacks. With his emphasis on teamwork, Balkishen used the thrustful Dhanraj Pillay only in the second half to provide the extra speed to the attack. Pillay did not start any match except vs Japan because of his solo thrusts.

Except in the last match vs New Zealand, ace striker Jagbir struggled against even mediocre opposition. Jagbir's series of injuries last year seem to have affected his confidence. He often required the services of masseur Ashok Kumar, who helped him overcome a back problem for which doctors wanted to operate.

Edgar has also got adjusted to the

Many Teething Problems

ALL that glitters is not gold could aptly be applied to ITC's sponsorship of the Indira Gandhi Gold Cup tournament. ITC's lucrative sponsorship of Rs 30 lakhs seemingly indicated that the organisers would be financially self-sufficient. But in these days of the devalued rupee, even with Rs 30 lakhs the organisers struggled. The stringent rules of the FIH for an A or B grade international tournament added to the organisers' woes.

The major expenses is to and fro air fare for the six foreign participants. The break up is Rs 3,77,124 for Japan, Rs. 3,03,200 for China, Rs. 2,99,484 for S. Korea, Rs. 3,97,702 for Kenya, Rs. 4,37,000 for Poland and Rs. 5,40,000 for New Zealand. The total expense on air tickets was Rs. 24,54,510. As they had promised for the travel expenses of the Indian team, the [illegible] covered considerably.

About 200 people, including [illegible] were flown in from various international [illegible]



Midfield action during the Korea-New Zealand match

Korea were the best. In four previous meetings in the Indira Gandhi tournament, India had never beaten the Koreans, losing 1-2 in 1987 and 1988 and drawing 1-1 in 1990 and a 3-3 draw in 1991. This year, India beat them 4-3 after leading 4-1 for sixty minutes. It was the most satisfying result for the Indian players, even though the Koreans had just five regular internationals. Kenya are re-building after their debacle in the African Games, when they failed to qualify for Barcelona. Japan also had just four internationals, defenders Yamada, skipper Masahiro Mizukami, centre half Yaji Nagai and custodian Iwad Uemitsu.

The Kiwis came with just seven players of their Pre-Olympic squad. Coach Kevin Towns admitted that Barcelona was the main goal and the Delhi tournament was used as practise for fringe internationals. So too much should not be made of India's victory but still the winning habit and the confidence that success breeds is welcome. Peter Miskimmin, the Kiwi skipper and one of the senior most players in the circuit, feels India showed glimpses of combined hockey which could make them formidable. We can keep our fingers crossed.

The ITC sponsored tournament lost much of its glamour when the erstwhile USSR now playing as CIS withdrew. They were listed in the draw and their absence was as much a mystery as the sudden dis-integration of the USSR. The tournament organisers twice postponed their matches claiming the CIS hockey team had embarked from Moscow on an Air India flight. But this mysterious flight never reached Delhi and there was no news from Moscow on their whereabouts. FIH's chief technical delegate Gamal Shirazi of Egypt was upset at this confusion. He felt that the imbroglio of air tickets and participation of CIS should have been sorted out well in advance.

The tariff for room plus buffet meals was Rs. 1,500 per day. For about ten to twelve days this meant an additional expenditure of over Rs. 30 lakhs. So the total expenses were in the region of Rs. 60 lakhs.

FIH norms insist on to and fro air fare, five-star hotel accommodation and proper food and hygiene. Such norms had made the organisers struggle for six years as expenses escalate but the income was conspicuously low. Revenue would increase if top hockey nations participated. However, the IHF maintain that the organisers send their invitations too late as leading nations plan their schedule well in advance.

So the tournament has many teething problems. Hopefully, the organisers will be able to sustain it otherwise the tournament will meet the fate as that of the Rene Frank international trophy, started in Delhi over two decades ago.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BABUN

GOODRICKE OPEN CHESS

THE DESTROYER



Jet-lagged and struggling to find his form Viswanathan Anand made some fatal mistakes in his match against GM Danny King. King took the opportunity to destroy Anand

GM Danny King, used to the high-risk style of the Swiss-System, adopted a streetfighter's attitude and punched his way through to the title

Put up prize money of Rs 1.6 lakhs. Invite players from 14 nations. Add four Candidates, nine Grandmasters, 11 International Masters, 3 Women Masters and 69 more internationally rated participants. That was the recipe for the Third Goodricke Open Chess tournament at the Alekhine Chess Club, Calcutta.

Swiss Systems present their own special problems. Standards are uneven, opponents are unknown and a high-win ratio is required. East Europeans are specialists at round robin format, where opponents are known well in advance and safety is at a premium.

They are technicians, not streetfighters. The English are however, past masters at the high-risk style one must adopt to be successful in a Swiss. Anand was playing in an Open meet after a two or three-year gap and he was also stale and jet-lagged after his fantastic effort at Reggio Emilia.

East Europeans are specialists at the round-robin format, where opponents are known well in advance and safety is at a premium. The English are however, past masters at the high-risk style one must adopt to be successful in a Swiss

So it was the not-very-highly-rated English duo of GMs Danny King and Dave Norwood who made the running Right from round one, it was evident that top-seed Anand was not in touch Against low rated players like Anup Deshmukh Lanka Ravi and T N Parameswaran he had to work very hard to squeeze out the point

Round five saw the match that probably decided the destination of the trophy King emerged into an equal endgame against Anand with black Then Anand blacked out, missing a simple idea King bared his switch blade and slowly bled the world No 5 to death

After that he held the lead Several times he was challenged by various East Europeans who caught up with him Each time they blew their chances of overtaking him by agreeing to quick comradely draws with each other

King finally went into the sole lead after the eighth round where he beat Russian IM Alexander Khasin He earlier survived a bad position against Dibyendu Barua and then a valiant attempt by Jaan Ehlvest in the penultimate round Both games were drawn as King put his head down and kept fighting

Anand meanwhile was trying to win every game in an effort to pull back that elusive half point He played a series of long draws first against Barua, then Khasin and finally a marathon 99 mover against GM Alexey Vyzmanavin, but each time they staved off the challenge

Norwood had fallen behind courtesy a loss to Anand s old rival Dreev But that proved a blessing in disguise for the British Chess Federation s Press Relations officer He beat a couple of (marginal) weaker players to join his fellow Londoner in the lead before the last round

They were paired off against each other In the last round they took a leaf out of the Last European s draw manual and shook hands after 14 moves So King took the title on tie break

But at last Anand struck form and destroyed Moldovian GM Victor Bologan to guarantee a share of first place And Dreev blitzed Indian champion D V Prasad to make it a four-way photofinish

It could even have been a five-way tie if Barua had capitalised on winning chances against Zoltan Ribli But the Hungarian, who is a former Candidate quarter finalist, finally split the point after a difficult endgame

Barua was in fair form during this meet despite his long lay off He suffered a single loss to Prasad, but he came within an ace of beating King and Ribli and he also comfortably held Anand That was good news for Indian chess for the local GM has still not completely recovered from his back problems

20 year-old V Sarvanan of Tamil Nadu picked up his first IM-norm and 18 year old Vishal Sareen and 20 year old Girinath almost achieved the same feat

IM Lanka Ravi produced a great performance, missing a GM norm by just half a point

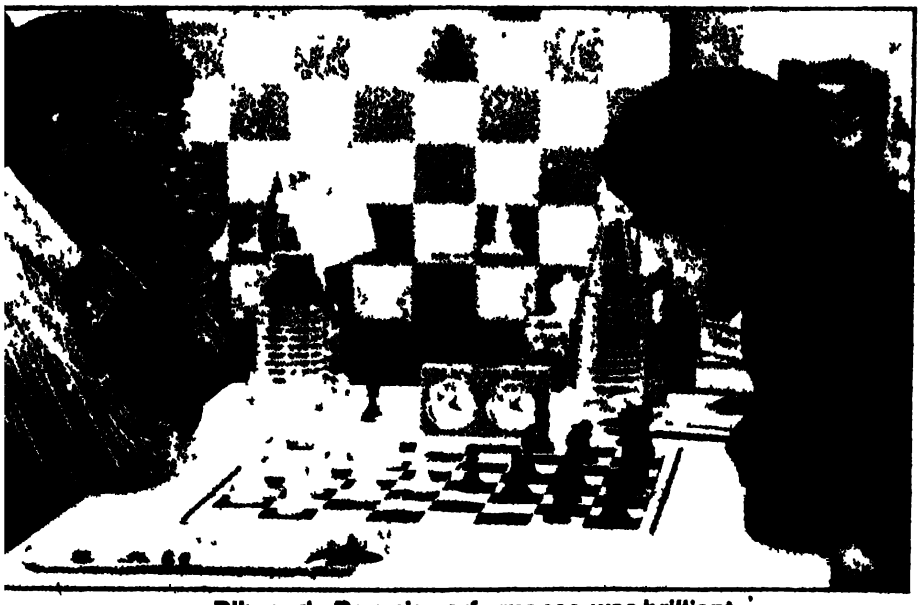
National sub-junior champion 15 year old Shanker Roy made the international lists for the first time So did 17 year old Lalit Chatterjee

In the process, Roy held Estonian Ehlvest the world No 14, Sareen drew with Bulgarian Georgiev the world No 30 and Sarvanan held Bologan and Gufeld Girinath nearly beat Emgorn and he drew Bologan too More importantly the Indian juniors played to win every time

That reflects the qualitative change in attitude that Anand's exploits and India s recent Olympiad results have made Now even unrated Indians refuse to blink in eyeball to eyeball confrontation with high rated foreigners Three of the top 10 spots (and nine of the top 20) were bagged by Ravi Barua and Anand for the host nation.

Their collective performance here has further convinced the younger Indian players that they measure up to the best anywhere in terms of talent They have the confidence and guts that the previous, equally talented generation may have lacked

There is a qualitative change in attitude that Anand's exploits and India's recent Olympiad results have made. Now even unrated Indians refuse to blink in eyeball to eyeball confrontation with highly rated foreigners



Dibyendu Barua's performance was brilliant

Devangshu Dutta

PHOTOGRAPHS SANTOSH GHOSH



THE JOY OF BEING ANAND



Viswanathan Anand the chess player, talks about Viswanathan Anand the man. And vice-versa. DEVANGSHU DUTTA tries to make both ends meet

Describing Viswanathan Anand's personality, one runs into a paradox. The best way to categorise him would be as an articulate introvert.

Shy by nature, Sportsworld's man of the year found himself pitchforked into the limelight very early in life. With the same determination he brings to bear on everything, he mastered the art of talking to strangers.

Intelligent, astoundingly mature, and well-read, the 22-year-old answers questions with unfailing politeness, total honesty and dry wit thrown in.

Talk to Viswanathan Anand about himself and you're up against a wall. The man avoids discussing himself as far as possible. Talk about Soviet politics or Garri Kasparov or chess as a sport, and he'll do that at length.

Anand the man, will talk about Anand the chess-player with total objectivity. When he talks about his career and objectives it is almost like he is thinking about it in the third person.

And the man, however, rarely talks about himself. The most revealing statement Anand has ever made on Anand is: "a sign of maturity is self-realisation. A mature person knows his strengths and weaknesses. He can feel the areas he needs to work at. Perhaps he cannot verbalise and explain this to any one else. He does not need to—for this is something everyone must develop a feel for personally. Every individual is different—has different needs. I've come a long





I am very serious about a world title bid in 1996. That is my long term goal and I will need all that time to catch up with Kasparov. Though even now I am just about holding my own.



Anand in the company of film maestro Satyajit Ray

categorised as natural, intuitive, smooth

Yet it only looks that way Somewhere inside him there is a drive; a hunger which he cannot and does not need to explain and verbalise. A desire to prove he is the best in the business—a drive that will take him around the planet in search of the world title

Anand is not someone who will ever proclaim 'I am the greatest—or I will be the greatest ' He does not operate that way and would be much too embarassed to ever make such a statement But nowadays he admits 'I am very serious about a world title bid in 1996. That is my long-term goal and I will need all that time to catch up with Kasparov. Though even now I am just about holding my own '

No hyperbole there, just a statement of intent

Long-term goals have to be translated into short-term subsidiary goals. Anand has always believed in taking things one at a time 'I'll play every tournament as it comes along. Improve my rating and try to get stronger and more universal. Some things are unpredictable and I want to be prepared for all the surprises that will come my way. No one who is not broad-based can ever win the world title

The world No 5 's smooth, natural style and incredible speed of play comes from mind-bendingly hard work Three or four hours a day of general preparation plus specific preparation for specific opponents For the Karpov match, he worked eight hours a day with Guru Mikhail Gurevitch— the best of seconds

Chess is moving so fast, I keep doing doing new things For example, there were openings I was an expert on a couple of years back, I still keep up with the theory but I don't play them anymore. Now I would have to work for a month before I could confidently play them again—so many new, alien ideas have popped up."

"Then again I find myself enjoying doing things I was not capable of two years ago. Playing out long end-games give me a sense of satisfaction now—before I would look for mate in 25—otherwise head for a draw. But playing at the top,my appreciation of technique has improved. '

Anand has also learnt the meaning of resistance the hard way , by losing to Karpov. "In that match, we both got into lost positions—Karpov more often than me. But he just kept fighting and after seven or eight hours I found he had equalised. Now I am also learning how to hold the bad games—to put up and overcome that level of resistance."

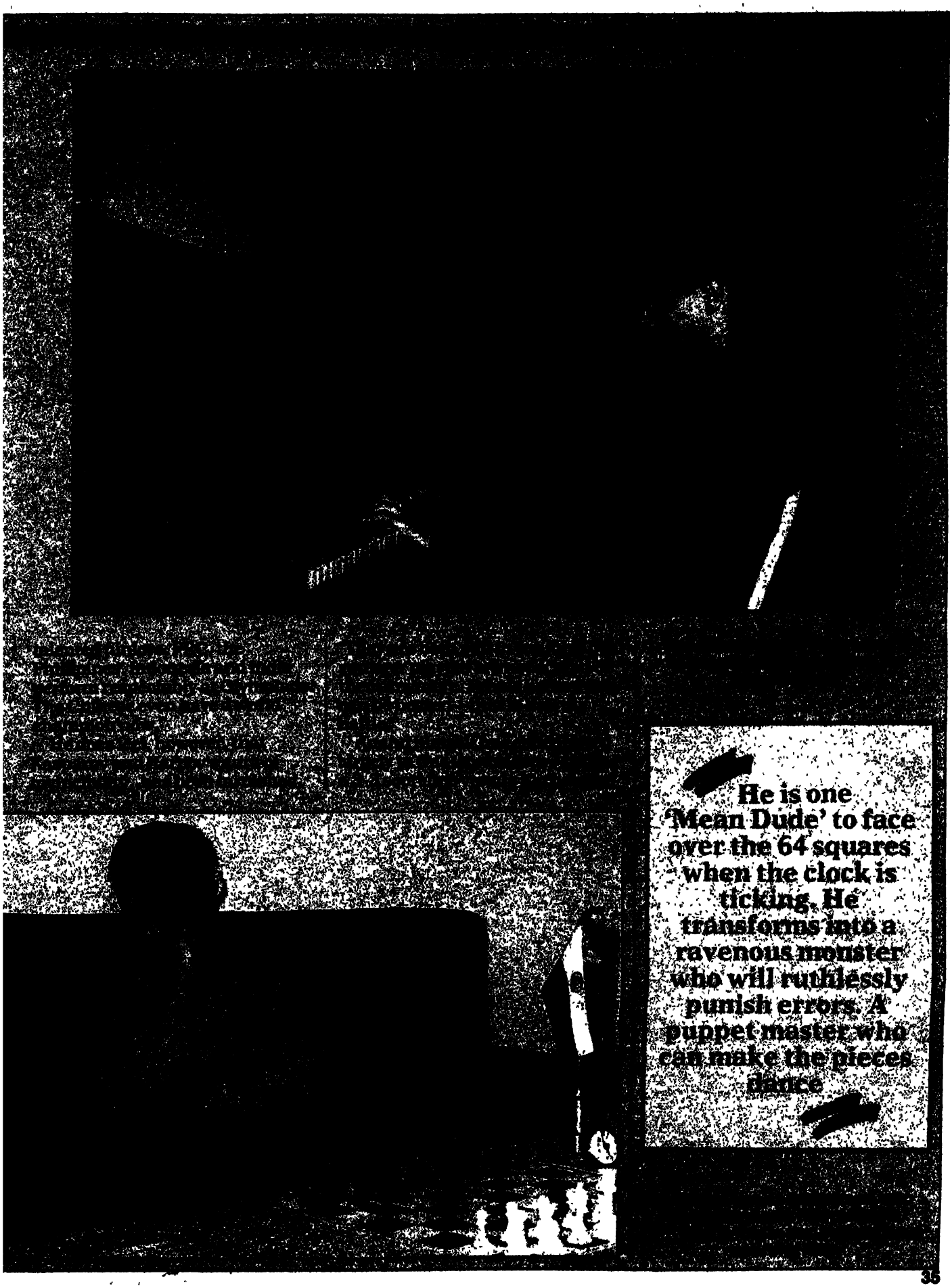
Focussing has always been an easy matter for Anand. "You narrow it down to a specific opponent, a specific colour, a specific move. Ignore the extraneous elements—of course, deciding what is irrelevant is not easy."

HOW will the break-up of the Soviet Union affect world chess? Anand feels it will have an unpredictable effect on world chess

'They have such a big pool of strong players, they will still be among the best. Right now there are two non-Soviets (Anand and Nigel Short) in the top ten But with top players like Khalifman, Yusupov, Gurevitch and Salov emigrating, that area of the world may eventually end up first among equals The famous training methods are also being exported —many strong players are regularly competing in European events—even in the Goodricke you have world class players joining in. Competition has got sharper after glasnost I feel the rest of the world will catch up a little quicker as a result

"Still, as it stands, Kasparov is undoubtedly the strongest in the world and Karpov and Ivanchuk are two other men in form. Gelfand is a difficult customer, especially for me. Alexey Shirov of Latvia and Gata Kamsky are two other potential dangers. They were all born and received their early training in the Soviet Union—so the future of Soviet chess is assured even if the Soviet Union no longer exists."

Also, general standards are getting higher, Anand points out. "More people are playing tournaments all round the world—so there are more good, even great players. Possibly right now there are 35 players who would all have been top players in 1971. So there are more challengers to the [illegible]



He is one 'Mean Dude' to face over the 64 squares when the clock is ticking. He transforms into a ravenous monster who will ruthlessly punish errors. A puppet master who can make the pieces dance









SPECIAL FEATURE

For a high-profile superstar, success may cover up a lot of emptiness...emptiness created by his remoteness from the normalcy of ordinary human life...But it means pain, deep down a sense of void that no amount of cash and luxuries can ever erase

By BORIS BECKER

Success can cover upa lot of emptiness. It might seem funny but I am somehow glad I was thrown out of the top ten—these defeats forced me to reflect on so many things and made survival for me possible.

I stood at the window once. One step more and I would have fallen out But I closed the window, left everything behind and started anew



COLORSPORT

Cry Freedom

A big load is taken off me, I can breathe freely. I made it in my job—I'm the best, I don't have to prove anything anymore, all doubts are gone. It's not a dream anymore...

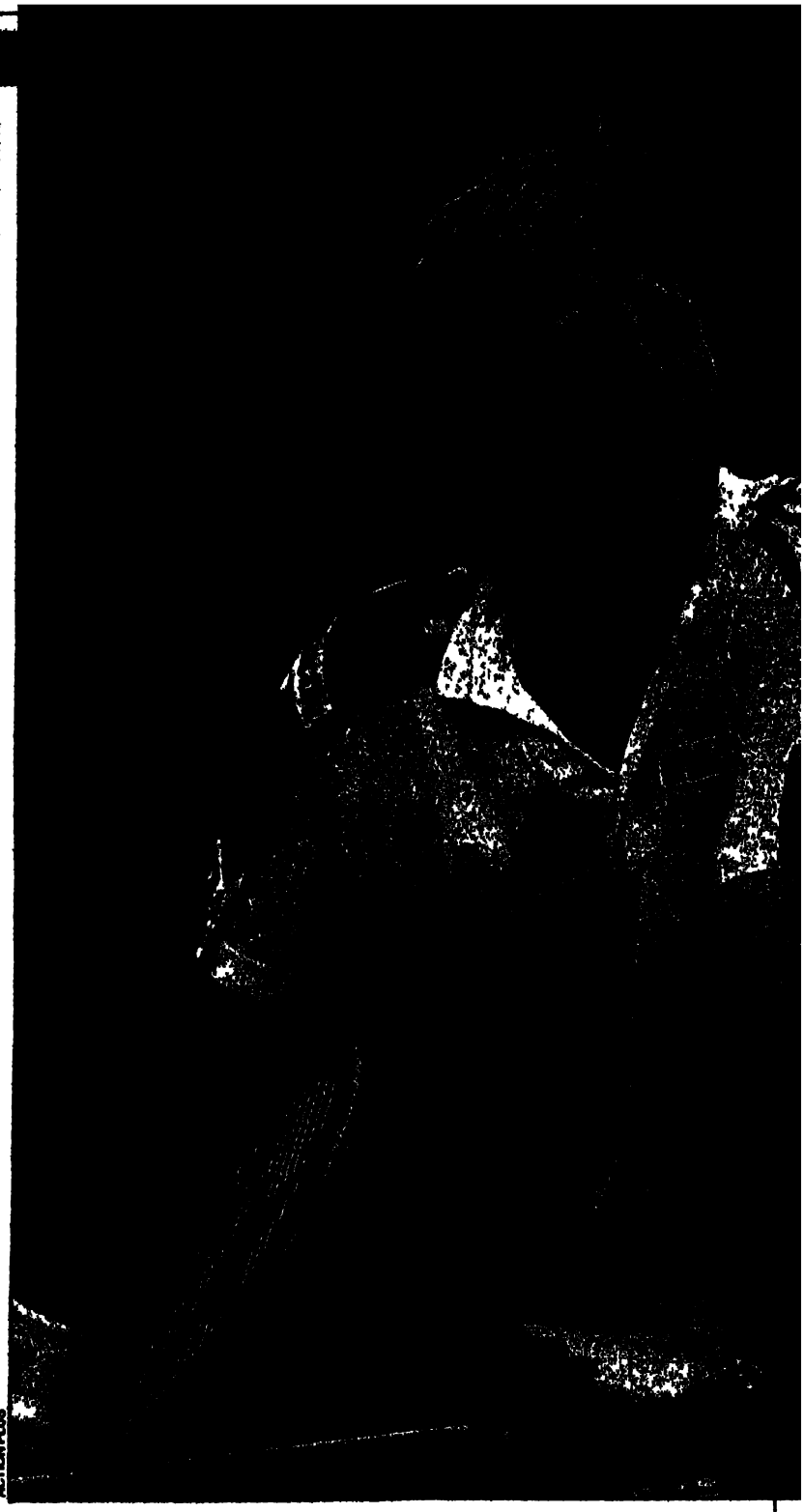
I went back to Leimen and looked up old schoolfriends I had not seen for four years. I started to talk to "normal" people again. The hassle of my life is that I am famous 24 hours a day. There is no knockoff for me on this job. Even if I need rest after a particularly tough tournament—I can never say, I am off tomorrow, I'll take rest. I've got to write autographs, people look at me, touch me—I am always under tension. This is a heavy load, a lot of pressure and I think it is because of this that so many celebrities take to drugs and alcohol. That's why so many stars go to lonely islands—I can understand that.

I don't want having to live in a castle like Michael Jackson or Ivan Lendl who created a realm of his own with a few watchdogs. No, not like that. I like to be with so-called normal people, drink a few beers at the bar, talk. Sure, there is a barrier which is difficult to break, but we manage it by trying a lot.

There is this longing in me someday not to be so well-known any more. But I suppose that can't be helped any more until the end of my life.

I cannot leave my residence for 2 to 3 days after important tournaments. I am free only in my rooms; because nobody stares at me there, tries to become familiar, no-one takes photographs, talks about me. Except newspapers of course.

I think this is the worst, when people pass judgement and they don't even know you. Who tell me whether I am sad or happy and explain to me why I lost a match or why I won. Who think they know how I feel, how my mind works. And they all are on first name terms, pat your shoulder and when you are out for a meal they want your autographs. Sure, I get paid for it, you might say. But can money regulate everything? Marilyn Monroe and James Dean—all paid far too much for fame. Only a few managed to say no. "No" to still more tournaments, records, films; "No" to still more money. I am trying it and succeed more and more frequently to say 'no'. It makes me strange and more free. Would you like this contract? No! Why not? I've got enough! I have nothing against money but I know, money isn't everything.



ACTION PLUS

I now need a little more leisure time, also time with my girlfriend. I don't want to give interviews, stand around for some commercial. I can say for instance now—and that is very important to





me—"it doesn't suit me just now."

But they don't understand this because they don't know what it means to lead my kind of life, to be on display, to be a product.

And then they offer you lots of money. Some firms offer you, let's say, a million for wearing their logo on your shirt. You refuse and they offer more money. But you still refuse and that gives you the good feeling that you cannot be bought for any price!

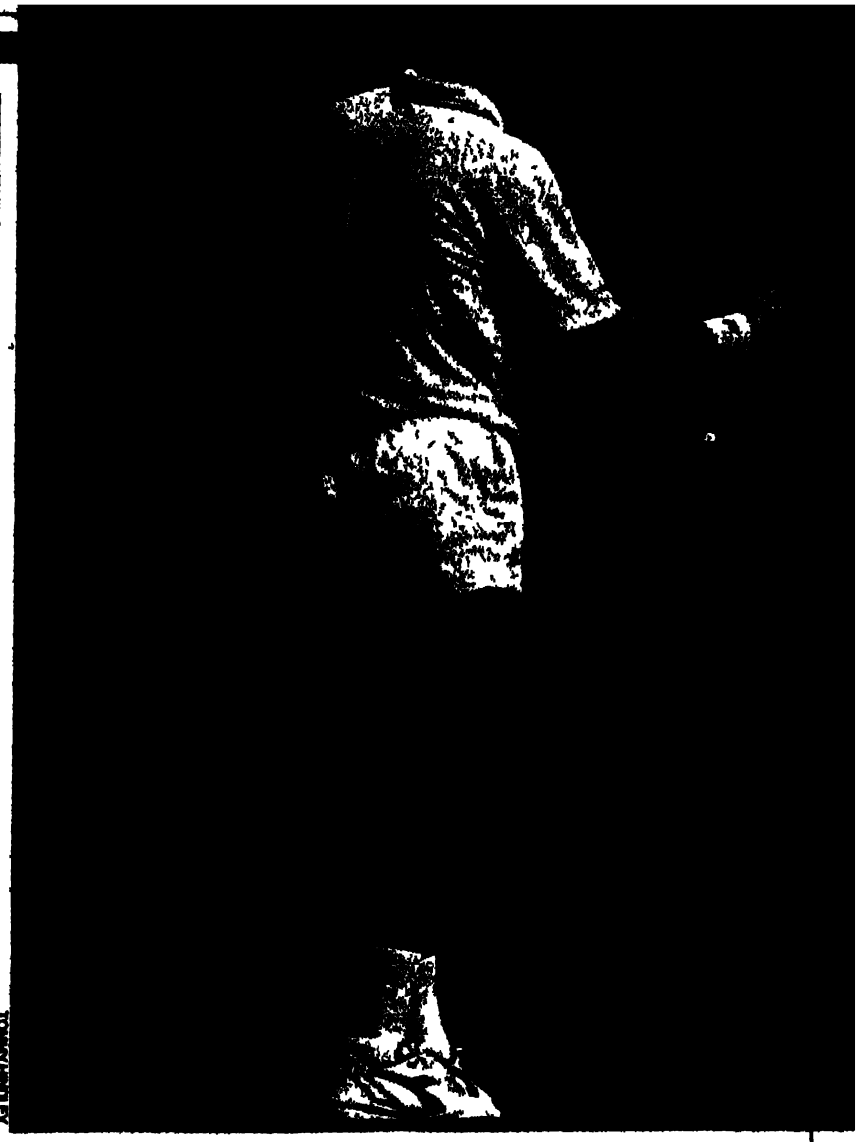
At times I look into the mirror and I am astonished that I am this star, this mega-star. I—Boris Becker from Baden-Weittemburg.

I say a few words and it's actually me! I am surprised that I seem to have that effect on people. I am wondering why I seem to have such power. I am laughing a



myself because I don't understand it. As I read in the papers how it goes with stars like Madonna, it must be that I am something like that also. I am as well-known as she is, maybe even more so and I find it difficult to believe that I am a sort of legend at 24!

Well, it has its nice side too, particularly when people who, I think, don't bother much about tennis like me , old people,



retired people, the not-so-well-off ones, and they think its great what I am doing and I like then to be a legend. But at the same time I am longing for being unknown again, but that's perhaps is an impossible dream.

Sometimes I am asking you or my parents how they can explain all this. Is it because I am a little different, because of what I say?

Is it because I attach a lot of importance to other things as well? Or, perhaps, they like it that I manage to win when the situation seems hopeless? That I don't loose my cool when all seems lost? I don't know what it is. I just look into the mirror and laugh.

It is a bit crazy perhaps, but I love tennis more and more. It used to be a means to gain love, to be recognised by my elders. But, now I can pick up my racket on a nice Sunday afternoon at 5 pm, play for one hour, and I find it simply great to experience this perfect harmony of soul, body and spirit.



After the 1991 Australian Open I read what journalists wrote about me. It was, for me, horrifying and at the same time fascinating to see how many untruths and lies were published about me...

Just once to be No 1 even as a child I had this dream I watched the Borgs and McEnroes on TV and vowed to be like them one day! This was my life's ambition and now I have realised it Now I feel free, free, free.

A big load is taken off me. I can breathe freely. I made it in my job—I am the best, I don't have to prove anything anymore, all the doubts are gone It's not a dream anymore—I *am* good!

It's a dream that I made it eventually in a Grand Slam final, that it didn't happen at an ordinary tournament. I. in Australia! Melbourne has always been the black cat for me, the place of humiliation. And that too against Lendl who won there for the last two years. I can hardly believe I became No. 1 there.

The next day I was very quiet, an inner peace had descended on me, I felt peaceful and free. I may sound funny but it had to do with the war. I was cool and relaxed in Melbourne as never before at a Grand Slam. It had become very clear to me: tennis, after all, is insignificant; a minute part in world history, a dollop

In the morning I read in the paper how Baghdad was bombed again, I saw it on TV and heard over the radio and had to think constantly that hundreds or thousands of people die whilst I warm-up for a tennis match—insane! And I couldn't care less suddenly whether I would lose or win.

Should I not have played because of the war? I had considered it but then every day thousands of people die in Asia or Africa because they lack food and drinking water; people are being tortured and killed in Latin America and also in China, and in Hamburg there are so many drug addicts. But our life goes on no matter how crazy and brutal it seems. I think something is wrong with the basic values in Western society.

AFTER the 1991 Australian Open I read what journalists wrote about me. It is, for me, horrifying and at the same time fascinating to see how many untruths and lies are published about me. What I am supposed to have done, said, thought. So many judgments are passed





on me that I shudder inside when I read all those lies.

And then I think at times, if so many lies are published in the field of sports, how will it be in political journalism? Politics, after all, is much more important than sports which is just a side issue. Then I cease to believe anything that is published in the media. That means nothing is correct and people form their opinions and make decisions based on untruths. During the Gulf War, we heard almost only CNN news and this is pro-America. But where lies the truth?

I find it difficult to judge people. What is happening now with Steffi is good for the media I had a few experiences like that but nothing that bad! Before they could only write that Steffi wins in 42 or 48 minutes. The media—Press and TV—don't care about the harm they do to people as long as they get their story and can go on with the show· they don't care a damn about the people they finish off in the process.

I am now 24 and have been No. 1. But I can't imagine remaining No. 1 for five years running. But one thing I know already: I'd like to stop playing when I'm at the top, and I alone want to decide when I'm going to stop. Who knows what happens in a few years time? I don't want a long drawn-out farewell from the game just to get some more money or because I might just win one tournament here and there No. 8 is not bad—but I wouldn't like to play as No.8.

I don't like to think too much ahead, about what comes after tennis, as my life uptil now has been so very much chalked out for me. But I do have a few plans: I'd like simply to have time for myself to start with; I might open a restaurant—a restaurant where those who don't have money don't have to pay; maybe also a bar with cabaret.

And I am planning a foundation for youngsters to lead them to the game. There was the so-called SAAB model in Sweden I consider to be good. Talented young people are allowed to travel, with trainers, the tennis circuit all over the world and this produced such excellent players as Edberg, Wilander and Nystrom and also Jarryd. I am also thinking of something to do with the Davis Cup, as also a foundation for drug addicts. I am also interested in journalism. These are all ideas so far, but it would be in that direction.

(Concluded)

As told to Arne Lalk

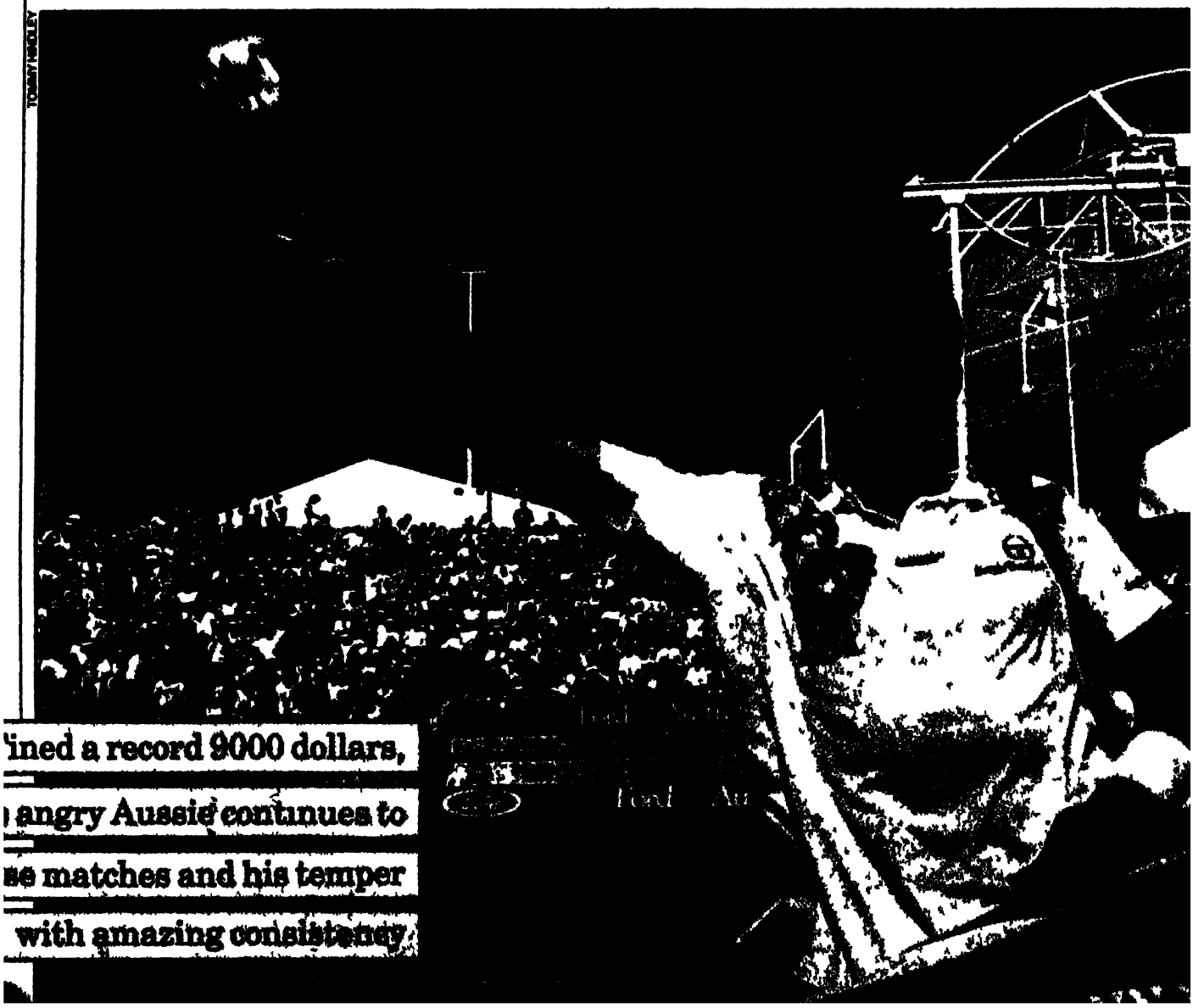
Courtesy SPORTS

PAT CASH
HE'S BAD

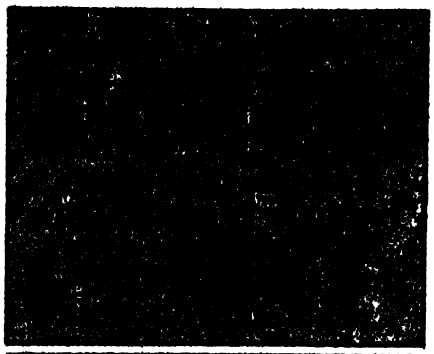
I M not sure if Pat Cash ever revelled in mathematics while he was at school but he'd be able to look at his balance sheet for the 1992 Australian Open and see, even without thinking, that he is in the red It s this way, you see Bloke loses in the second round and takes home $6800 for his pains Same bloke, though, gets hauled over the coals for ungentlemanly language (see Oxford Dictionary, page 533, under F) and gets fined $9000

Is it worth it? According to the aforementioned Mr Cash, apparently not He claimed, after he had lost a five-setter to Emilio Sanchez that he would not be returning to the circuit full-time

Since an achilles tendon injury that forced him to withdraw from



'ined a record 9000 dollars,
angry Aussie continues to
se matches and his temper
with amazing consistency





TOMMY HINDLEY

the U.S. Open three years ago Cash has been an intermittent player on the tour. The Wimbledon crown he won in 1987, beating world No. 1 Ivan Lendl in the final without dropping a set, was the only senior Grand Slam crown won (so far) in his career. At Wimbledon last year he looked far from motivated as he crashed out, so early that he was almost anonymous. At the Australian Open this year, he faltered against Sanchez only because he was short on fitness, the pivot of his attacking, aggressive game.

"You've got to understand that the most important thing in my life is my family," said Cash after his loss to Sanchez. "If Emily wanted me to drop tennis, I would do it—I wouldn't even think about it—but she doesn't want me to do that.

"We realise I'm on the road too much and we realise I'm doing too much training and I'm not spending enough time with her, not as much as I would like to.

"It's a very very big mental strain travelling around, all the time and we just don't enjoy it as much as we used to. It makes it a bit hard when you're not feeling good enough to win the fifth set."

Actually, Cash came close to disqualification in the match against Sanchez. Twice in the course of the three-hour 50-minute marathon the Australian was given code of conduct warnings and was then docked a penalty point for verbal abuse of a baseline judge. If it can be said that Cash got off the behavioural hook, he certainly did. But Sanchez pinned him to the tennis hook, defeating Cash 7-6 (7-5), 6-2, 6-7 (9-11), 3-6, 6-1, turning on the heat in the fifth set when Cash's legs refused to answer the challenge.

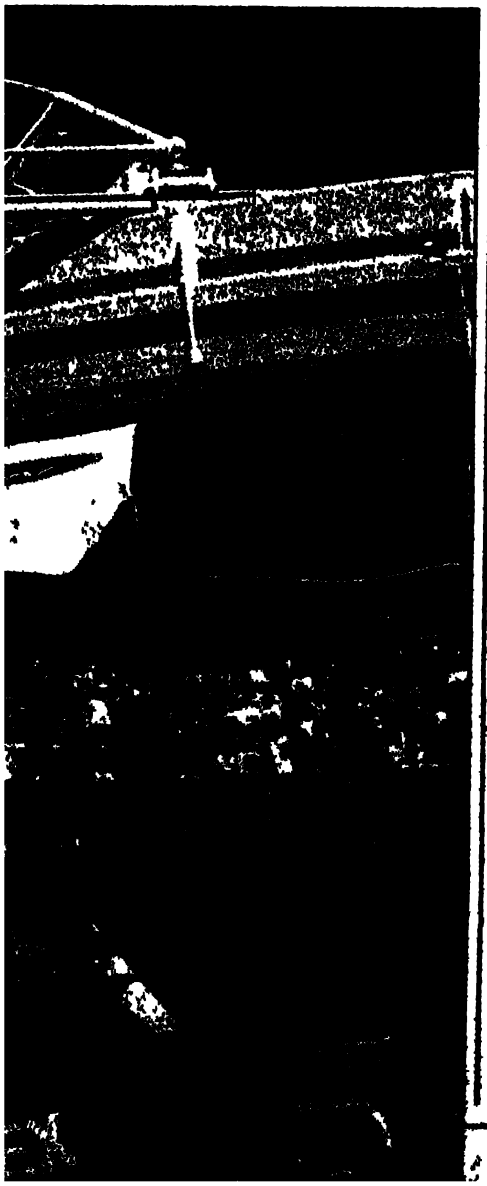
Sadly, in the wake of Cash's defeat, the headlines told the story of his mammoth fines, rather than concentrating on the plight of a former champion who could find neither the fitness nor the mental incentive to harness the sort of talent that should have guaranteed him a place in the world's top five bracket for several years.

If Cash wanted to make his mark on the tennis record books, he most certainly did, but not in the way he would have hoped. The only record he created was the dubious honour of incurring the highest fines. There were actually four separate fines, two for unsportsmanlike behaviour, one of them for almost pulling the French umpire, Bruno Rebeuh, from his chair after the match ($1000) and one for abusing the supervisor ($2000). There were two other fines, of $5000 for abusing the lineswoman who called a foot fault against him, and a further $1000 for the audible obscenity, heard by those closest to the court and all those who watched the match on television.

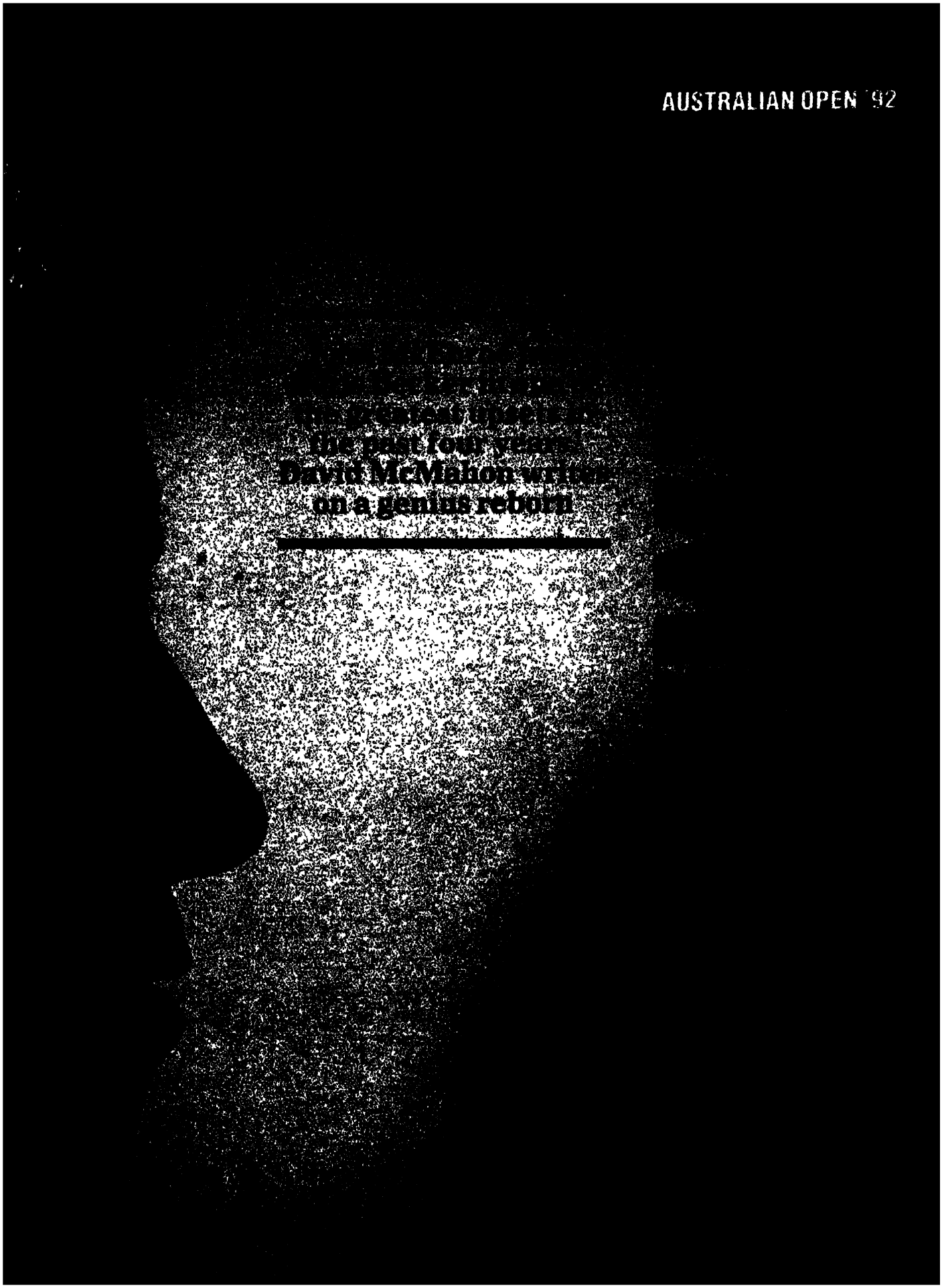
Later, the Australian said, "What really annoys me is that I can hit the ball into the side of the fence twice and nothing happens, then all of a sudden the third time—and I didn't even hit it hard—he decides to give me a warning. It's just not consistent. He is a professional umpire and I can tell you they are no better than the guys who just stay here all year. It's really annoying."

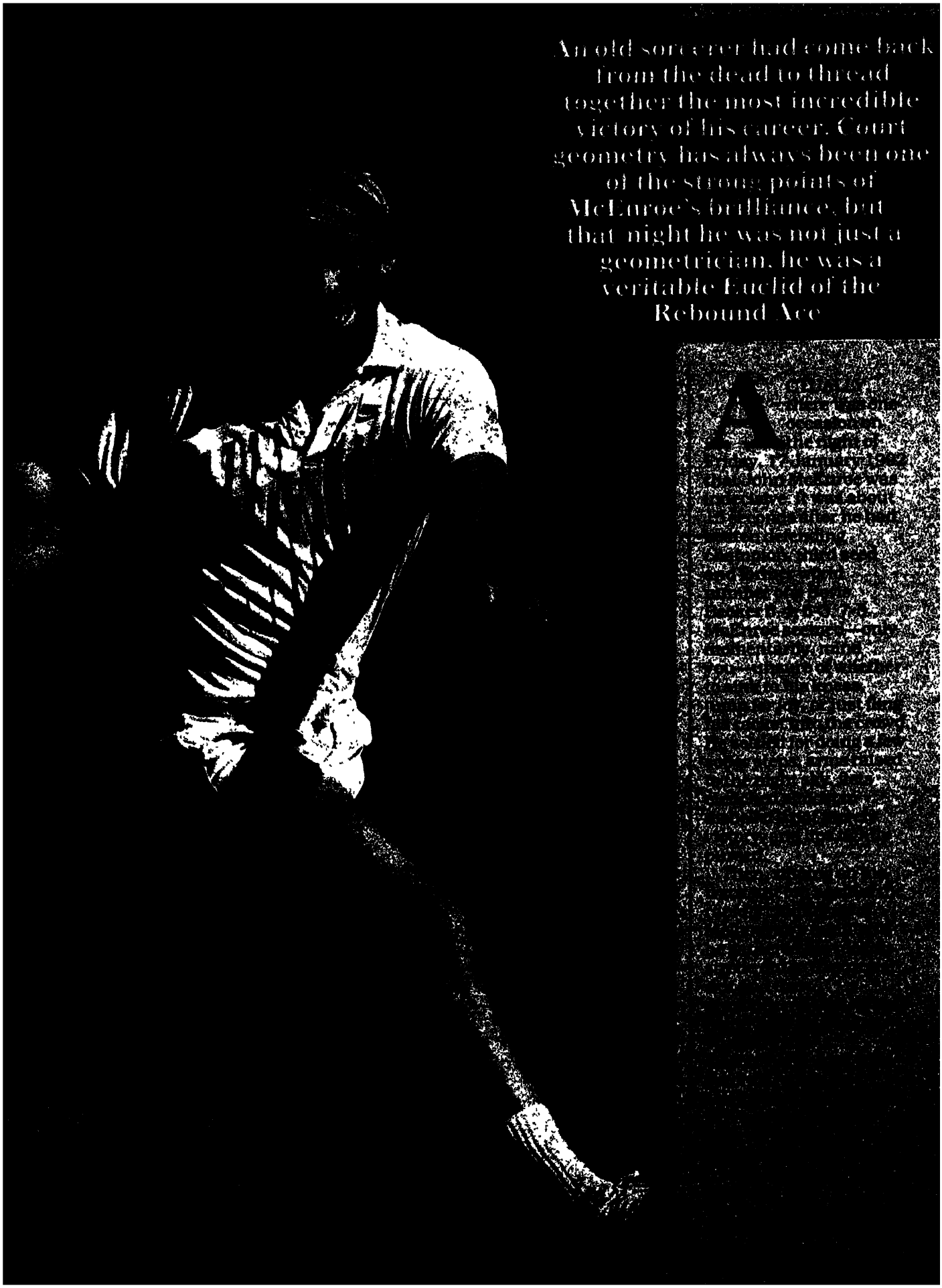
According to Cash, he did not swear at the lineswoman. "I was swearing at the person behind her, but you can't really say that I'm sorry I wasn't swearing at you but at someone else. I swear on the court and somebody hears me, you have to accept it." So Cash enters the record books, having surpassed the $6500 penalty handed out to John McEnroe when he was defaulted at the 1990 Australian Open.

David McMahon, Melbourne









An old sore ever had come back from the dead to thread together the most incredible victory of his career. Court geometry has always been one of the strong points of McEnroe's brilliance, but that night he was not just a geometrician, he was a veritable Euclid of the Rebound Ace



A day earlier he had said earnestly that he was still the sort of player who could beat the top guns. We believed him because we wanted to believe him, not because we thought he could really tame the world's top five. That was why it was so incredible that he actually beat Becker with such ease.



WHEN YOUTH TRIUMPHED OVER AGE



FROM ANDY O'BRIEN, MELBOURNE

Lendl, McEnroe, Stich...the big names all crash out, leaving the tournament wide open

THERE is no disguising the fact that in top flight sport of any type age is a factor that simply cannot be ignored This was amply proved during the quarter final games at this year s Australian Open

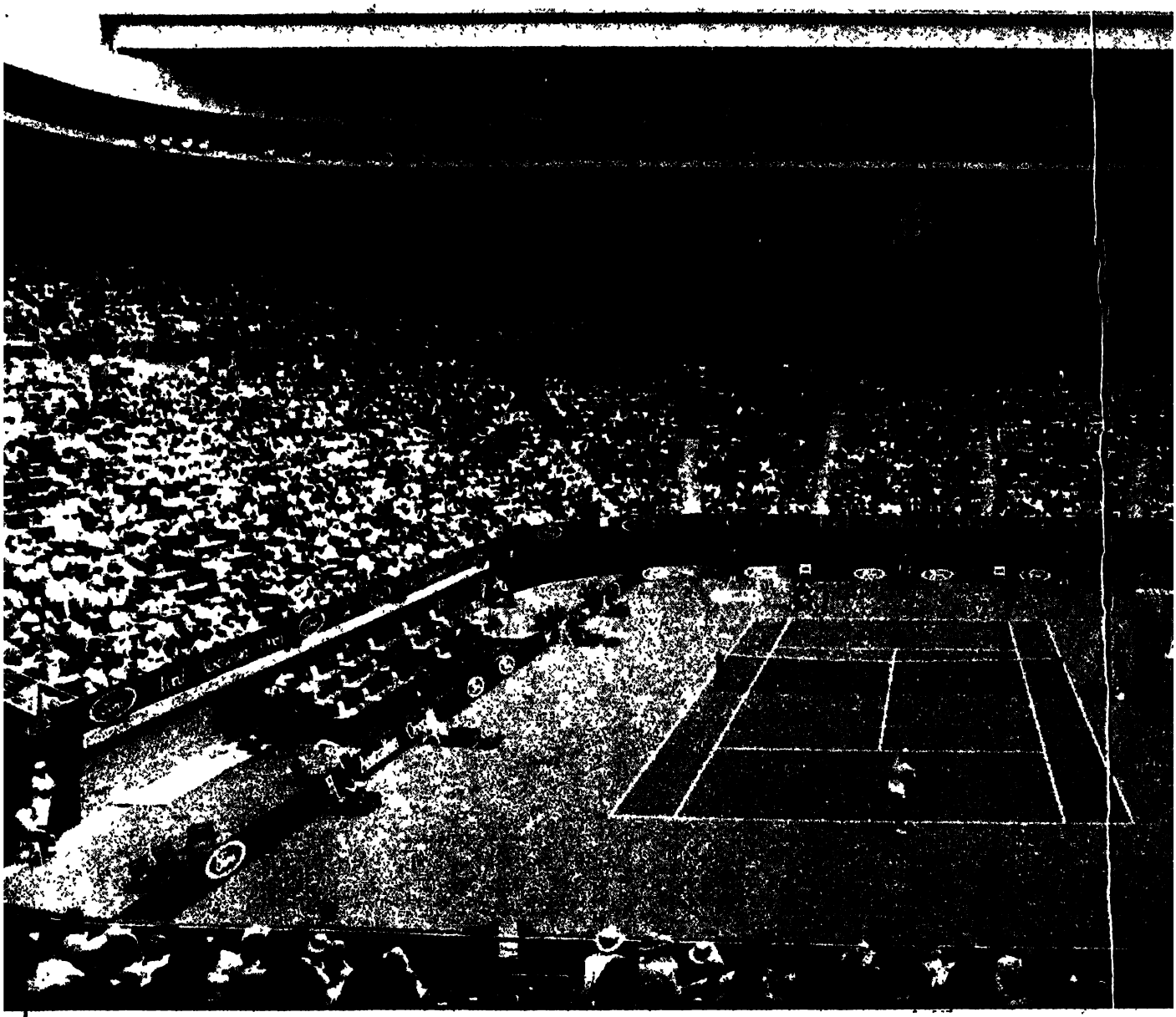
Anti-climaxes are never the most fulfilling of experiences but the sense of disappointment that enveloped Flinders Park on the day of the men s quarter finals was so tangible that you could bounce tennis balls off it

Richard Krajicek blasted 23 aces to make Stich look like an amateur

First one former champion proved that he was sadly a ghost of his former self, then the current Wimbledon singles champion bowed to a combination of power and talent and finally the tournament's favourite son (or dad) was sent packing by the athleticism of youth.

As the J.P. McEnroe Memorial Open—kept alive by the protagonist's brave comeback—limped tamely to a sad demise.

A large part of the tournament died with McEnroe's quarter-final exit



courtesy of an emphatic straight-sets win by little-known South African Wayne Ferreira there really was just one thing left to say Thanks for the show, it was great while it lasted

The ageing superstar had set the tournament alight with his stunning heroics—straight from the yellowing pages of his own history book But when he crashed out a large part of the tournament died with McEnroe s quarter final exit



Centre Court...the heat and swirling wind took its toll



The J.P. McEnroe Memorial Open fizzled out with his quarter-final defeat

And suddenly the tournament had been thrown open by the unheralded and yet unfashionable young guns For, on the morning of the same day another unseeded player 45th ranked Dutchman Richard Krajicek blasted 23 aces—and Wimbledon champion Michael Stich—out of the tournament in five sets to set up a clash with second-seeded Jim Courier in one semi final

Courier himself had another good day at the office moving through a relatively easy half of the draw which resulted in a quarter-final mismatch with Amos Mansdorf

That match was followed by the clash of two legends in the game Stefan Edberg and Ivan Lendl The real item on the agenda however was simply this—can it be confirmed that Ivan Lendl s slide down the other side of the hill has now gathered such pace as to be irreversible?

At a set and a break up at 5-3 in the second the answer was definitely no At two sets all it was tough to decide At love five in the last set, well.

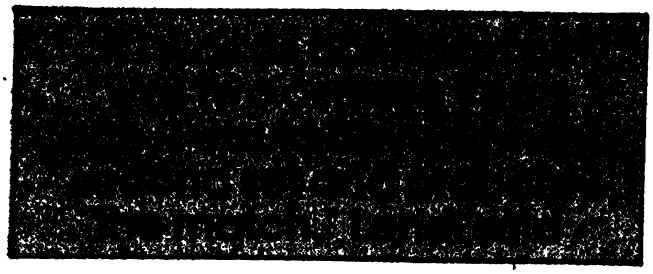
That was when a helicopter made a low pass over Centre Court, and you couldn't help wondering whether a rope ladder would suddenly drop from it snatching the beseiged hero, every bullet in his gun spent, from the teeth of disaster. Or maybe from the arena of competition into the bliss of retirement. But when you're out there, there's no place to hide, no way out.

Stefan Edberg admitted he thought at one stage he was reliving a horror movie. Last year, when these titans of the modern game met in the semi-final, they were similarly locked at two sets all, then Lendl prevailed after Edberg wasted two match-points, going on to lose to Boris Becker in the final. This time, though, he faded quickly away without a whimper, ultimately looking a very beaten man.

The last set told its own disappointing story as Lendl's 31-year-old legs earned him just a single game, that too when the issue was no longer in dispute.

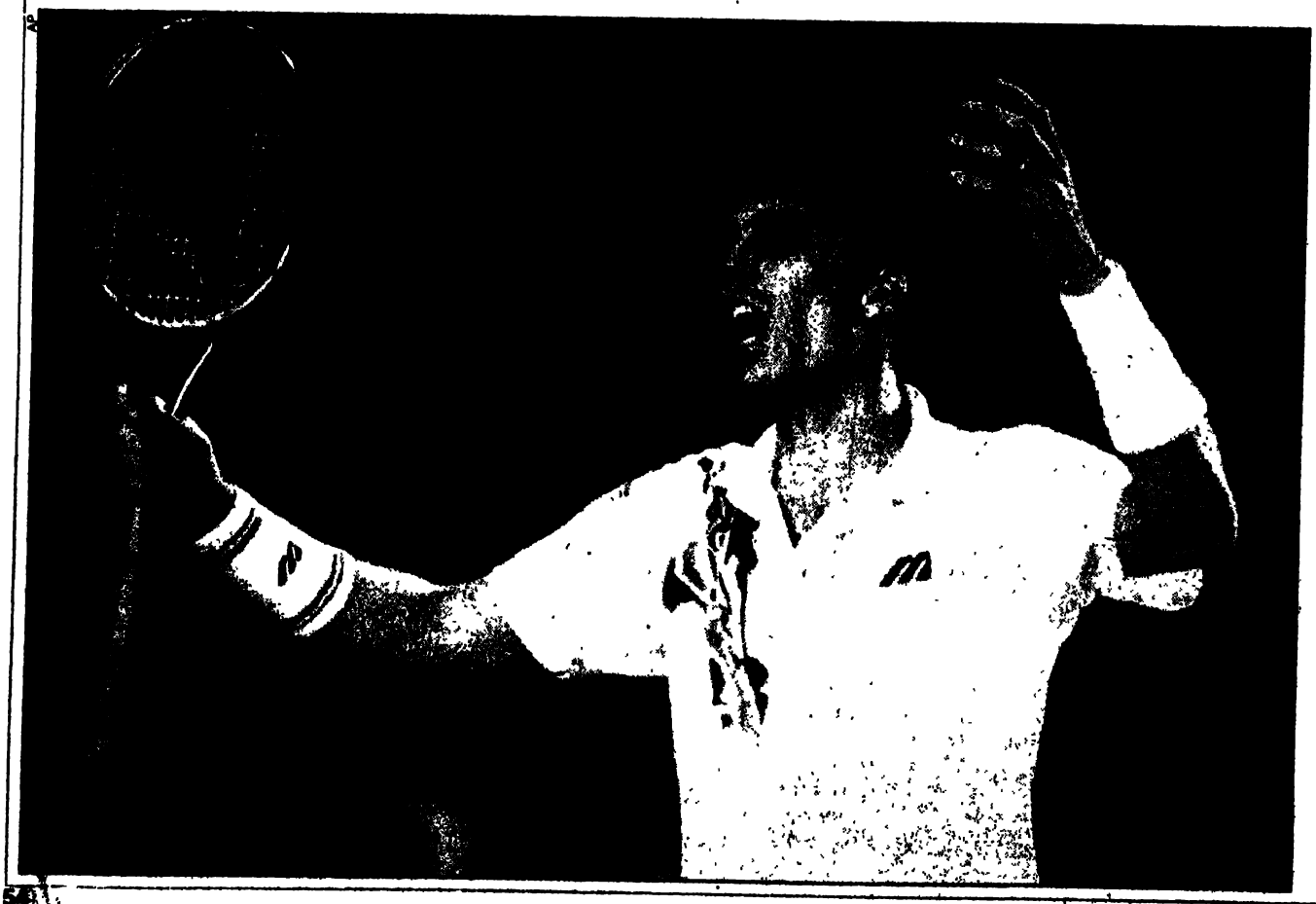
Apart from an unusually early plane back to New York, where did that leave the former long running No. 1 and winner of 91 tournaments, eight of them grand slams?

On the way out almost certainly—but far from through the door yet. It is worth remembering that he is a year younger than McEnroe, who added ample credibility to the statement firmly made by Lendl when the Open began. Lendl had insisted then that it was still possible to win grand slam tournaments into your thirties, a point with which Becker agreed although with some reservations.



The way the younger players are developing the power game these days would make it harder for the old timers, Becker said —just before crashing out to the oldest-timer in the tournament.

While it is no disgrace, or even a surprise for anyone, to succumb to the super-Swede's classic all round talent, the result accurately reflected the task confronting Lendl if he is to realise his ambitions of more glory. Even Edberg was able to detect the subtle differences in the weaponry of a man who still retains a one-match lead in their career head to heads, 13-12. "There is a little



Lendl was shown the door by Edberg after a gruelling five-setter

bit missing," he said. "the old shotmaking isn't as confident as it used to be although that didn't mean he wasn't still very hard to beat."

Lendl had no argument with that. "If I was as confident as I was two or three years ago, I would have won the second set and probably the match," he said. And he doesn't agree that he has slowed down. It is just a matter of sticking with it till he wins some matches and the confidence returned, he feels.

Was this not a vicious circle, he was asked. He answered with a shrug. "Not really. If you try hard enough, you break through."

Time—what there is left of it for Lendl—will be the test of that.

TIME also put to test the successful journey of John McEnroe. The long haul had taken its toll on those tired legs. McEnroe was a step slower around the court missing the magical touch with his shot making and was rapidly running out of confidence, his regular nodding of the head after Ferriera hit yet another good pass a clear reflection of his mood.

But, in itself, this was not a huge shock. What player of any age, even with two day's rest, would resume at full steam ahead after two draining epics? The question was whether Ferriera—ranked 46 and who had long dreamt of playing his hero, leave alone beating him—was good enough to take full advantage.

Unfortunately for the large number of McEnroe fans, he was. "I just felt it was one of those days I had to climb the mountain. I didn't realise that he could move so quickly," said the beaten McEnroe. He also admitted that he paid the price for his exhausting win over Emilio Sanchez. "When you're winning you feel great and when you start losing, the tiredness starts creeping back," he admitted.

"I kept telling myself to hang in there and something good would happen. But I was never able to get over the hump to break his serve. I wasn't playing bad. I just couldn't kick it up another gear. If that's being flat, then I was flat."



Sabatini impressed against Capriati, but ran out of steam against Mary Joe Fernandez

Another person who was flat that day was Michael Stich. The only other seed apart from Courier in the bottom half of the draw, his defeat by Krajicek left Germany with no representative in the men's or women's semi-finals for the first time since the French Open in 1986. After complaining that he had given the match to the 20-year-old Dutchman, Stich had to pay tribute to Krajicek's awesome serve. "I thought I was playing me out there," said the man with the best service action in tennis today.

And in the women's section, Gabriela Sabatini failed to make it to the final stage. After swaggering confidently into the semi-final with an impressive straight set win over Jennifer Capriati, the girl who gets more money and attention than tournament wins, was tripped up by Mary Joe Fernandez in the semi-final.

Capriati, deeply disappointed that she succumbed so meekly to Sabatini in the second set tie break, must however be congratulated for the right prediction she made after her defeat. She refused to be drawn on whether Sabatini was the best bet to challenge the champion. "She's playing well," said the teenage sensation after her 4-6, 6-7 defeat, "but it's going to be tough because everyone is playing well."

Sabatini didn't pay too much heed to that warning. Instead she sympathised with the pressures on Capriati at this stage of her career. "It's pretty difficult. I too had my doubts and was not enjoying my tennis." Having said that, Sabatini took off to a Melbourne night club to celebrate her win. She would have done better to have retained her energy for her semi-final against Mary Joe Fernandez.

With Graf out, Capriati and Sabatini were to be the challengers for the seemingly unbeatable Seles. But after both took their leave in the quarters and semis respectively, everyone had taken a Seles victory for 'grunted'. ●

John talked about being able to come in and do things that he hadn't been able to do in the past against you. You seemed surprised by what he was able to do out there?
He played tennis for 2 1/2 hours on a high level and that caught me by surprise a little bit. He hasn't done that in the past. Usually he was a set good or a set and a half but then his tennis went down but tonight for the whole match he played good tennis at a high level and didn't give me much time to breathe. He played an excellent match.

Boris, he says he thinks he won the match and that you lost. What is your opinion about that?



Well I didn't play great, I didn't move well but it was also part of his fault too. As I explained before from the first point he made his mind up before the match what his game plan was and from the first to the last point he played his old way. And he didn't give me any easy shots and he didn't miss many and I had to work hard for my points and I didn't make enough.

Earlier in the tournament you talked about how special it was to win here last year?
And it still was.

What are your feelings tonight to lose so early?
Last year I was very close to going out of the tournament having that long match. Just sometimes the dice don't roll for you and tonight I could not come back. Obviously I was trying. In the third set there were long games I had 0-40 at 4 all. I was still in the match and I guess that he felt until the last point it wasn't over. I was still in the match and I still had a chance to come back but he didn't play loose, he played hard until that match point and he served those two aces even in the last service game and he was just a bit better.

As you said, you looked a bit slow and sluggish. Any reason for that?
Something is wrong with my hamstring. I couldn't run as quickly and I couldn't serve and volley as often as I normally do, may be because it wasn't as hot tonight, it was a cold night. I really don't know exactly why, but that's why I wasn't as fast as I usually am.

He said you were a little surprised that he was capable of playing at that level?
Yes, I was surprised that he could play for 3 sets, 2 1/2 hours at that level. He didn't do that for the last 6 or 7 meetings we had and that took me by surprise.

You talked a lot about how good McEnroe has been for the game the way he played and his personality?
And I'm the guy who brought him back or what.

Though you might be very disappointed with what happened tonight, for the good of the game or for the game itself, do you welcome the fact that he has played at least like he used to be able to play and possibly he might be able to play like that for maybe another season.
Well you're talking to the guy who was on the court with him and because of that I wasn't too happy but from your point of view and from the people outside in the stadium yes it's good to see the old John McEnroe playing. For tennis it is great. No doubt about it.

How will this set back your year?
This is the first tournament, I have a couple more to come. I'm going to win Wimbledon maybe again. It's the first tournament sure. It didn't start as last year but then again it took me 7 years to win it, maybe it takes another 7 to win it again, I don't know but sure, I would have like to go further but I have to take it how it comes.

For him to play like he did, the old McEnroe like he did today, was there one key that he did better or that he was able to do today that he hasn't been able to do in the past, concentrate or did he move quicker, serve better, any one particular thing?
I couldn't say one particular shot. I watched him in 1984, I remember him playing like that always trying to go to the net and he was taking his chances on my second serves. His serve and volley game was good. He didn't miss many easy volleys. He didn't do that in the past couple of years I believe or he did it a round or two but then he would fall apart. I saw his first two matches which were good as well but tonight from the first to the last point he played on a high level.

You seemed to start slowly. Did you have trouble psyching yourself up for this match?
No but you may have followed me in my past years and I'm not a

BORIS BECKER



"I'M ALWAYS VERY GOOD OR VERY BAD"

DEFENDING CHAMPION BORIS BECKER LOST TO JOHN McENROE 3-6, 4-6, 5-7 IN THE THIRD ROUND OF THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN. EXCERPTS FROM BECKER'S POST MATCH INTERVIEW

quick starter.

Boris, was John McEnroe a top 10 or a top 5 tonight?
He was definitely top 10 I believe but you should ask me if I was a top 10 tonight..

What were you?
I wasn't a top 10.
The last time he beat you was 1985. Do you remember much of that game?
Yes, I remember clearly because at that time he was No. 1, he was for 4 years No. 1 and I went into that match and I lost 6/4 6/3, but after the match I thought about it making 7 games against him and I felt like I'm the champion of the world.

How did it compare to what you saw tonight. Is it possible to make a comparison?
Both of us have played many tennis matches since then. He didn't play since then at a high level, he didn't play as good and I play every year a little bit better, so that is a big change obviously but tonight's match was maybe how it was 7 years back.

Did you think Boris that he could recapture the 1984 quality ever again or did you think it had gone forever?
I haven't played him in 1984 so I cannot judge that but I've had very close matches and we had matches in Davis Cup I remember in 1987 when I played also extremely well and so he was still able to play from time to time a great match as he has played against me. I remember in 1989 in a semi-final he played an excellent match as well it was just I played a little better. I didn't play as good as I can tonight.

Does it worry you at all when you have an important match like this and you find your form just deserts you?
My career so far has never been steady. I have had very high ups and very low downs. When I play good then I'm really good and I can also play very bad and I have a hard time always being in the middle. that doesn't fit my personality. I'm always very good or very bad.

You mean that tonight you were very bad?
I wasn't very good.

Double

A PERFECT LOVE MATCH

IN a tennis world full of business deals and money transactions there is at least one partnership that's all for love. Francois Fragniere is a rarity in professional tennis. A man whose wife earns the family money while he watches from the stands. "I think I'm the only husband and coach at the same time," says the 29-year-old Swiss, who married Bulgarian Manuela Maleeva four years ago.

A junior champion, Fragniere studied law at University and then went back to tennis. He was coach of the national junior team and met the eldest Maleeva daughter—the other two Magdalena and Katerina are coached by their mother Youlia—at a tournament in Italy. For nine months every year he and Manuela, ranked ten in the world, travel everywhere, his days spent hitting balls with his wife, talking tactics, planning victories.

"There is more pressure because of our relationship off the court. In the beginning I felt responsible for her happiness. On the court, a lot of tension and arguments happen; we spend so much time together in that double relationship. But we've never had one single argument off the court." About an hour before every match husband and wife warm up, then Manuela showers and changes. Half an hour before she goes on court they talk together—"only about tennis for three minutes" says Francois—then the player spends her last five minutes alone.

"I'm dying every time she plays" says the man who gave up his own career for his wife. But it didn't take lengthy soul searching. "Basically I studied law for my parents, then I had to live my life and what I wanted my life to be was tennis. I'm not earning any money. I'm doing this for Manuela. I don't mind coming second. There are so few people who have the opportunity to be one of the best 10 in the world in their profession. I felt I owed her this."

No wonder he was a disappointed man when Manuela had to withdraw from the Australian Open this year at the quarter-final stage because of a foot injury.

Love story...Maleeva's coach is her husband



SELES VS SHRIVER

WORLD No. 1 Monica Seles attacked the women's tennis association during the Open for [illegible] last minute [illegible]

Seles

committee of which she is a member and said in Melbourne, 'why don't they fine Steffi now that she's pulled out of this tournament? It's the same. I even pulled out before the tournament, so I thought if we do everything by the rules, why are we making different rules here?'

Seles' comments have evoked a reaction from WTA president Pam Shriver. Saying that it was possible that the player with the most influential voice in women's tennis (i.e. No. 1) still slept with a stuffed animal, Shriver has cast doubts upon Seles' ability to handle her responsibilities. "It's not as if Seles' antics set women's tennis back ten years, but she gives the impression that pro tennis players are rich prima donnas who don't have respect for the work that others must do," said Shriver.



Steffi Graf... measles misery

DON'T MESS WITH MEASLES, STEFFI

[illegible] withdrawal from the

said Steffi was warned that she could die if she exerted herself before she overcame the mystery virus that forced her to leave Melbourne.

Professor Josef Keul, doctor of the German Olympic team said after he examined Steffi for two hours on her arrival in Germany: "This viral infection is very dangerous for Steffi's heart. If she does train before she recovers fully she could be putting her life at risk." Could be true, considering it was a late night phone call to Professor Keul, where the tennis star explained her condition and symptoms, that made her decide on withdrawing from the Open.

A family friend said at the time: "If the illness doesn't clear up, Steffi will probably finish. She set her heart on getting back the No. 1 position but now all her tennis dreams have crumbled. It's a tennis tragedy."

Graf was met at the airport on her arrival in Germany by German tennis player Alex Mronz, who is her closest boyfriend. She then went for a long rest at her family home at Bruchl near Heidelberg with mother Heidi and her brother, since father Peter was in Florida. According to reports, she is bloated, tired and pale and the infection (detected as German measles) has led to skin rash and swollen limbs. To make matters worse, Germany's biggest selling paper *Bild* carried a headline recently saying "Steffi: the end?" The paper quoted one witness saying, "She's really in a bad way. She's moving around like an old lady."

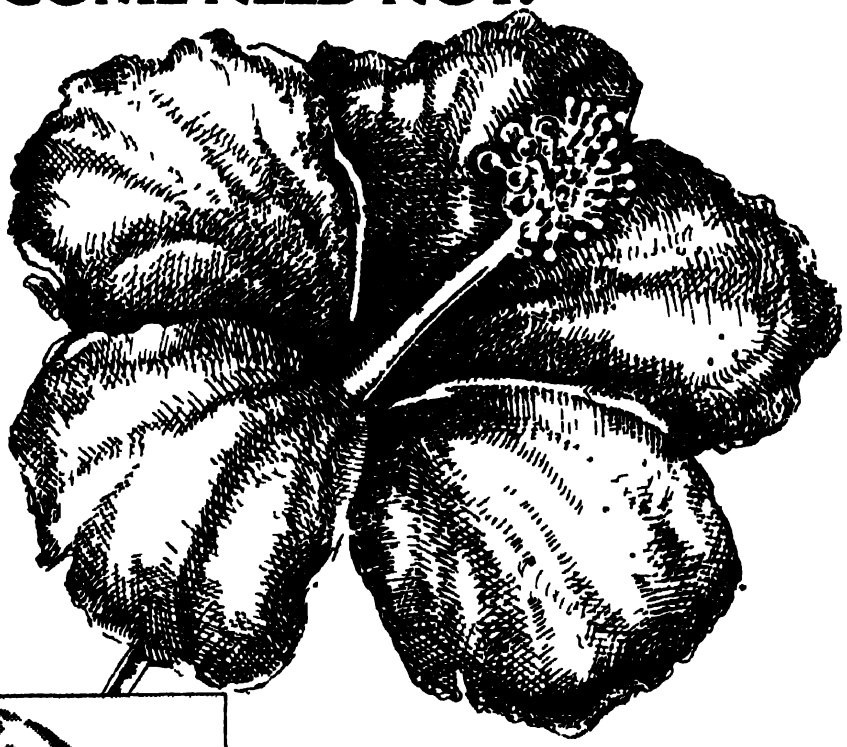
McENROE'S SECRET WEAPON

Do you know the story behind McEnroe's famous white cap he wore while setting Flinders Park alight with his magic? Fifty minutes before his round one match against Broderick Dyke, McEnroe made a request of a player liaison officer.

He wanted a white cap. One condition, though. No logos. No writing. A plain white cap. No problem... sort of.

After countless calls to all the major department stores in Melbourne, they accidently struck gold at Myer's bargain basement store. A driver was sent and after a clandestine rendezvous with a Myers staffer, he returned with McEnroe's preference. Actually priced at below two dollars, Carlisle went on a 'spending spree' and bought ten. And they had it back at the Tennis Centre five minutes before McEnroe hit centre court, hat on head. Now you know why he's back in [illegible]

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READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which heavyweight boxing champion said, "I'm not the greatest, I'm the latest." And when?
2. Which heavyweight champion became a restaurateur after he quit?
3. This boxer was on his way to the gold medal in the light-heavyweight category at the Los Angeles Olympics, 1984, but was disqualified for failing to hear the referee's call in his semi-final bout. Later he returned to become the world heavyweight champion. Who was he?
4. Who said, "Professional boxing treats a fighter like a commodity to be bought and sold and discarded when he is no longer of use"?
5. East Germany's first Olympic medal winner was a boxer. Name him.
6. The only Indian to have won an individual Olympic medal in the post-independence era did so in freestyle wrestling. Who was he?
7. Who was the first black boxer to become world heavyweight champion?
8. Who holds the record for the greatest number of knockouts?
9. Which world super-feather-weight champion, who retired recently, was nicknamed the 'Lion of Africa'?
10. Who is the only heavyweight champion who has retired without losing a single fight?
11. In boxing, what is a *rabbit punch?*
12. An English Test cricketer won an Olympic gold in boxing in 1908. Name him.
13. Which outspoken boxer in 1971 said, "If I fight a grizzly bear in Red China I'd still get a full house"?
14. What are the real names of a) Mike Tyson, b) Jack Johnson, c) Sonny Liston?
15. The longest reign of a world heavyweight champion was that of Joe Louis. Whose was the shortest?

ANSWERS

1. Leon Spinks after defeating 'The Greatest' Muhammed Ali in the title bout at Las Vegas, 1978.
2. Jack Dempsey.
3. Evander Holyfield.
4. Teofilo Stevenson of Cuba.
5. Wolfgang Behrendt.
6. K. D. Jadhav, in the bantmweight class in 1952.
7. Jack Johnson in 1908.
8. Archie Moore with 141 knockouts between 1939-1963.
9. Azumah Nelson of Ghana.
10. Rocky Marciano.
11. A punch delivered on the back of the boxer's neck.
12. J. W. H. T. Douglas.
13. Muhammad Ali.
14. a) Mike Kirkpatrick, b) John Arthur Johnson, c) Charles Liston.
15. Leon Spinks for 212 days from February 15 to September 15, 1978.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
Venugopal M
617, GOKULAM 2ND STAGE,
MYSORE-570002.

All answers sent in by post/fax/e-mail.

BAGGA BE THE REST

Deaf and dumb Rajeev Bagga lifted the men's title at this year's Nationals

HE can't hear. He can't speak coherently. But he can play badminton. And before that he used to play squash. Well enough for him to win the National junior title in the latter game. And now, despite his handicap, he is found to be good enough to win the senior title in the just concluded National Badminton championship, sponsored by Puma Carona, at Madras

Yes, Rajeev Bagga is a deaf mute. But too much should not be made of his handicap. At least his mother would not like it. 'He is not physically handicapped nor is he mentally handicapped. I resent it when someone keeps referring to him as handicapped . she said in Madras during the championship

So let's concentrate on his badminton skills. And indeed there have been times when he has made his perfectly normal opponent look handicapped– physically and mentally, that is.

Rajeev Bagga is 26 years old. Certainly not a prodigy by any chance. But his story is no less inspiring or sensational An officer in Hindustan Petroleum in Bombay, Bagga first came into prominence when he defeated Prakash Padukone, then in the twilight of a great career, during the Jammu Nationals in 1988. He next hit the headlines when he won the badminton title in the Silent Olympics a couple of years ago. But it seemed like the national title would elude him After all, there were players with seemingly better credentials around in George Thomas, Vimal Kumar, Praveen Kumar and Dipankar Bhattacharya.

But Bagga obviously has a heart of oak. Aware of his talent, he was convinced that all he needed was more match practice and a higher standard of physical fitness. His mother recalled at Madras: "Every day, Rajeev is on the court, practising hard and doing strenuous physical fitness routines. He was determined to make it to the top .

Indeed the title triumph at Madras was the culmination of a dream that had been with Bagga ever since he exchanged his squash racket for a badminton racket over a decade ago. He is such a gifted ball player that tomorrow if he were to give up badminton and take up another game, one is sure that he would excel at it.

But that may be at some time in the future. At the moment, he is the monarch of Indian badminton. Though it was not always smooth smiling for Bagga at Madras. On three occasions, he dropped a game before winning. But as if to emphasise his fighting qualities, each time he dropped the first game and then came back to win. The first was against Junior National champion Gopichand in the pre-quarter final. The second came about in the semi-final against second seed and last year's runner-up Praveen Kumar. And in

> 'He is not physically handicapped nor is he mentally handicapped. I resent it when someone keeps referring to him as handicapped'—Rajiv Bagga's mother

Manjusha Pawangadkar: upset win over Seema Bhandari



NARAYAN-RELIANCE NEWS

STS



Rajeev Bagga: a wonderful win at Madras

the final against top seed and hot favourite Dipankar Bhattacharya, came the most remarkable transformation, for Bagga lost the first game 1-15 in just ten minutes.

There was an unusual incident in Bagga's match against Gopichand. Not being able to hear the scores, Bagga, for once, found it difficult to keep the scores in his mind, something that he has become adept at. At 13-10 in the second game, Bagga thought that he had won the game and went out of the court. Umpire Chengappa, a former international and now a NIS coach, had to tell him that the game was not over yet and then showed him the score sheet to make Bagga believe it. That was the only time that Bagga faltered in maintaining match scores; usually he signalled by the number of fingers principally to his mother in the stands, how many more points he needed to wrap up the game.

In fact Bagga's rapport with the crowd was spontaneous. Tall, fair and slim, he cut a handsome figure on court and proved that one need not be a great conversationalist to be an engaging sporting personality.

As in the men's singles, an underdog triumphed in the women's singles too. But here it must be said that the victory of seventh seeded Manjusha Pawangadkar over the top seed and favourite Seema Bhandari was less of a surprise than the third seeded Bagga's triumph over Dipankar.

The 20-year-old college student from Pune had been having an indifferent season but as soon as the Nationals commenced, it was obvious that Manjusha was playing very well. She disposed of fourth-seeded Feroza Batliwala in the quarter-final 11-3, 11-0 with such ridiculous ease that it immediately marked her out as a serious contender for the title.

Madhumita's withdrawal gave Seema her big chance of ripping off the bridesmaid tag and being the bride herself. Her performance up to the final was as commanding as Manjusha's and it was only her greater experience that made her the favourite. But after taking the first game comfortably, Seema was up against some inspired play by Manjusha with a series of telling smashes. Manjusha won the second and third games to clinch the match and title.

In the post-Prakash Padukone era, Indian badminton has gone through a slump steadily through the last decade. Interestingly enough, Prakash then only 17, won the first of his nine successive titles when the Nationals were last held at Madras twenty years before. This Madras National however did not throw up anybody who could be relied upon to make a mark on the international level.

Partab Ramchand



STUCK ON YOU

Try Velcro Jumping

HAD ENOUGH of conventional sport? Try velcro jumping. It's the new craze in the West. All you do is pull on a jump suit covered with sticky strips. Run across the room, take a flying leap off a mini trampoline and hit a fuzzy padded wall.

The aim of the sport? Two fold. First to see if you can hang in there. Second who gets highest up the wall. Interested?

RUDENKO CONFUSED & JAILED

To Wamba's Advantage

ANDREI RUDENKO is one sad man. Not only is the Soviet (?) boxer confused about his nationality, not only did he miss his shot at the WBC cruiser weight title, he even got slapped into jail!

Scheduled to challenge Frenchman Anaclet Wamba in a title bout in Paris last month, he got bumped from the fight when the promoter found out that Rudenko had been jailed following a brawl in Berlin. Rudenko apparently didn't like the way a group of neo Nazis insulted his German wife.

The person who ain't complaining is Wamba. Know why? Four of the neo Nazis ended up in hospital!! Now you know.

SMOKING OR NON-SMOKING SEAT

For The Olympic Flame

WHEN THE Winter Olympics kicks off at Albertville, France next month a whole lot of people—and equipment—will have travelled thousands of miles to be there.

The flame for instance, lit in Greece, travelled to France aboard a special Concorde flight. After an overnight stay at the famed Champs Elysees, it will be manhandled and womanhandled by over 5 000 runners who are carrying the torch through cities in every French region. A distance of 3 000 miles, ten times longer than what the crow would have flown.

What we want to know is, how did the flame get past security at the airport, did it travel first class and most important, seated in smoking or non smoking seats?



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CARRYING on with the kata, once again we remind you that all the movements demonstrated here are done in the opposite direction We are displaying them thus just for your convinience

By Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushkaikan karate.

PHOTOGRAPH RAMAN BHALLA



1. Step forward with the left leg, going into the left zenkutsu-dachi while throwing a chudan-oi-tsuki

2. Keep the left hand out in front as the right leg comes in to touch the left





3. Move the right leg out and go into kiba-dachi

PUMP IT

The Health Column

LAST week in this column we had discussed weight-losing procedures and how the diet should be controlled to get the body into shape. We had also passingly mentioned that diet was just one part of the formula, and the other was exercise. This week we are going to stress on the latter, and by the end of it we hope to give you guys enough reason to hit the weights.

Exercise is a very important part of any weight-losing programme that one undertakes. In fact anyone who decreases the calorie intake to lose weight should also at the same time start an exercise programme if one's level of physical activity is low. When you exercise, the metabolic furnace of the system is turned on fully and that consumes a lot of heat in the form of calories.

Hence it's not surprising that exercise makes you feel energetic while dieting makes you tired. And we needn't tell you that lack of exercise makes one put on a lot of unwanted kilos.

It's like keeping cattle enclosed in a small area and giving them tons of food. Before long they gain in kilos and then fetch a fair price in the market for the breeders.

Humans are no different. Inactivity is one of the major causes of obesity in our society. Look at things from another perspective: the human body was developed over thousands of years to be active. The metabolic system was designed to support a creature who walked, ran and was active. But in today's world given half a chance, people would not leave the comfort of the armchair. Life now seems to be controlled by the advances of science.

Coming back to exercise, it stimulates heat when the muscles contract. In fact, over 75% of the calories needed for muscular contraction are released as heat. During exercise the oxygen burns the hydrocarbons put in through food to water and carbon-dioxide as the energy is released. Your muscles convert less than 25% into mechanical energy, the rest is released as heat.

When one exercises, the natural thermostat of the system perceives the rise in heat and the brain turns on the natural air conditioner—the skin. Blood flow through the skin increases, making a person who has been exercising vigorously appear flushed.

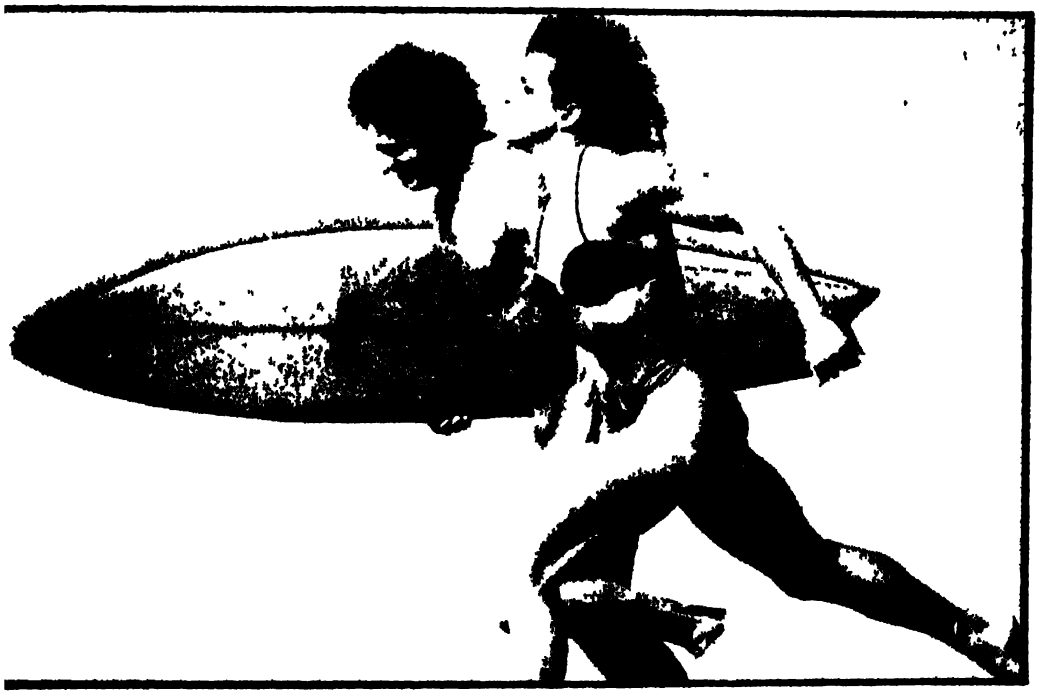
This natural phenomenon aids in eliminating the calories by radiation. As the exercise is prolonged, evaporative action is increased by the action of the sweat glands that is stimulated by the brain. Finally as the body is overloaded by excessive heat, dripping sweat follows.

If the energy used exceeds the energy that follows from eating, the brain sends messages to put in more food. It is in this way that the brain helps the body in maintaining a stable body weight. Of course, if you override the brain's stimulus to eat more through will-power, then you are definitely going



Aerobic exercises: the ideal way to shape up

UP FOR SHAPE



to lose weight.

On the other hand, exercise drives the calorie—balance system to eliminate calories. This stimulates the system to increase the calorie intake to keep up with the loss of calories that follows exercising. Reducing the calorie intake shuts down the energy production and decreases heat production.

The important thing to notice out here is that if both are used (dieting and exercise) together in a sensible manner then you are going to maintain a more or less

Fun, frolic and exercise will keep the system in tune

stable body weight If you reduce your calorie intake and at the same time exercise hard enough, then you are causing a negative calorie balance But pushing yourself beyond what your body is designed for, can eventually force yourself into undernutrition with disasterous results

Let's give you guys another reason for hitting the gym. When you exercise you build your muscles and the size of your muscles are important to you metabolically About 40% of the average body weight in an adult is muscles Even at rest the muscles are metabolically active all the time That is why a 75 kilo person who is muscular will use more calories than a person of the same weight with more fat than muscles.

Another goal of exercising is to increase the work done by the heart. This happens because it has to deliver more oxygen to the muscles that are being blasted. The muscles need the oxygen to act on the fuel (food) to release calories for mechanical energy and, in the process, liberate about three times as much energy in the form of heat. This heat is then eliminated from the skin.

So now that we've given you a run-down on the benefits of exercise, the next question obviously is about getting started on an exercise programme. You need not perform high-intensity exercises to stimulate the calorie loss mechanism. In fact very basic exercises like walking and jogging can go a long way in your losing weight.

The important thing to follow out here is that, if before starting on the regimen you were completely inactive, then the intensity of the exercise should be kept to the lowest. It should only be after a lot of time—when your body has got used to the feeling of the torture that you are inflicting on it—that you increase the intensity of the exercise. We're not talking days here, but weeks, months and years And, of course, remember that the most important thing of any exercise regimen is to stick to it for the results to be evident Exercising off and on will get you nowhere, but persistant doses of exercise will see your body definitely getting into better shape by the day.

So get cracking guys, hit the gym and the weights and you'll be one person who, at the end of the year, will not have to make another resolution regarding losing weight If you couldn't this year, how are you going to do it the next year?●

SPORT SHORTS

by Fred Hull

HARRISON DILLARD *"OLD BONES"*



Every Olympic game has one unforgettable story- in 1948 it was Harrison Dillard

Dillard had one dream, to become an Olympic sprinter. When he tried out for high school track his schoolmates laughed at his skinny frame and nicknamed him "Bones" His coach looked at his frail frame & told him to forget the sprints Seeing his disappointment, he let him try out for the hurdles.

"Bones" grew stronger By the time he enrolled in Baldwin-Wallace College, he was a full grown man . but still a hurdler Soon he was America's greatest hurdler with 82 consecutive victories!

But, fate was cruel. At the Olympic tryouts Dillard performed miserably in his specialty. Fate did not destroy him. He gave his all and barely made the team as a SPRINTER!

83,000 people watched America's record breaking hurdler turned sprinter Old Bones put on a super human effort against the best sprinters in the world - he WON the 100 meter dash in Olympic record time.

Dillard's dream came true, he had his Olympic gold medal - not as a hurdler but a SPRINTER!

THE LOWEST 18-HOLE SCORES IN GOLF

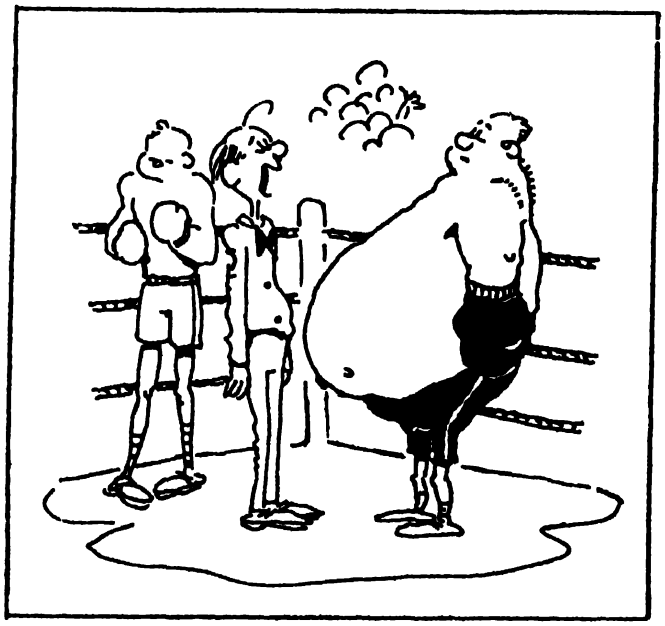
The lowest score ever recorded on an 18-Hole par 70 golf course was 55 strokes. This incredible score was achieved by the English professional A. E SMITH, at the Woolacombe course on January 1, 1936! The Woolacombe course measured 4,248 yards.



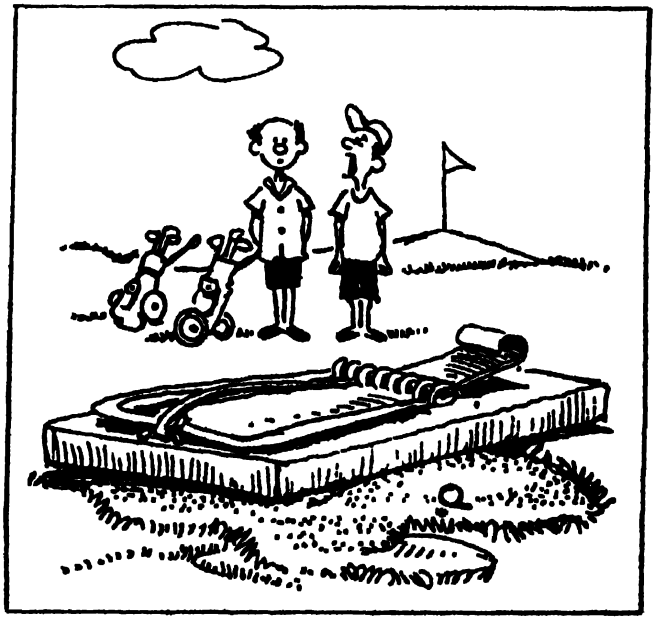
Twenty six years later, August 19, 1962 Smith's score was matched by HOMERO BLANCAS of Houston, Texas! Blancas also scored 55 strokes at the 5,022 (par 70) Premir Golf Course in Longview, Texas.

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"This is cruiserweight...You're in the battleship division."



"The greens are easy but the traps are murder."

Why this pathetic performance?

THE miserable start by the Indian team Down Under—losing the first two Tests and making heavy weather of the WSC competition—has proved that their supposedly superior batting strength lay only on paper. Time and time again they have crumbled under pressure as the batsmen struggle to come to terms with the fast bouncy wickets of Australia.

The only saving grace for India has come in the form of Kapil Dev. What a performance he put up with the ball to become the second highest wicket-taker in the world in Test cricket! It is time the others in the Indian team get motivated by Kapil's never-say-die spirit.

Only then can India hope to salvage some of their pride Down Under.

ARSHAD,
Assam.

Marvellous

The article, 'The best and worst of tennis' in the issue dated 8-14 Jan was really good. It served to give the synopsis of the year in tennis that was 1991. The sports calendar that came with the issue was equally praiseworthy. Now the readers have to just go through the issue to find out the dates of the major events in the year.

Now, how about a Steffi Graf poster from *Sportsworld*.

SUBRAT SAMAL,
Burla.

Good going Shastri

IT was only in the third Test against Australia at Sydney that the Indian batsmen rose to the occasion. And what an innings Ravi Shastri played! It was a pleasure seeing him bat like the Shastri of old. And more importantly, his innings came at the right time to silence all his critics who were questioning his form and on some occasions even his inclusion into the side.

Tendulkar, of course, just continues to impress and his century at Sydney was a real pleasure to watch.

Another point of consolation to the Indian fans is that Shastri appears to have struck form in his bowling. A good sign because he is one player who could be pivotal to India's hopes Down Under.

SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry.



Shastri certainly impressed with his double century at Sydney

Purposeful

CONGRATULATIONS to *Sportsworld* and Shevlin Sebastian for the highly purposeful, and very well written article on Mihir Sen. It was really a sad reminder that not all our sportsmen are in good condition.

It certainly would be a good idea if an appeal was made for readers to send in their contributions to the swimmer's residential address. Sports organisations and industrial houses can also do their bit for him to get specialised medical attention.

Only in that way can we give the swimmer with an indomitable spirit his due.

S. HUSSAIN,
Dibrugarh.

The cover photograph [illegible] by Utpal Sarkar. The photo [illegible] Sports File. All [illegible] Deb.

NEW DELHI

Cash Awards

FORTY EIGHT of the 49 sportspersons who won medals in international events in 1991 were awarded cash prizes by the Union Govt. at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium at Delhi on Jan. 11. The comeback queen Shiny Wilson bagged a large booty—a cash award of Rs 2.25 lakhs—for her gold medal in the 400 metres and 4 x 400 metres relay and silver medal in the 800 metres at the ATF in Kuala Lumpur in October 1991. Glamour girl Ashwini Nachappa who was to get Rs 50,000 for her relay gold at the ATF did not turn up, due to a film assignment.

Calcutta-base chess player, Dibyendu Barua got an award of Rs 2 lakhs, for obtaining the Grandmaster status in January 1991. Dibyendu is the second Indian after Vishwanathan Anand to get the Grandmaster status.

Table tennis ace Kamlesh Mehta got Rs 1.25 lakhs for finishing runner-up to England's Alan Cooke in the Commonwealth Table Tennis championship at Nairobi. Teenager Mantu Ghosh of Siliguri got Rs 93,750 for helping the Indian women's team emerge runners up in the Commonwealth T.T., and getting a bronze medal in the women doubles, along with B. Bhuvaneshwari.

The awards were also given for earlier performances. The Indian hockey team which finished runners-up to Pakistan in the 1989 Asia Cup at Delhi were also rewarded. Each player got Rs 18,750.

Overall, the Human Resources Development Minister, Mr Arjun Singh distributed cash awards worth Rs 34,62,500 to notable performers in Indian sports, 1989-91. The largest amount went to Yachtsmen Farokh Tarapore and Lt. Kelly Rao, a princely sum of Rs 3.75 lakhs each, for winning the World Yachting Enterprise championships last year.

Novy Kapadia



K. Saramma receiving a cash award from Minister for Human Resources, Arjun Singh

ROURKELA

Inter-Steel Athletics

THE 29th edition of the Inter Steel Athletics and Cycling Championship was held at the Ispat Stadium recently. Unscheduled rains during the meet did have an adverse effect on the performances of the athletes. Two cycling events had to be cancelled. As expected Tisco continued its hold over the team championship trophy with a tally of 206 points. Host Rourkela finished second with 129 points, while Durgapur finished third with 91 points.

International Hemanta Patel of Rourkela became the fastest man of the meet by winning the 100m in 10.9 seconds. He claimed the long jump 'gold also. S.K. Pradhan, also of Rourkela, bagged three gold medals in the 400m, 400m hurdles and 4x400 relay. S. Ghosh of Tisco asserted his supremacy in the middle distance races by winning golds in the 800m and 1500m, while S.K. Mukherjee (Tisco) claimed gold medals in 5000 and 10000 metres.

Balwinder Singh won the gold medal in the shot-put. R.R. Singh of Tisco claimed the decathlon gold with 4819 points. He was also adjudged the best athlete of the meet as he won two more silvers and one bronze medal.

Except for Bhilai Steel Plant, all other Steel Plants participated in this four day meet.

Mr MG Singh—Executive Director, RSP gave away the trophies on the concluding day.

Satish Sharma

NEW DELHI

N.N. Memorial Cricket

MOHAN MEAKINS won the fourth N.N. Memorial Cricket Tournament, which was held at Mohan Nagar Sports stadium. They proved their supremacy by beating Steel Authority of India by

91 runs to take home the coveted Golden Eagle trophy as well as a prize money cheque of Rs 30,000

Having lost the toss, Mohan Meakins put together a total of 241 for four in 45 overs, this being the highest score of the tournament With SAIL having to average six runs per over, the match was almost over before it started The SAIL batting collapsed at 150 for eight

Earlier in the semi finals, Mohan Meakins had beaten SWIL XI by six wickets and SAIL had defeated Oil and Natural Gas Commission by 15 runs

Rudolph Vance

TRIVANDRUM

State Junior Athletics

THE 35th Kerala State Junior Amateur Athletic championship was conducted under a new age format (under-14 U 17 U 20) for the first time Trivandrum claimed the overall championship with 400 pts while Kottayam finished second

Minimol Joseph and Ram Kumar (both representing Trivandrum) became the fastest girl and boy clocking 12 3 and 11 0 sec respectively in the 100 mts

Fourteen year old Haridas of Kottayam continued his supremacy in the 800 mts (2 m 01 6 sec) and 3000 mts (9 m 18 4 sec) He also won silver in the 1500 mts with a time of 4m 16 7s Sajeev Kumar, a cricketer turned jumper leaped 7 28 mts to win the long jump gold

In the senior girls section, Bobby Aloysius of Thrissur attracted everyone s attention by winning golds in the long jump and high jump Bobby pushed the favourite Lekha Thomas to the second spot with a leap of 5 85 mts in the long jump On the final day of the meet, Bobby shocked P S Bindu of Railways, the No 2 high jumper in India, by clearing 1 62 mts Bindu jumped a poor 1 59 mts in her third attempt to claim silver Her personal best is 1 71 mts

Some results:

Senior boys:

10 km walk—P S Biju (Thrissur) 54 13 0 sec

1500 mts P A Babu (Thrissur) 4 06 9 Sec

Shotput Devaprasanth (Calicut) - 11 55 mts

Decathlon I B Madhu (Alappuzha) 4817 pts

Senior Girls:

Javelin Amitha Chandy (Kottayam)—35 14 mts

1500 mts—Sheeba Joseph—5 00 mins

Heptathlon Ancy Philip (Kottayam)—4110 pts

Minimol Joseph: fastest girl in the meet

C Subramoniam, Director General of Police distributed the prizes

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

MADRAS

National Beach Volleyball

It is a sport that is already very popular in Brazil, United States and Japan And with beach volleyball being played in this country too with much enthusiasm the Volleyball



Federation of India (VFI) thought the time was ripe to introduce the sport on a competitive level. And so it was that the inaugural National Beach Volleyball championships were organised by the Marina Beach Volleyball Club on the sands of the Marina at Madras this month. And the immediate impression one got at the end of the three-day meet was that the sport was here to stay. Not only that, it would probably gain in popularity over the coming years.

For one thing, there was encouraging response from the States. Twenty-seven teams from 18 affiliated units participated with some of the States fielding more than one team. Those participating included 15 States and Union Territories besides units like the Air Force, Sports Authority of India, and Banks Sports Board.

The second encouraging factor was the tremendous spectator response. On all three days, large crowds converted on the Marina to watch the interesting proceedings. Beach volleyball is a simple, fast paced, action oriented sport with just two players on either side and that is the reason why it has caught the fancy in certain areas in the world despite being a comparatively new entrant.

Brazil has already played host to the world championship twice and seven countries have participated. With the game catching on in Asia, Japan is likely to host the Asian Championship some time this year. And the winners of the Madras Nationals will be sent to the Asian championship according to VFI sources.

The winners incidentally were Tamil Nadu. There were actually eight groups into which the 27 teams were divided. The winners of each group qualified for the knock-out quarter finals. Tamil Nadu 'A' and 'B', Bengal, Rajasthan, SAI, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh made it to the last eight stage by topping their respective pools.

From this group, Tamil Nadu 'A' and 'B', Maharashtra and Andhra qualified for the semi-finals. At this stage Tamil Nadu 'A' represented by Ahmed Ali and T. Sathi beat Andhra 15 5 while Maharashtra represented by Dinesh Kumar and K.G. Jayan got the better of Tamil Nadu 'B' 15-13.

All the matches till the final were played on best of one game but the final was played over best of three games. With Ali and Sathi spiking, setting and blocking effectively, the one sided match was over in 20 minutes with the TN pair winning 12-1, 12-1.

There was also a women's event which attracted five teams and was played on a round-robin basis. The competition was so keen, that there was a three-way tie among Tamil Nadu, Bengal and the host club, the Marina Beach Volleyball Club. All these teams had a record of three wins and one loss. But on better points average, the host club were declared the winners.

Bengal were second while Tamil Nadu finished third. Maharashtra which had a record of one win and three losses, was fourth while Kerala which lost all its four matches were last. The winning team was represented by Sundri and Jayalakshmi.

Partab Ramchand

JIND

National Junior Wrestling

HARYANA and Delhi emerged worthy winners in the freestyle and Greco-Roman categories respectively, of the 12th edition of the National Junior Wrestling championship held at Bharat Singh Memorial Sports School, Nidani near Jind, Haryana recently.

Hosts Haryana bagged nine golds, two silvers and five bronze medals in Greco-Roman and free style and won the overall team championship. Delhi, with six golds, four silvers and three bronzes and Maharashtra with two golds, three silvers and two bronze medals were second and third, respectively.



Anil Kumar: winner in the 58kg Greco Roman section of the National Junior Wrestling championships

In the Greco-Roman style, Deepak Yadav-50 kg, Anil Kumar-58kg, Pratap-68 kg, and Dharam Pal-88 kg (all from Delhi), Shankar-63 kg, Jitender-54 kg, Krishan Kumar-74 kg, Naresh Kumar-over 88 kg (all from Haryana), and Laxmi Narayan-81 kg (Orissa) and Namdev Vadhera-46 kg (Maharashtra) won the gold medals.

Anil Kumar of Delhi created a major upset by overcoming Ajay Kumar of Madhya Pradesh in the 58 kg weight category in Greco-Roman.

In the free style section, Jagbir Singh-50 kg, Karan Veer Singh-68 kg, Naresh Kumar-63 kg, Rajbeer-74 kg, and Ramesh-81 kg (all from Haryana), Parveen Datta-54 kg, Virender Kumar-58 kg (both from Delhi), Subhas-46 kg (Rajasthan), and Jai Bhagwan-88 kg (Chandigarh) won gold medals.

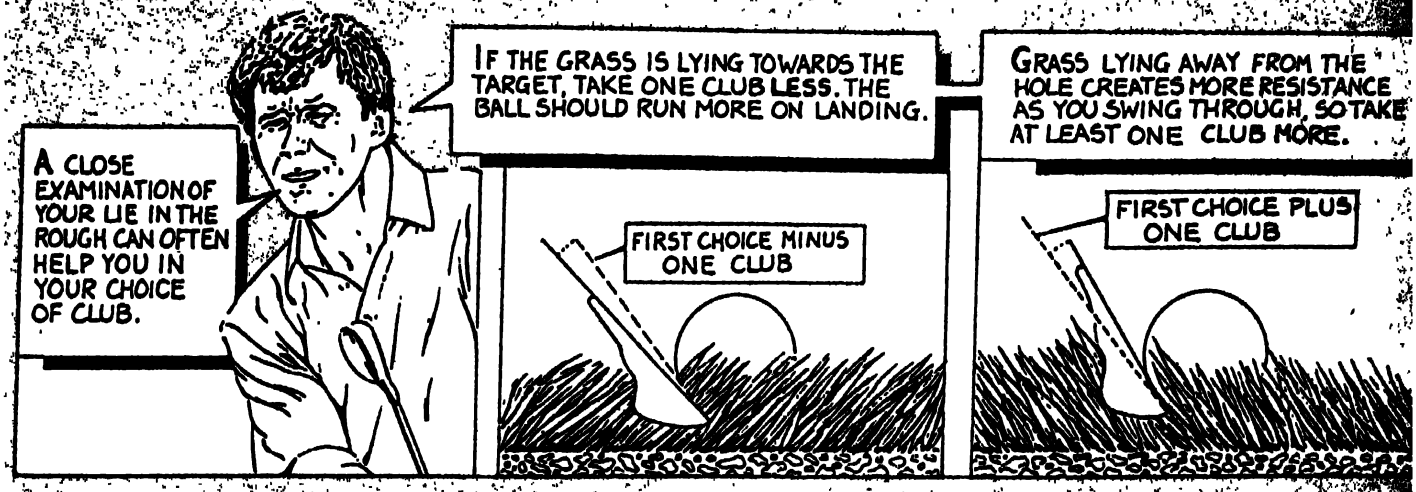
Haryana Governor, Dhanik Lal Mandal gave away the prizes. In his address, the Governor said the State Government would set up international facilities to promote traditional games like wrestling and kabaddi.

Suresh Kumar Lau

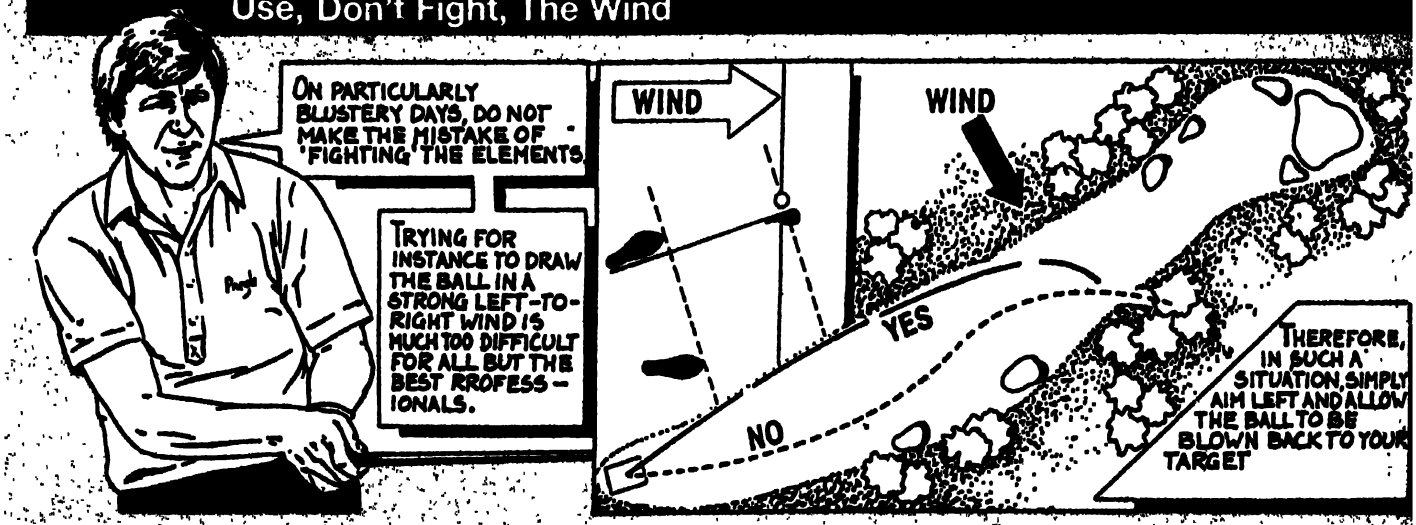
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

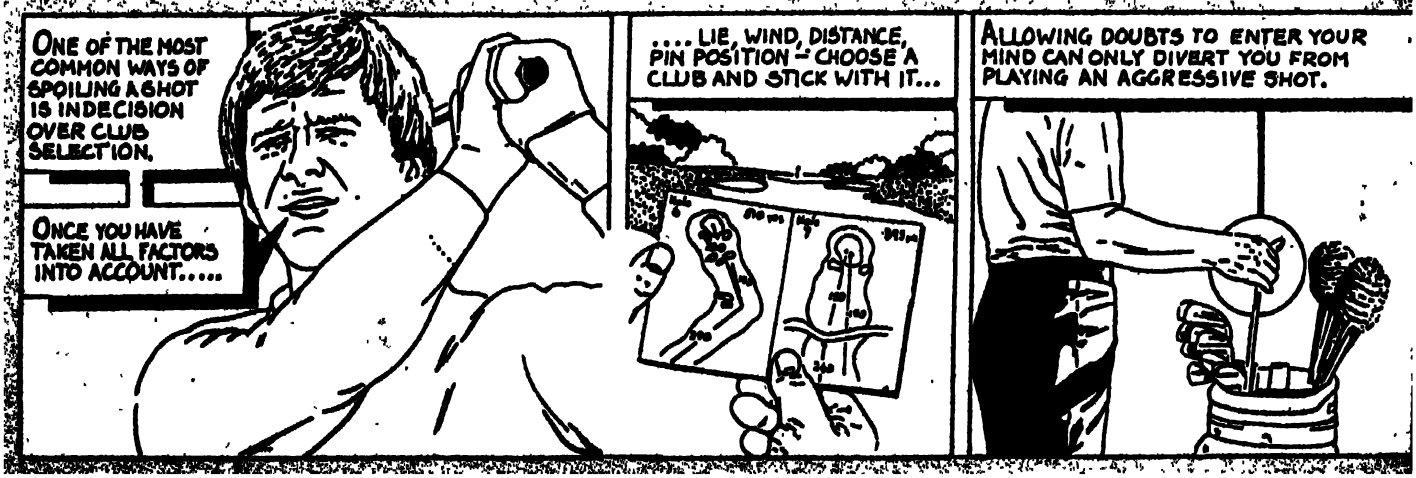
Examining the Rough Lie



Use, Don't Fight, The Wind



Club Selection



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What does 'ace' mean in golf?
2. What is an 'Adolph' in gymnastics?
3. What is 'hot corner' in baseball?
4. With what sport is the term "Indian check" associated?
5. What is meant by "in side"?
6. What is a "shoot set"?
7. In basketball what is a "double dribble"?

ANSWERS

1. To make a hole in one on a specific hole.
2. A trampoline stunt consisting of a forward somersault with 3 1/2 twists.
3. The third base position.
4. Lacrosse.
5. The serving side in certain court games (as badminton, handball, or squash rackets).
6. A low fast set made to a spiker near the sideline in volleyball.
7. An infraction in basketball that results when a player dribbles the ball with both hands simultaneously or continues a dribble after allowing the ball to come to rest in one or both hands and that results in loss of possession of the ball.

CHESS

IMAGINATION is an essential ingredient in a good chess-players make-up. Of course, judgement and calculating ability are needed to temper the creativity. Sometimes you need courage as well. It takes great daring to play the kind of piece sacrifice this game features. Especially against a high class player like Khalifman.

White: Khalifman Vs Black: Hulak Jugoslavia '91.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 b6 4 Nc3 bb4 5 Bg5 Bb7 6 e3 Bc3 7 bc3 d6 8 Nd2 Nbd7 9 f3 h6 10 Bh4 Qe7 11 Be2 e5 12 e4 Nf8 13 Nf1 Ng6 14 Bf2 Nf4 15 Ne3 0-0. A novelty. Earlier games have featured 15—N6-h5 16 Bf1 g6 17g3 Ne6 18 Bg2 as in Benjamin-Arnason Novi-Sad '90.

16 Bf1 Rfe8 17 g3 (See Diagram). Black could play the normal 17—Ne6 18 Bg2 conceding a slight edge to white. Instead he plays a spectacular sacrifice. **17—Be4!?**

18 fe4 ed4. White could also think of 18 gf4 ef4 19 fe4 Qe4 20 Rg1 fe3 21 Bg3 e2! when black justifies his material investment. Also 18 de5 Qe5 19gf4 Qc3 20Ke2 Bc2 21 Qc1 Nh5 gives an attack.

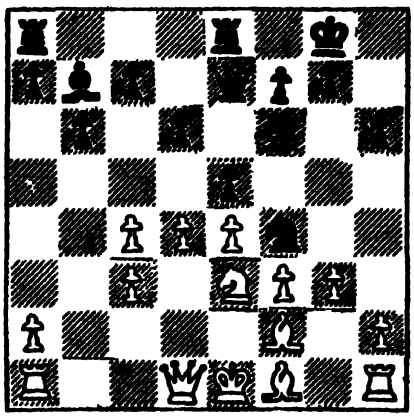
19 Qd4 c5! Black could get suckered by 19—Ne4? 20 Nf5! **20 Qd2 Ne4 21 Qc2 Qf6!?**.Black wants more than the inferior ending after 21—Nf2 22 Of2 Qe3 23 Qe3 Re3 24 Kd2 Rf3 25 gf4 etc.

22 Bg1? This loses. White could try 22 Rc1! or even 22 0-0-0!? and hope to come out on top.

22—Nc3 23 gf4 d5! The same reply wins against 23 Rc1 ie d5! 24 Qc3 d4 25 Qb3 Ng6. **24 Bg2 Rad8 25 cd5 Nd5 26 0-0-0 Ne3.** Black could also play the pleasant endgame 26—Qa1 27 Qb1 Qb1 28Kb1 Nc3 29Kc1 Nd1 30 Nd1 Re1 31 Bf3 Rd3 32 Bf2 Rdxd1 33Bd1 Rh1. **27 Be3 Qa1 28 Qb1 Qc3 29 Qc2 Qe3 30 Kb1 Rd1.**

31 Rd1 Qf4 32 Bc6 Qb4 33 Ka1 Re1 34 Re1 Qe1 35 Kb2 g6 35Bb5 Qb4 36 Qb3 Qb3 37 Kb3 f5 39 Kc3 Kf7 40 Kd3 g5 41 a4 Kf6 42 Be8 g4 43 Ke3 Kg5 44 Bb5 h5 45 Bf1 h4 46 h3 g3 47 Kf3 Kf6 48 Kf4 c4 49 Ke3 c3 50 Kd3 Ke5 51 Kc3 Ke4 52 Kd2 Kf3 (0-1). An interesting sacrifice with an instructive endgame thrown in as well.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

MOST players are highly optimistic at the bridge table, never bothering to insure their contracts against a foul lie of the opposing cards. This is from a team game in Calcutta:-

It seems as though West would not have escaped with his limbs intact in his contract of two hearts doubled but it cannot be set, or so it seems to me, by more than three

NORTH (dummy)
♠ 1084
♥ Q9652
♦ Q8
♣ Q65

WEST
♠ —
♥ J8743
♦ 9543
♣ 9732

EAST
♠ Q95
♥ K10
♦ AK1076
♣ K108

SOUTH
♠ AKJ7632
♥ A
♦ J2
♣ AJ4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
—	—	1 NT (15-7)	Dble
2♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

tricks, or 500 to North-South. So, in a way, South did well to take out to four spades, opting for a score of 620 in the makeable spade game. Unfortunately, his *card-play* was not quite up to the mark.

West started proceedings with a diamond and after cashing his ace-king, East shifted to the ten of hearts, secure in the knowledge that South had a singleton heart, probably the ace. Winning this, South cashed the spade ace, hoping to be able to claim soon. His optimism was rudely shaken by West's discard and he had to go down.

Do you see how South can, and should, play to make ten tricks? East obviously has the rest of the pack for his 15-17 opening and, with West promising five hearts, K 10 of hearts doubleton. So, on winning the heart switch, he should play the spade *jack* from hand! East cannot afford to duck for then he loses his trump trick altogether.

On the other hand, if he wins this, he is end-played. A club return away from the king or a diamond return, giving a ruff-and-sluff, or the return of the heart king only simplifies matters for South who has an entry to dummy's spade ten. Nor does it help East to return a spade away from the nine for that gives South two entries to dummy. He can use one of these to set up the heart queen by ruffing one. Then, he can use the second entry to pitch a club on the heart queen and finally take a club finesse to land his contract.

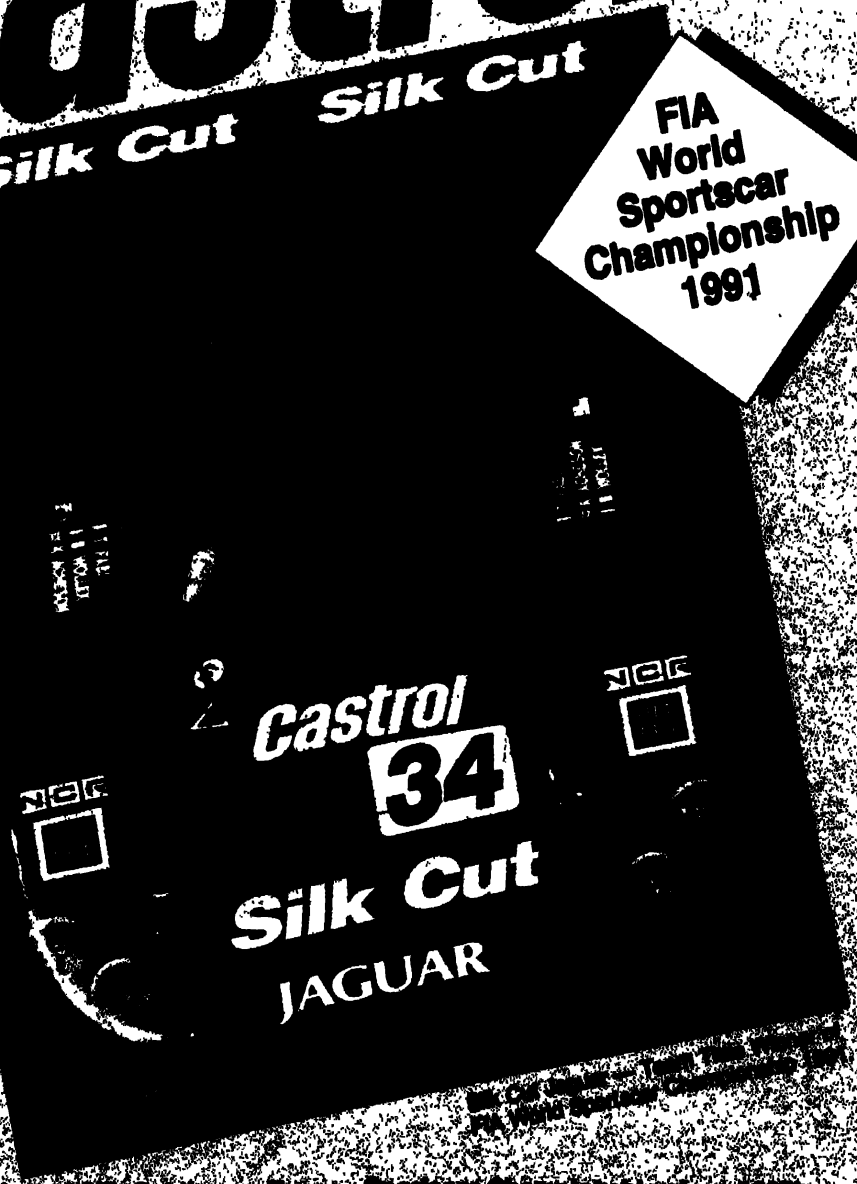
Santanu Ghose

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FITNESS

NEW YEAR BLUES

DON'T you just hate Februarys? That's the month when you really wake up to the fact that the year-end partying has murdered your body. No exercise; no sleep; too much booze (soft drinks are also as bad, teetotallers); and too much high-cal food. No wonder the trousers are fitting a little tight.

If you're like the rest of us—into some form of exercise normally—the damage shouldn't be too bad. Just a little overall flabbiness, with the waistline taking most of the beating. Nothing that a couple of months of determined gutbusters can't work off.



Get your butt on the floor and work those abs, buddy. Do sit-ups, do curl-ups, do reverse sit-ups, do crunches, do twisting trunk lifts. Do anything you like. But do something about it right now. Or else, you're history.

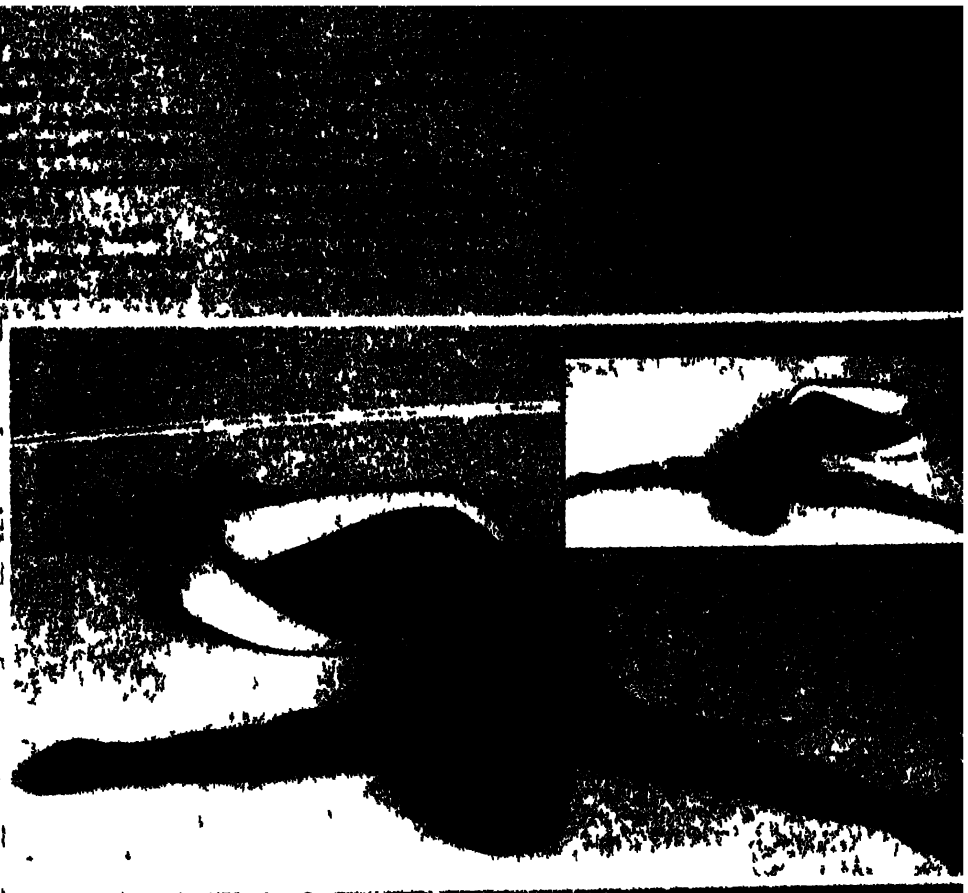
Let's first assess the damage. All this time of inactivity has probably made the abdominal muscles lose their firmness. That's why they're sagging outwards a little, allowing hints of a paunch. Plus, all those extra calories you've been gulping and spooning into your body has left a fresh layer of fat cells along the abdominal wall. That's what makes it a little softer to the touch. Cuddly, yes, but not for us fitness freaks.

Now the repair-work. First of all you've got to get the abs back to full strength. That means doing abdominal exercises till your abs scream for mercy...and then do

some more. Since we've gone through most of the regular exercises numerous times here, let's not waste time repeating ourselves. Instead, here's a new one: reverse trunk twists.

Using basically the same principle of normal trunk twists—where you lift the upper body off the floor with a twisting motion and touch your elbows to the opposite knee—this exercise works the lower abs. More specially, the obliques.

Lie flat on your back, with the arms spread out on either side for stability. Then, preventing your body from rocking, lift both legs off the floor without bending the knees. Once you've got your feet facing the ceiling, slowly lower them down on your left side, till the left thigh is almost touching the floor. Then lift them back to the upright position, and lower them down to the other side. Repeat this motion till you can do no more. That's when you know the abs are getting a taste of their own medicine.



JACK NICKLAUS

A New Course In Life



Is designing or constructing golf courses profitable these days? Well, a few experts in this calling feel that scene is quite gloomy because of the tough economic times. But one person for sure is making plenty of dough on the golf course design front. And he's none other than the legendary Jack Nicklaus...who spends a great deal of his valuable time designing several courses in the United States and also across the Atlantic. It seems as though Nicklaus is going 'to leave a legacy off the golf courses' as well.

If some are grumbling about the present poor prospects what does Nicklaus have to say? "The demand is still there, but the economy isn't" Optimistically the burly golfer continued: "We've got people calling us all the time to build golf courses."

But what about his contacts in Asia where the game has picked up considerably? "Yeah, business is off in Asia...." says Nicklaus who had done good business in Thailand where 14 courses were constructed by his company.

Nicklaus, the man know to golfers as the Golden Bear, has set the high standards by which all professional golfers are measured and has ambitious goals for his corporate holding. As he says, "Our thrust has been in the last few years to develop a business to where it becomes a business and not just a Jack Nicklaus."

Everything in his Palm Beach (California) office, 'the Golden Bear International' (which is manned by 95 employees) is high-tech. Nicklaus is his own manager, but that's just a minor task in the array of operations under his huge business umbrella.

His stunningly unbelievable [illegible] the former Masters, US and British Open champion began by treating course designing as a mere hobby. But times have really changed. This was the golfer who spent his prime time on courses to become a millionaire. His consistency was unbelievable. He

[illegible]

Angeles.





Jack Nicklaus spends a great deal of his valuable time designing several courses in the United States and also across the Atlantic. It seems as though he is going 'to leave a legacy off the golf course' as well

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

IMPOSTERS AS DOCTORS

Just To See Montana

SPORT fans are a desperate lot. They would go to hell just to meet their idols Joe Montana, the American football team San Francisco 49ers' quarterback, hasn't had a very good season this year, but his supporters don't give a damn. They just wanna be close to him.

So when Montana underwent elbow surgery for a torn tendon, two die-hard fans tried to sneak into the operation theatre. Nurses on duty stopped the two imposters posing as doctors—dressed in surgical scrubs and mask—at the door of the operating room.

The fate of these two are not known, but Montana had a good laugh when he was informed of the two fake doctors.

Cult figure Joe Montana landed up in hospital and his fans followed





Tyson couldn't get a cab so he bought a car!

IN A TOUGH SPOT?

Do A Tyson

SUCCESS breeds money and often money breeds contempt for all the world as Mike Tyson's cynical and whatever he wants is there for the taking.

And with the possibility of having to spend 45 years in prison, if he is convicted of rape, the heavyweight killer is not bothered about the way he blows up his money.

Tyson took his Porsche in to be serviced at a dealer in Manhattan. After having dumped his car he spent quite a while looking for a taxi. The New York cabbies, known for their impatient, ignored Tyson trying to flag them down.

Furious, Tyson stormed back into the showroom and bought cash [illegible]



IT'S TIME TO GIVE IT YOUR *SPIRITED* BEST

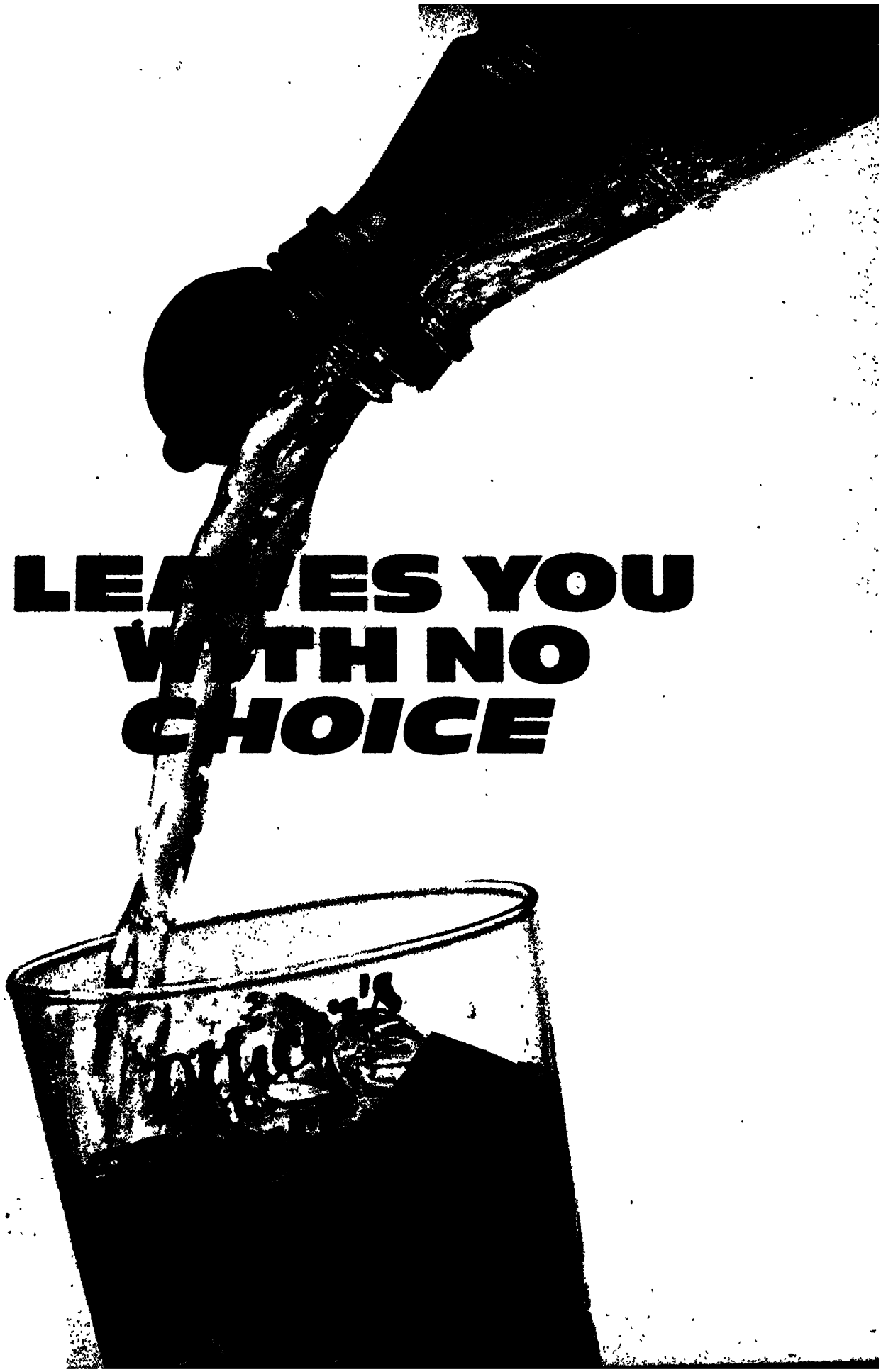


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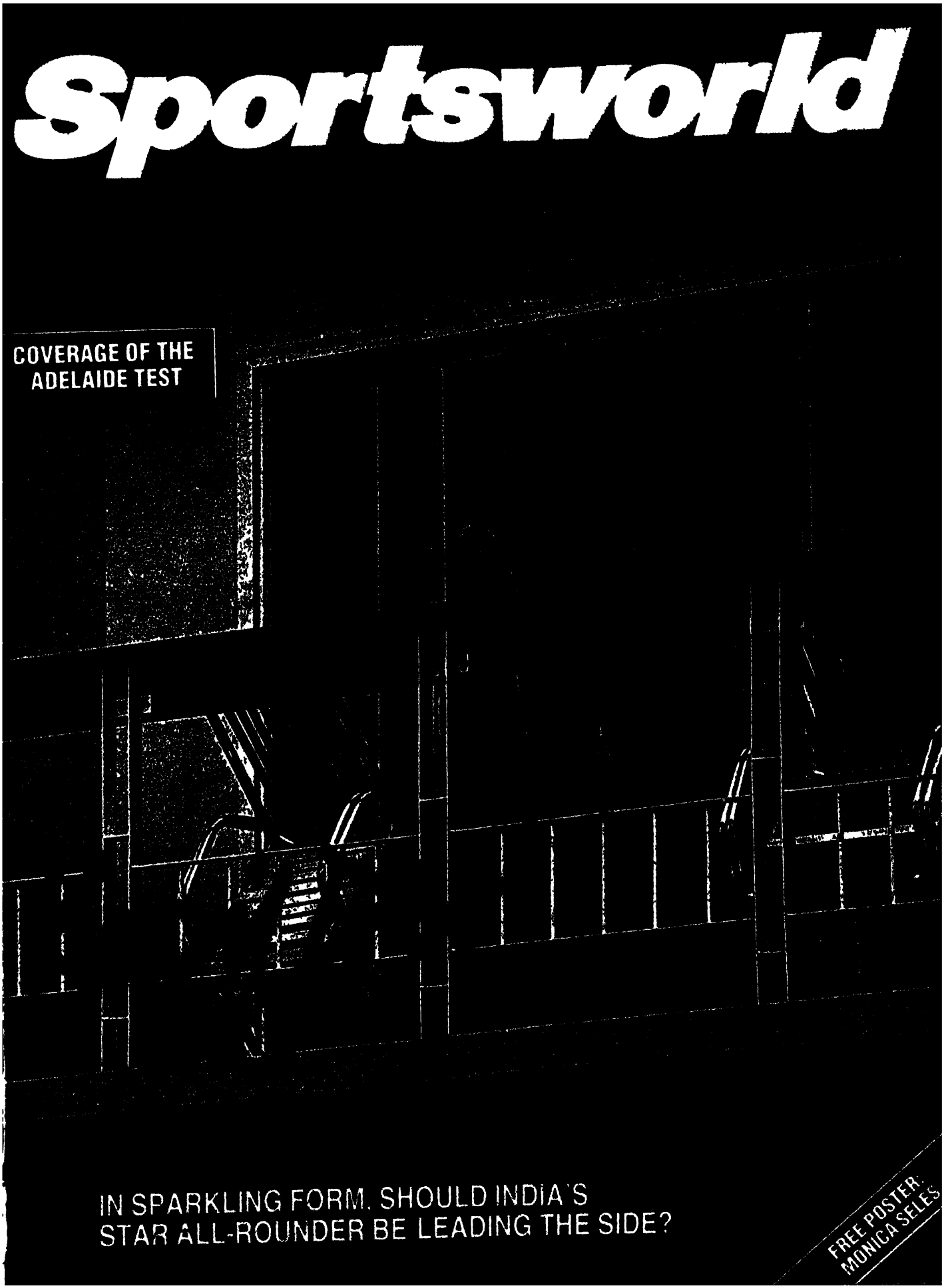


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Sportsworld



COVERAGE OF THE ADELAIDE TEST

IN SPARKLING FORM, SHOULD INDIA'S STAR ALL-ROUNDER BE LEADING THE SIDE?

FREE POSTER: MONICA SELES

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Voices

I've always said that football is not the most important thing in the world, wonderful though the game has been for me. You would have to be very insular not to realise that unpleasant things happen and that one day they might happen to you.
GARY LINEKER the superstar is very much a realist. Here he takes a philosophical look at his son's tryst with leukemia.



A sissy's game, I wouldn't have wasted too much time on it. Every captain would have asked me to put down on my pace and concentrate on line and length. I never did enjoy that kind of bowling.
This is how the once-fiery JEFF THOMPSON sums up one-day cricket.



PURPOSEFUL has never been one earmark that has been used to describe the Indian cricket team. Their tour has been anything but. The way they go about their practice and matches, it seems they are just going through the motions.
SUNIL GAVASKAR is not one to be impressed with the performance of the Indian team. Quite frankly, But then who is?

THE whole thing seems to me, through the press that I would love to play. We both grunt so it will be a high-level sound match. It would have to be a normal match, none of this one serve business for Jimmy, he handicaps. Such a match would be great for tennis. And it would definitely be for cameo part.
MONICA SELES when asked if she would play against Jimmy Connors in a battle of the sexes, a la Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King.

IT'S a big motivation to try to play better than them. I get a kick out of it. And I'll tell you this: if they want to take any points off me, then they have to be bloody good.
GRAHAM GOOCH now in the twilight of his career in which very little has gone right for him, is not going to give up his place without a fight.

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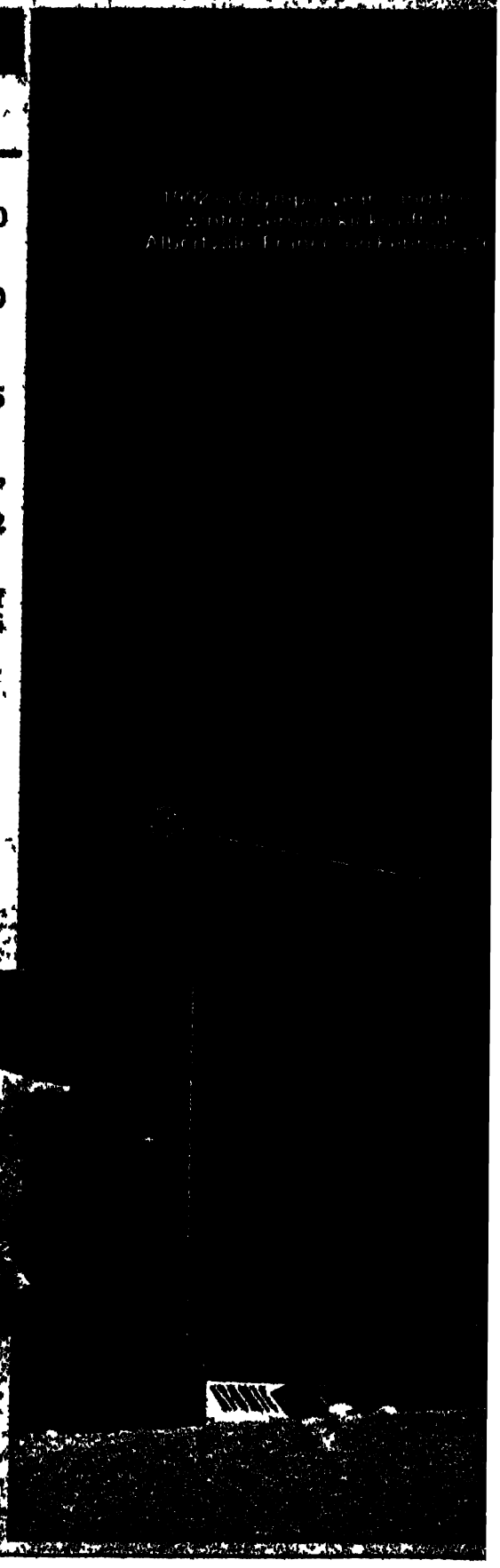
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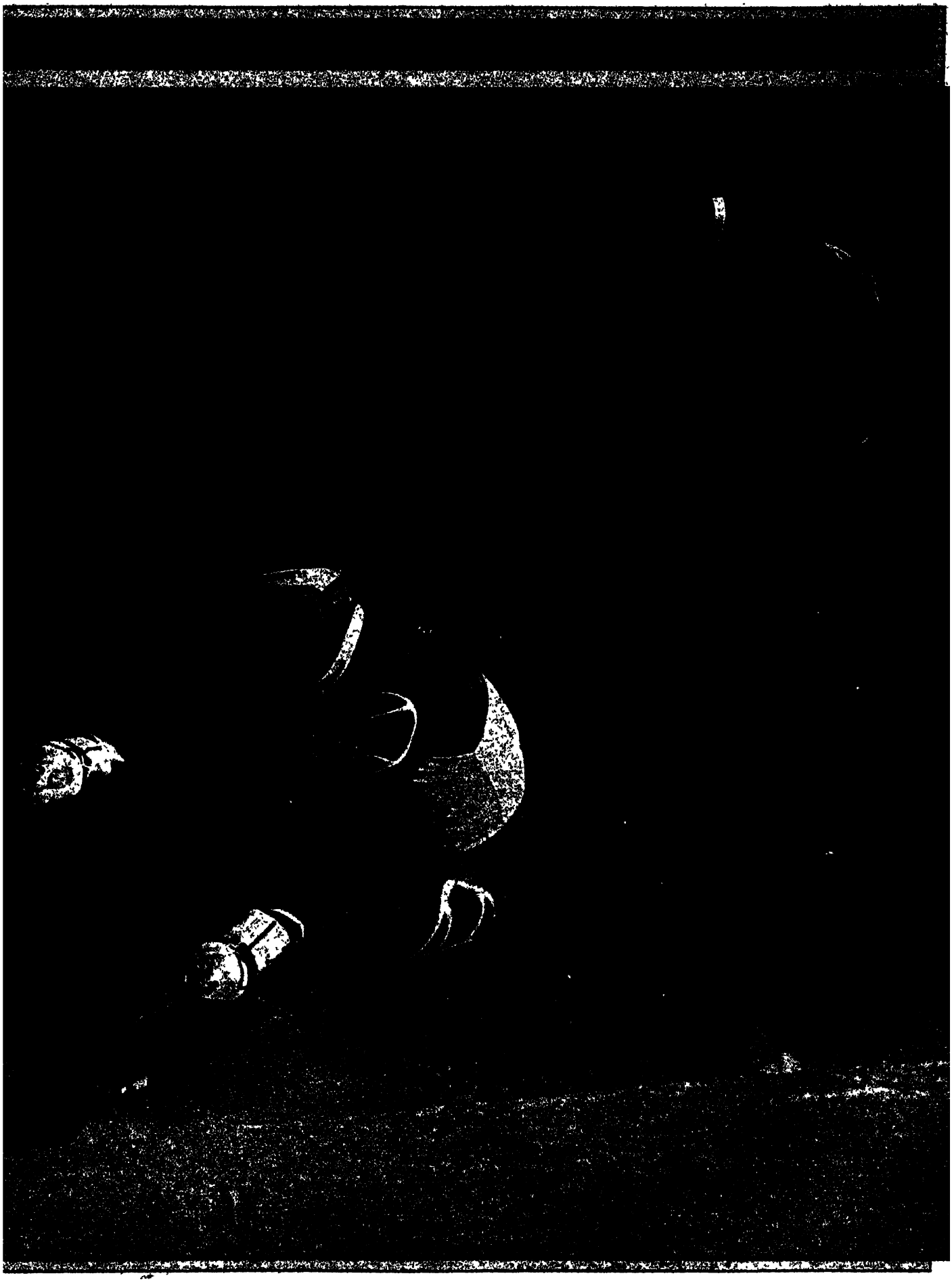
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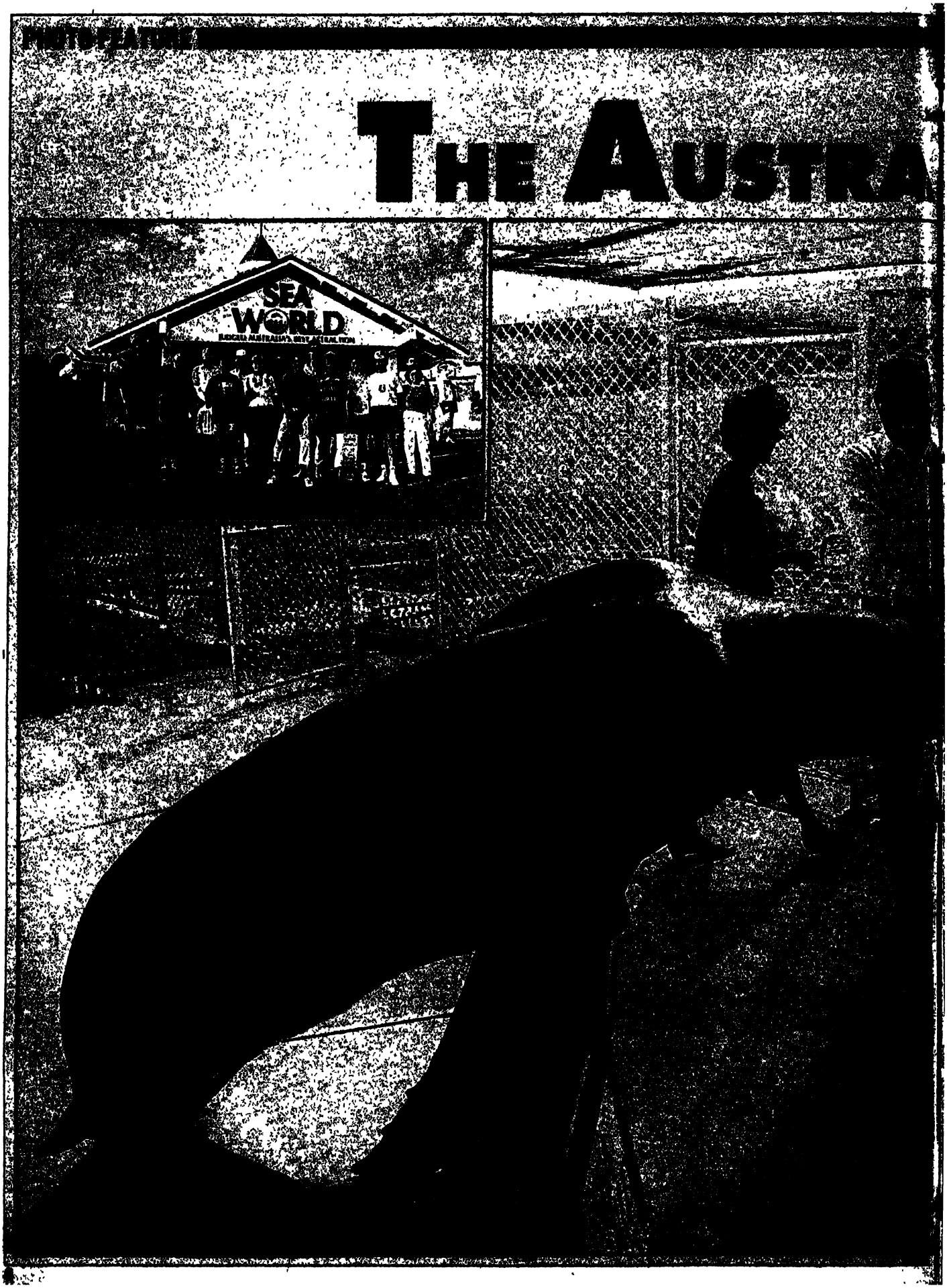
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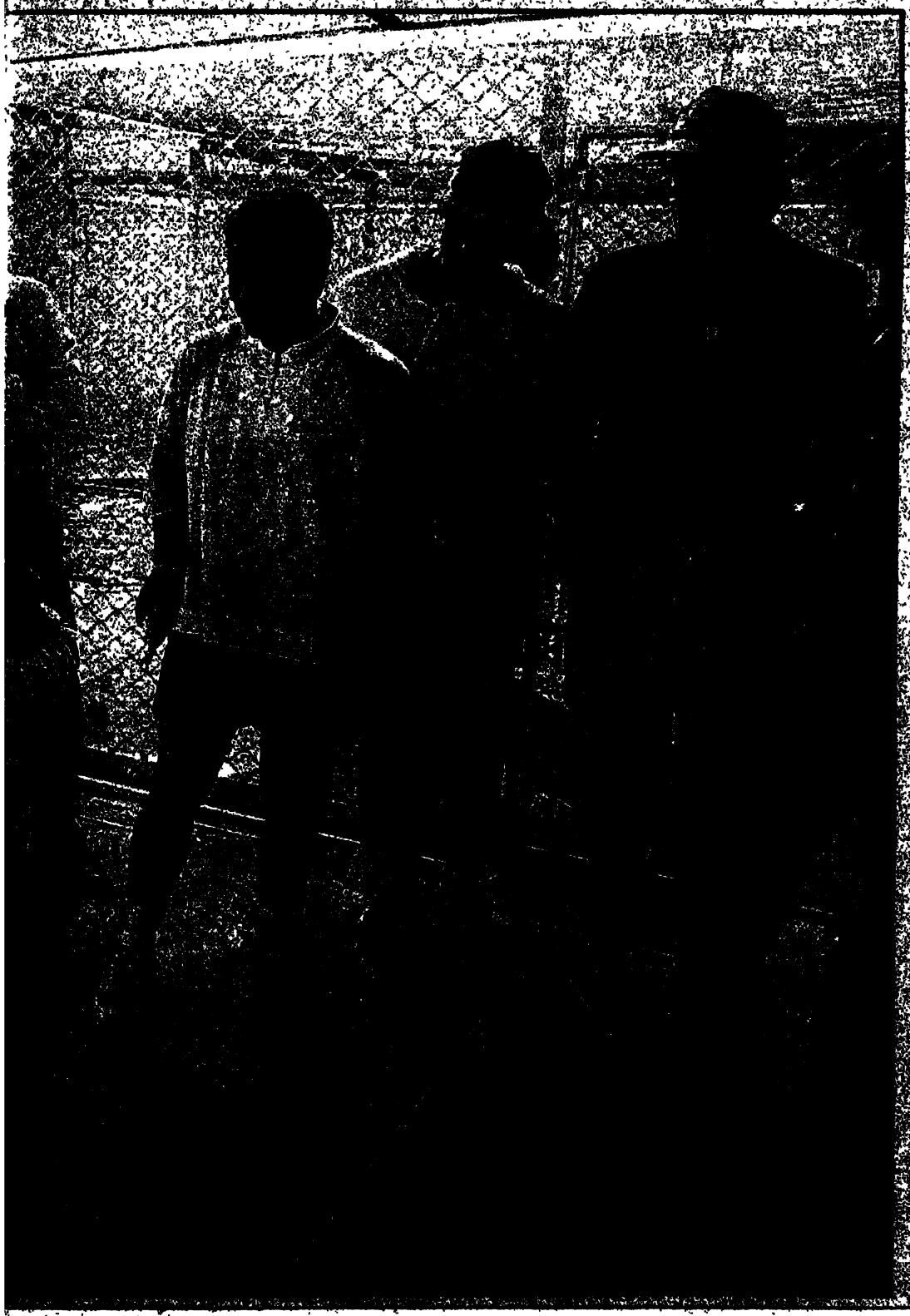




The Austra

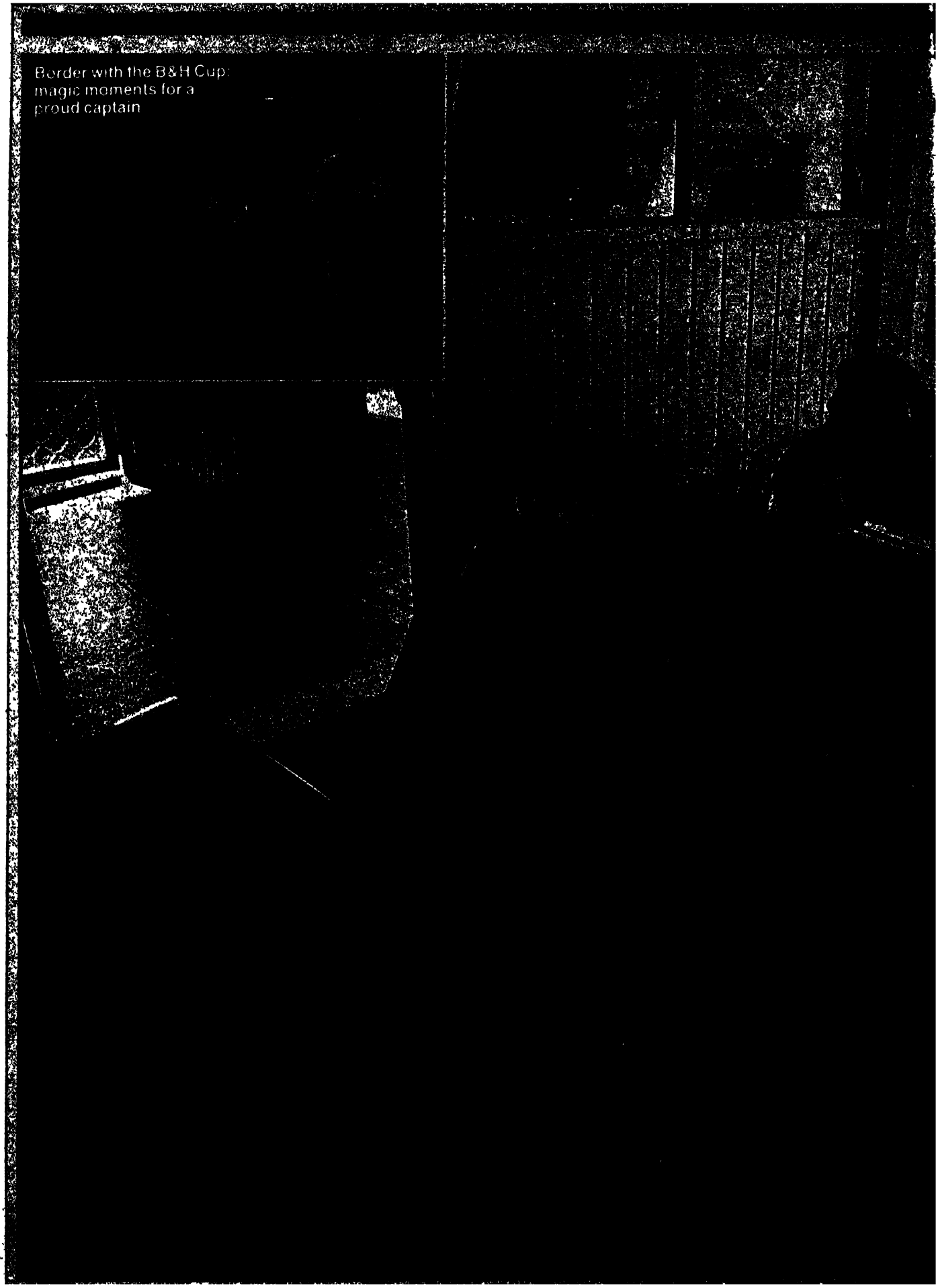


IAN ALBUM



To ease the pressures of a tormenting tour, the Indian cricketers go sightseeing to some of the continent's most popular tourist spots...





Border with the B&H Cup: magic moments for a proud captain



ANDY O'BRIEN spoke to a lot of people—including Kapil himself—about the resurgence of this gritty all-rounder. Is he the right man to lead the Indian cricket team? Rod Marsh wants him for Prime Minister!

ADELAIDE is considered the mini Las Vegas of Australia. If you've been to this city and haven't visited the casino by the side of the railway station then you haven't been to Adelaide. During the fourth Test match you could have laid a small wager that one lady by the name of Pammy Gavaskar would be at one of the various tables trying her luck. And if you were really the betting kind you could roll your money onto one Kapil Dev being there every evening.

Not that either Kapil or Mrs Gavaskar are gamblers. They both happen to be great fun loving and spontaneous people. In fact Kapil Dev is a natural. Even blackjack comes naturally to him. And winning even more naturally though here it meant merely making enough at the casino to take care of the laundry and other incidental expenses.

To Kapil Dev everything is natural while mere mortals strive everything seems to come naturally to Kapil cricket winning strength luck. Everything. This tour of Australia has seen a new Kapil. To those who had all but written this big hearted bowler off it is a comeback. To Kapil it is a natural (that word again) extension of my career.

There were many who doubted whether Kapil would have crossed the 400 mark by the end of this five Test series but here he was at Perth on the threshold of a major milestone. And yet Kapil wasn't jumping with joy. It's still a long way to go. Was he referring to Hadlee's 431 wicket record? After all the 400 mark was just three wickets away!

Three wickets. Yes that's a long way. Each wicket is a long way. Simple straightforward logic. That's Kapil Dev.

So how long then is 21 wickets the number Kapil has taken (averaging 23.52) till the start of the fifth Test. Now what odds would those who said he was jaded and finished given for that? I'm used to those kinds of things says Kapil when reminded of the Kapil knockers back home.

Tell someone here in Australia that Kapil was regarded as finished a few months ago and he'll tell you that you don't know the off side from the leg side on a cricket field. For in Australia Kapil Dev has graduated from being a mere mortal. I know for a fact says Mark Ray cricket correspondent of *The Sunday Age* and a former first class cricketer himself that the Aussie team rates him very very high. I was talking to Marsh and Boon the other day and they were telling me how tight the Indian bowling has been. And then Marsh turned to Boon and said and I'm not that bugger Kapil Dev whole ******ing day he bowls one ball to me that can be hit and I hit it and get out! I mean that's the kind of regard they have for Kapil.

Yes it seems that Kapil Dev like wine gets better with age.

But Kapil laughs at that comparison. The performance speaks for itself he says in his peculiar way. Oh yes you definitely get better with age but

KAPIL'S SCORES IN THE 1991-'92 WSC SERIES

Matches	Innings	Total	Highest score
10	10	151	39

KAPIL'S BOWLING FIGURES IN THE WSC SERIES 1991-'92

Matches	Overs	Runs	Maidens	Wickets
10	88	265	16	9

KAPIL'S SCORES IN THE 1991-'92 TEST SERIES AGAINST AUSTRALIA

Tests	Innings	Total	Highest score
4	7	161	56

KAPIL'S BOWLING FIGURES IN THE TEST SERIES

Tests	Overs	Runs	Maidens	Wickets
4	221	494	56	21

that's provided you are fit. With age your mind gets better and if your body is fit enough to do what your mind says, then the result is better", is Kapil's logical way of looking at it. Kapil sure is fit and takes great pride in his record of never having missed a Test match for lack of fitness.

What apart from fitness has Kept Kapil Dev ticking...and improving and performing?

"Great bowlers have the heart the size commonly found in buffaloes and Kapil is one outstanding example," says Peter Roebuck. "It gives them courage to raise their game when they meet a celebrated opponent. And Kapil's courage puts him in the giant class," says Roebuck.

Yes, there is this complaint that the real Kapil Dev only surfaces when the competition is at it's best.

Many feel that Kapil's career-tally should have been much higher; that he always seemed to try his best against the top order batsmen but tended to relax when it came to the tail-enders. Kapil doesn't agree fully with that but he does admit that he "goes for the bigger challenges. I always fight harder then. When it is easy, I find it difficult to motivate myself".



PATRICK EAGAR

Consistency has been the trademark of Kapil's batting through the years



"If we keep going to the captain and telling him, it doesn't look too good. Also, how then, will the captain learn himself?"—Kapil

"When you consider that Kapil has played 70 of his 114 Tests in India (55) and Pakistan (15) on pitches unsympathetic to pace bowlers", says Rod Marsh, "you can appreciate how hard he has had to work for his rewards. And, at 33, Kapil is probably bowling better than at any stage of his magnificent career. Kapil Dev for Prime Minister!"

Most experts feel that it is the reemergence of the deadly outswinger that has brought about the revival of Kapil Dev. For two years Kapil seemed to have a mental block that made him reluctant to use that ball. Kapil blames oneday cricket for it. "Now I'm not concerned if I concede a few wide balls. It doesn't worry me, so long as I can keep moving the ball."

Kapil admits the fact that the Indian bowling is now set—"we have a set of bowlers"—he knows roughly how many overs he is to bowl. In short, that he is now more of a strike bowler than the stock bowler he was made to be during the leaner years of Indian bowling. Yet reputed cricket writer Ted Corbett still believes that "Kapil does it all alone. The others pick up the wickets but the serious damage is done by Kapil," he says.

What ambitions does Kapil have left? 431 wickets obviously. But any other, like captaining India again?

With Azhar's position hanging in the balance and Shastri injured, Kapil's name comes to the forefront as possible captain if Azharuddin was deposed. In fact, with Shastri back home, the management did not name a vice-captain for the remainder of the tour. Maybe it was too delicate a point. But it was Kapil who led when Azhar was off the field.

No doubt Kapil is greatly respected by every single member of the team—some say even more than Azhar is. He is *'paaji'*—the elder brother. He has the experience and also the performance to back him. But

his record as captain, unfortunately, isn't very good.

"See", he says, "I don't want to get into all this now, but every cricketer must do what is good for the team and what is good for Indian cricket. That's the way I look at it. I'll do anything that is good for Indian cricket."

And does that mean being captain once again? Kapil refuses to answer the question directly. "When you have so much experience as I now have, you tend to sense things faster than you used to. Frankly when I was captain, I was very immature but experience has taught me how to handle things much better now"

Is Kapil trying to say that he will make a better captain now than before? "It's not captaincy", he says "it's with every aspect of the game. I can handle things much better now."

There is a rumour that Kapil does have one last ambition. To captain India once again. And with no disrespect to Azhar, or anyone else, that seems to be a perfectly natural response. Many feel that Kapil does not offer his captain as much advice as he used to previously. Gavaskar says his experience is being wasted and that Kapil has remained aloof on this tour, not giving too much advice on the field. A suggestion was then made to use Kapil's experience by making him playing-manager of the team. "That's very thoughtful of Sunil. As I said I would like to help my team and country which ever way I can", says Kapil.



UTPAL SONKAR

Richard Hadlee's record of 431 Test wickets is what Kapil is now gunning for

But would he consider taking up a position like that? The concept of being a playing-manager obviously took Kapil by surprise, and he probably rang up Gavaskar immediately after our conversation. "It all depends on the administrators" he contends. "How they react to the suggestion. As I said I am ready to do anything for the sake of Indian cricket."

But wouldn't there be a problem if the captain and the manager were both playing on the field?

"Yes, I wonder how it would work out", he says. "But if it's good for the country and the team then why not? I'll give it a try. Of course the captain is everything. We can only give suggestions and ideas."

But of late it has been quite apparent that not many seniors have gone out of their way to give Azhar suggestions and ideas. Is there any difference of opinion in the team? What has kept Kapil away from lending his experience to the team "for the sake of Indian cricket" which he is so concerned about?

"If we keep going to the captain and telling him what to do, it doesn't look good, " he explains." Also, how then will the captain learn himself? People will then say that the captain is not doing his job and that the others are doing it for him".

Question is, would Kapil like to do the job that Azhar is now doing? Odds are, yes, he would.

Question is, can Indian cricket—its administrators for example—forgive and forget? After all, Azhar was made captain to teach a few guys—including Kapil—a lesson.

Question is, will the selectors decide to change the skipper? This is quite possible since indiscriminate hacking is the favourite pastime of Indian cricket selectors. Question is, will we have a new captain for India's tour to South Africa in October this year? If a change is indeed made—whether it is required or not is a different question—then who can look beyond Ravi Shastri and Kapil Dev? Only Indian selectors perhaps. Unfortunately they are the people whose opinions count. ●

Allan Border cannot hide his admiration as he confronts the man who on many occasions sounded the death knell of Australia's batting

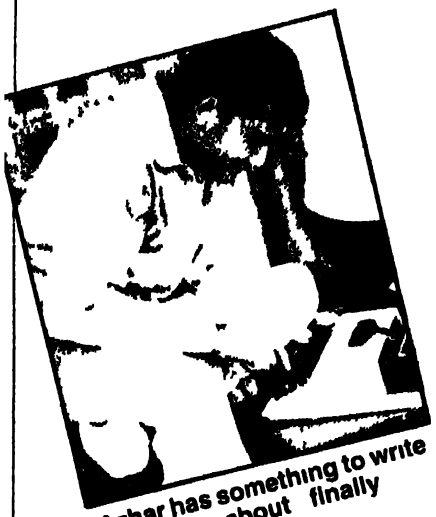


PRADEEP MANDHANI

FOURTH TEST, ADELAIDE

Those 39 R

Just thirty-nine runs separated India from what would have been a remarkable Test victory, but instead India faltered briefly and Australia won the Test to wrap up the series 3-0. Nothing, writes ANDY O'BRIEN, seems to ever go right for India these days



Azhar has something to write home about finally



A 10-wicket haul was ample reward for McDermott's accuracy

SIR DONALD BRADMAN was shocked. It was only the second day of the Test match when someone interrupted his weekend golf session to tell him that the fourth Test at the Adelaide Oval a few kilometres away had already entered its third innings. The Oval wicket, the grand old lady of Adelaide, had suddenly decided to throw all her customary dignity to the cool summer wind and take to the streets like the go go girls down the city's notorious Hindley street.

Age had taken the bounce out of her and over the last six seasons she had not produced a single result. But it seemed that groundsman Les Burdett had done a decent face lift which had provided her the courage to go wild over the long Australia day weekend which coincided with the opening two days of the match. There was great debate over whether the curator (Gavaskar tells us that's the English for our *mali*) had in fact gone overboard while trying to get the old lady to forget her sedate days of the past six years.

The Australian batsmen suffering from a hangover of excessive slam bang cricket success in it and the resulting champagne seemed hell bent on countering the famous classic catches contest with their own version of the worst dismissals contest. In the course of the competition they managed to score 145 runs in their first innings. Skipper Allan Border, who only the previous day had warned his team against a suicidal attitude, saying it would be stupid for his team to go into the match less than 100 per cent, would probably have won that contest hands down. Like the Pied Piper he gave his other batsmen the lead to jump over the precipice. It obviously wasn't.

uns



THE UMPIRING

Genuine mistakes or bias?

LOCAL residents refer to Adelaide as "the 20-minute city," because that's the time it takes to cross th entire length and breadth of this over-grown town." And that seems to be the time it took at the Adelaide Oval for things to turn topsy-turvy during the fourth Test. A spectator who ventured out to sample the Indian fast food available at the stalls—with curious names like Curry in a Hurry and Tandoori Trailer—would have been shocked at the way the game had swung since he left his seat.

Indian manager Ranbir Singh had promised to jump into the Torrence river (a la Jim Courier at the Australian Open) if India won. But eventually he didn't have to bring out his swimming trunks. However both he and the cricketing manager had to bring out all the diplomacy and tact they had to handle what seemed to be the highlight of the match: umpiring.

Many decisions bordered between 'genuine mistakes' and bias. In spite of the conduct code that debars teams from criticising umpires in the press, the normally diplomatic Abbas Ali Baig couldn't help saying that he felt there were two sets of rules out there in the middle. "Some interpretations of the rules were not as we know it," he said, "some of the 'lbw's, we wonder if they would have been interpreted the same way had Boon or Border been on the receiving end! Maybe we have not been given the same interpretation of the rules, which maybe the umpires and the Aussies have got,' he said sarcastically.

If Baig was livid, so was the rest of the team. An autograph hunter was told by Kapil Dev, in his polite manner, to "go to the umpire and take his autograph. He was the man of the match."

Needless to say, the following day had the Australian press full of how the Indians are big 'cribbers'. "Had the Indians concentrated more on their batting, bowling and fielding, rather than spend all their energy appealing and criticising the umpiring, they would not have been in a position where they would have found it necessary to criticise the umpiring,' said the front page of *The Australian*.

But there were those among the Australians, especially people like Ian Chappell and Rod Marsh who came down hard on the umpiring. "It's an absolute joke," said Ian Chappell. "I mean, I could do a better job out there. If Vengsarkar or Tendulkar were out, (second innings of the Adelaide Test), then I'm a Dutchman."

Rod Marsh added: "If you don't know what a wide ball is, or what the no ball rule is; and you are not very sure about the lbw rule; and you have problems counting to six, then please send in your name to the Australian Cricket Board. You might just be asked to umpire the next cricket match."

The different application and interpretation of rules under similar circumstances was just one of the things that showed up the competence—if not the honesty—of the umpires. At least, three of the eight lbw decisions that went against the Indians at the Adelaide Test and at least three that went in favour of the Aussie batsmen, were questionable.

These decisions tested the already strained relations between Australian umpires and the tourists. The presence of multi-angled slow motion replays have only made matters worse for the umpires. "With pressure, even umpires can lose their nerves," said veteran cricket writer, John Woodcock, who was at the Adelaide Test. No wonder, during the morning session of the final day at Adelaide, umpire Hair called two five ball overs!

The point is: had all these things happened in the subcontinent, everyone would have cried blue murder. Yet here they are referred to as 'genuine mistakes.' But Peter Roebuck was right when he said, "Never again, I dare say, will they (in India and Pakistan) care to hear a visitor grizzling about subcontinent umpires."

When Don Bradman gave Indian manager Abbas Ali Baig and Sunil Gavaskar some advice for the Indian team, during a dinner at his Adelaide home, maybe the great batsman should have added, "and get your own umpires the next time."

Oh, and by the way, Ian Chappell is still Australian.

Andy O'Brien

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Border's day as he gave the lead in pressing the self destruct button, not being able to practise what he preached.

The grand old lady in her fiftieth Test match continued her wayward ways when the Indian batting, attempting to wash away the sins of the past, found themselves at the sacrificial altar once again at six for 70 and on their knees. Salvation arrived, yet again, in the form of Kapil Dev and his angels. And this mind you was not their first or second coming. It has become a regular ritual where the Indian tail, having done their duty as bowlers, are called upon to be the saviour of India's batting.

Apart from one innings in the Sydney Test—where the now injured Shastri and the now almost heaven-sent Sachin Tendulkar—added some respectibility, every Indian Test innings in this series has been propped up by the 'non-batsmen' On all the occasions the last few wickets have scored twice the number of runs than the top order batting has done. At Brisbane after being six for 83 in the first, India finished at 239 all out. In the second knock they recovered from 47 for five to 156 all out In Melbourne it was 109 for six to 263 all out and 79 for five to 213 all out.

So it was no real mega surprise when in the Adelaide first innings, the last four wickets managed 155 runs more than their seven illustrious colleagues who had preceded them to the wicket.

Eighty behind and jolted back to earth, Australia soon found out more about life on the ground, when still short of the then Indian first innings total, opener Geoff Marsh was dismissed playing on again. Further embarrassment would have taken place that Sunday evening, but the old lady's modesty was honourably protected by two very upright gentlemen, Messrs Peter McConnaly and Darrell Hair.

Don Bradman couldn't take it any longer. He had to look up the old lady; setting his golf clubs

SCORECARD

RESULT: AUSTRALIA WON BY 38 RUNS
AUSTRALIA LEAD THE FIVE-TEST SERIES 3-0

AUSTRALIA (1st innings)		Second innings	
Geoff Marsh b Prabhakar	8	b Kapil	5
Mark Taylor b Tendulkar	11	c Raju b Kapil	100
David Boon b Kapil Dev	19	run out	135
Allan Border c Pandit b Tendulkar	0	not out	91
Dean Jones c Azharuddin b Raju	41	c Pandit b Kapil	0
Mark Waugh lbw b Prabhakar	15	c Tendulkar b Kapil	0
Ian Healy c Pandit b Kapil Dev	1	c Srikkanth b Kapil	41
Merv Hughes c Manjrekar b Kapil Dev	28	lbw Srinath	23
Shane Warne st Pandit b Raju	7	c Pandit b Srinath	0
Craig McDermott b Raju	0	b Raju	21
Michael Whitney not out	0	c Srinath b Raju	12
Extras (10 lb, 7 nb)	17	(lb-15, nb-8)	23
TOTAL	148		461
Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-36, 3-39, 4-50, 5-77, 6-81, 7-117, 8-141, 9-145, 10-145		Fall of Wickets: 1-10, 2-231, 3-277, 4-277, 5-277, 6-348, 7-383, 8-383, 9-409	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 23-11-33-3; Manoj Prabhakar 18-3-55-2, J Srinath 10-2-26-0, Tendulkar 4-2-10-2, Venkatapathy Raju 11.4-7-11-3		Bowling: Kapil 51-12-130-5; Prabhakar 21-5-60-0, Raju 56-15-121-2, Srinath 37-13-76-2; Srikkanth 1-0-5-0, Tendulkar 20-5-44-0	

INDIA (1st innings)		Second innings	
K. Srikkanth c Healy b McDermott	17	b McDermott	22
N.S. Sidhu c Healy b Hughes	27	lbw b Hughes	35
S.V. Manjrekar lbw b Hughes	2	run out	45
D.B. Vengsarkar c Waugh b McDermott	13	lbw b Hughes	4
M.A. Azharuddin lbw b McDermott	1	c Taylor b McDermott	106
S.R. Tendulkar lbw b McDermott	6	lbw b Waugh	17
Kapil Dev c Border b Hughes	56	c Marsh b Hughes	5
M. Prabhakar lbw b Whitney	33	lbw McDermott	64
C.S. Pandit c Boon b McDermott	15	c Waugh b McDermott	7
V. Raju not out	19	not out	8
J. Srinath c Healy b Whitney	21	c Warne b McDermott	3
Extras: (lb-5, nb-10)	15	(lb-9, nb-5, b-3)	17
TOTAL	225		333
Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-33, 3-55, 4-64, 5-70, 6-70, 7-135, 8-174, 9-192		Fall of wickets: 1-52, 2-72, 3-97, 4-102, 5-172, 6-182, 7-283, 8-291 9-327	
Bowling: McDermott 31-9-76-5, Whitney 26 2-6-68-2, Hughes 18-5-56-3, Warne 7-1-18-0, Waugh 2-1-3-0		Bowling: McDermott 29 1-8-92-5, Whitney 17-3-59-0, Hughes 23 5-66-3, Waugh 12-2-36-1, Warne 16-1-60-0, Border 3-0-8-0	



Taylor's century somewhat compensated for his slipshod catching in the slips

aside, he paid a visit on the third morning, influencing the old lady to take control of herself and go back to the good old days when life was far more sedate. Seeing the grand old man, she buttoned up her blouse, wiped off that loud make up, powdered her nose, brushed down her wild hair and after coughing into her dainty hanky, announced that the hectic weekend was a thing of the past. The binge was over. It was Australia Day and time for being patriotic. To compensate for her indulgences over the weekend she—with occasional help from those two honourable gentlemen—gifted the nation's cricket team 451 runs.

In return for an involuntary tan under the South Australian sun, Taylor and Boon scored centuries and Border fell nine short of that landmark. At least sanity had returned to the old lady. But would she remain in her senses over the next two days?

Kapil Dev threatened to turn her back onto Hindley Street, by following up a strange David Boon run out with two quick wickets. The younger Waugh failed to make his mark and Jones followed in the space of three balls. And then on the last day the Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin turned the form book and the match on its head, when chasing 372 runs for a win he played what Allan Border called 'a sensational innings by any standards.'

India, much like the old lady during her hectic Australia Day weekend, were refusing to lie down

On the last day Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin turned the match on its head, playing what Allan Border called, 'a sensational innings by any standards'

AUSTRALIAN DIARY

TROU

Cricket in Australia—both international and domestic—has seen a fair share of controversy

WITH Australian cricket more robust and stable than it has been since the Packer schism of the late 1970s, it would be nice to be able to lean back in our seats in the sun and soak in the good times this summer.

Cricket is meant to be that sort of game. Or it was. Instead of gentle reflection on the state of play, cricket here is immersed in controversy that includes bitter public complaints from the touring Indians about umpiring standards, soccer-style crowd trouble highlighted by the throwing of golf balls with darts or tacks protruding from them onto the ground during a one-day international at the MCG, a successful Supreme Court challenge to the Sheffield Shield player-transfer rules, and heated debate over manufactured results in the Shield competition.

Starting from the top of the hot issues, the umpiring row burst forth during the second Test at Melbourne when Dean Jones appeared to handle the ball as it fell towards wicketkeeper Kiran More.

Jones had gone down the pitch to leftarm spinner Venkatapathy Raju, and the ball momentarily became lodged between his hand and right thigh. As it fell to the ground, Jones, with his back to bowler's-end umpire Len King, slapped the ball away from More.

Jones claimed later the ball was dead because it had lodged between his hand and leg: More, whose appeal was turned down, said it was definitely out; and at the end of the day's play, the Indian manager, Ranbir Singh Mahendra took the extraordinary step of publicly lambasting King in the middle of a match.

'He obviously does not know the rules well,' Mahendra said. 'It was clear to everyone but the umpire that Jones was out for handling the ball and obstructing the fielder. Yet he remained unmoved which is shocking. I am going to complain to the Australian Cricket Board about King and we don't want him to stand in any more Tests.'

Complain he did, in a strong letter to ACB chief executive David Richards. But while the Indians were adamant Jones was out, what they didn't take into account was the fact that King appeared to be unsighted and therefore was correct to give the batsman the benefit of the doubt. The ACB rightly was far more concerned about the way the Indian manager handled the matter than what Jones did or did not handle. And Richards made this point, in what was believed to have been a lively exchange of views, behind closed doors the day after Mahendra's outburst.

The crowd had been on its best behaviour after some very ugly incidents in the day/night match between Australia and West Indies which attracted 59,426. It was a very special occasion for Melbourne—the new Great Southern Stand was open for the first time—but it was spoiled by the ugly minority which is drawn to this brand of cricket like a moth to a light-bulb.

Melbourne Cricket Club officials received complaints that patrons were vomited and spat upon and physically and verbally abused throughout the night. Even though many arrests were made, police simply were unable to cope with the widespread misbehaviour.

MCC, suitably aghast at the extent of the trouble, launched a crackdown on all patrons, including members, in time for the

BLED TIMES!

Test match. But the standards appeared to go just a little overboard. One 77-year-old member was rather taken aback when he was ordered to straighten the knot in his tie upon entering the Long Room.

Out on the field the players generally have been better behaved than usual. The ICC referee, Mike Smith, so far has not had cause to invoke his newly instituted powers, although there have been a couple of incidents that he may well have examined very closely. They have been the exception, though, in a series which has been played generally in a friendlier spirit than the recent acrimonious Australian tour of West Indies.

Not so cordial were relations between the NSW captain Geoff Lawson and Queensland's coach Jeff Thomson. The two former Australian team-mates had a lively verbal exchange in the media after Lawson declared the NSW first innings at 0 for 0 in an attempt to get a result in a rain delayed match against Tasmania.

The innings forfeit came after Tasmania's stand-in captain David Gilbert, a former NSW team-mate of Lawson's declared his team's first innings at 144 for 7.

When news of Lawson's decision reached Thomson at the Queensland-Victoria match at the Gabba he could not contain himself. 'It's a fixed result if you ask me,' he said. 'It's an absolute bloody farce if they (NSW) are allowed to get away with that sort of thing. Over the years Queensland have had plenty of games disrupted by rain at the Gabba and you just accepted you were playing for first-innings points. If it sounds like someone squealing who has never won the Sheffield Shield before, you are dead right, because we'd never come at the caper they're pulling in Sydney. Every other State should protest and they should take the points off both sides.' Well, Thommo's rage no doubt turned into glee a day later when NSW, set 281 to win on a Sydney pitch that has much more grass these days, folded for just 212 to give Tasmania their first outright win of the season.

The issue raged on for a few more days in the media with experts from all over the country having a say. In some quarters it was viewed as a perfectly reasonable tactic to inject life into a dead game. But others, like Australian coach Bob Simpson, believe any move towards contrived results is not good for the game.

Describing it as the 'English ailment', Simpson said that during his two years as coach at Leicestershire 90% of results were manufactured. 'I don't think it's healthy for the game. After having seen it happen in England, I think it's very, very bad for cricket,' he said. 'English cricket has been badly affected by contrived finishes. Bowlers have not learnt their trade and batsmen too often have found making runs too easy. It really makes a mockery of trying to gain a result. The big danger is that bowlers come to understand that, and the captains then very quickly go on the defensive.'

NSW captain; Geoff Lawson. Now facing a lot of criticism from Jeff Thompson



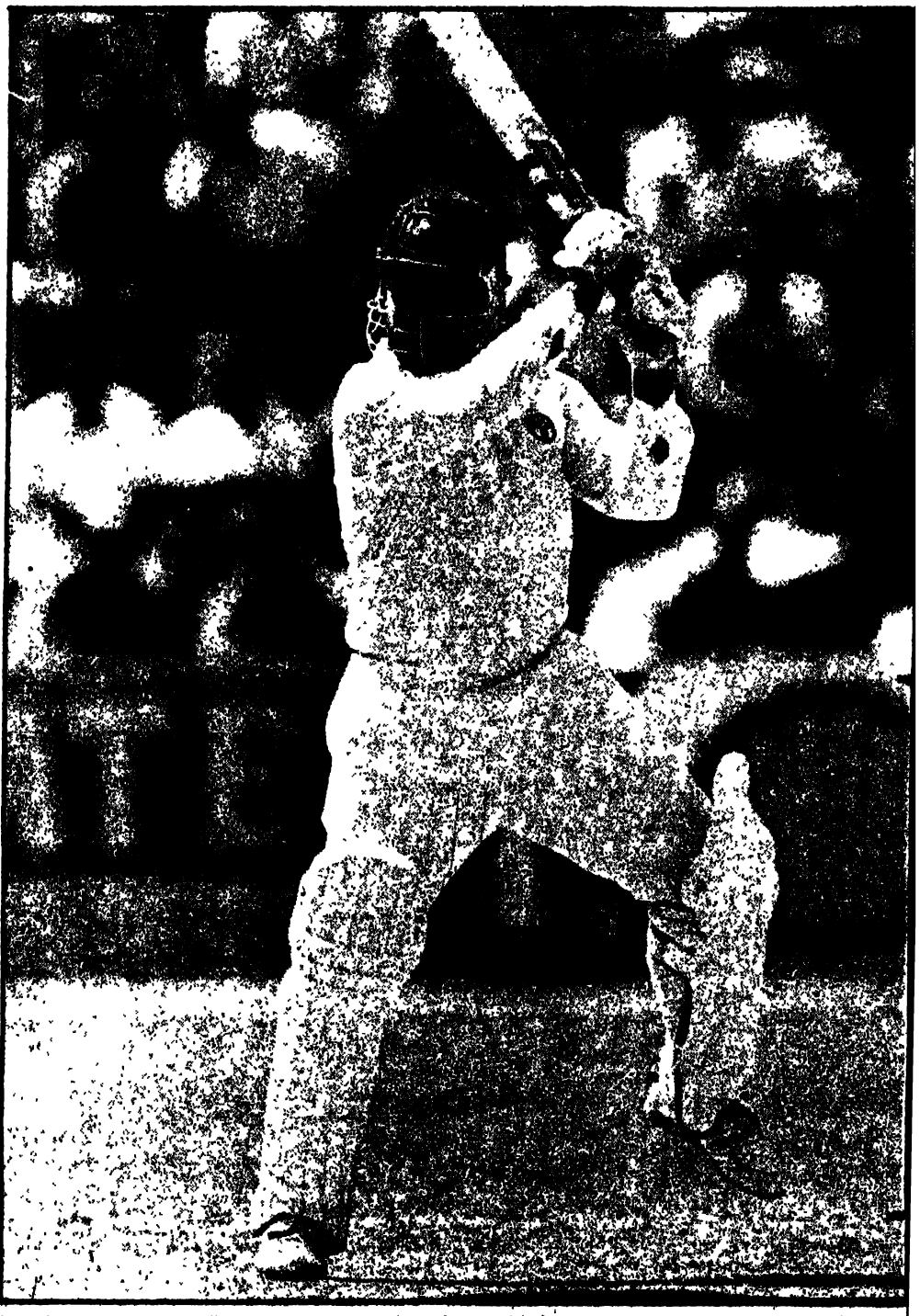


Kapil topscored in the Indian first innings and took eight wickets

till one Craig McDermott brought matters into proper perspective with four wickets off a 34 delivery new ball spell. With 39 runs required off seven overs for an Indian win (or as the pessimist would put it, seven overs to play out a draw) McDermott gave those who were returning home from work but had decided to take advantage of the open gates at the Oval just what they had come to the ground for. An Australian victory—by 38 runs. It was time for another fireworks show like the one on Australia Day. Australia had won the series 3-0 but as Allan Border put it, the result of the series is too flattering.

Nevertheless Sir Donald Bradman was happy. The grand old lady had provided great entertainment—and an Australian win—without any real damage to her reputation ●

DAVID BOON THE TAS



PATRICK EAGAR

THERE was a time when David Boon's major claim to fame was that he had broken Rod Marsh's longstanding beer drinking record while travelling for his first Ashes tour. There was also a time when Boon could have crossed you on the road, and you wouldn't even think he could ever hold a bat, leave alone be a successful Test cricketer.

But those times have long been forgotten. Boon today is a few kilogrames lighter, a very successful batsman, recognised by many as the professionals' professional.

Today, while stalwarts like Mark Taylor, Marsh and others linger on the fringe of selection for the Australian one-day and Test teams, in the midst of constant criticism, Boon is a regular in both teams; an absolute unanimous choice, whether you come from his native Tasmania or from the uninhabited outbacks of Western Australia.

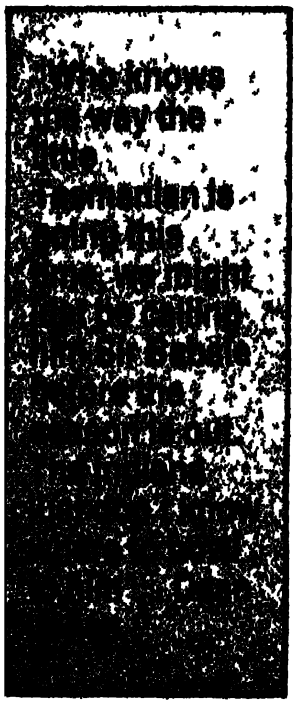
The chunky right hand batsman says he began the season with a goal to improve his one day international record after a disappointing 1991, while at the same time to maintain the high standards he sets himself in the Test arena.

"And so far so good," he admits.

Boon managed just 237 runs at 19.75 in 13 one-day internationals in Australia

MANIAN DEVIL

In Australia's strident march from success to success the most valuable contribution has been made by the unassuming David Boon



and West Indies last year and he was far from satisfied with the tally His efforts in the world series this year won him the Man of the Series award for the preliminary matches He had the highest aggregate among all the batsmen in the competition, amassing 432 runs in nine visits to the crease, his average being second only to Sachin Tendulkar, which for an opening batsman is a remarkable achievement

And he hasn't let his Test form slump either He aims to score somewhere near the 530 runs he mustered against England last summer and in the three Tests before the Adelaide Test he had compiled 257



"The miracle about Boon is that he has come through to this very high level from Tasmania where the cricket was pretty ordinary. Coming through that school has made him so much harder and tougher and that is the integrity of the man"...Bob Simpson

runs—an aggregate second to Ravi Shastri's—at an average of 85.9 the highest in the series till then.

Any wonder then that when he was injured prior to the start of the Adelaide Test there was serious concern in the Aussie camp. But as one journalist travelling with the Indian team said: Even if he just stands there he will pick up a fifty.

Yes, Boon is in fine fettle indeed and very much in line for the Nissan car to be awarded to the International Cricketer of the Year. The last time Boonie picked up a piece of hardware like that, the 1987-88 international cricketer of the year, he received an MBE not long after.

Who knows, says his buddy and teammate Dean Jones, the way the little Tasmanian is going this time, we might just be calling him Sir Babsie before the season is out. The Indians just don't know where to bowl to him.

But Babsie feels that the real test is still ahead, for winning the World Cup is what really matters to the pugnacious batsman.

Boon figures that he has learnt an important lesson during the past year about how to approach the opening batsmen's job.

I have tried not to be so impetuous. This year I have a different attitude because I'm not trying to hit the ball so hard or trying to get off to a flyer all the time, says Boon.

I think I did that last year and I paid the penalty. Now I just take every delivery as it comes and don't try to bat with preconceived ideas.

But Boon admits that in the one day game, with the fielders within the circle in the first 15 overs, it can be tempting to try to hit over the top. But if you think that



way, you can get preoccupied and miss out on other shots because you are waiting for the ball to land in the slot."

"I have found if you just take it easy and play naturally—defend the good balls, belt the bad ones and take singles when they are there—the runs will flow."

Boon is looking forward to the World Cup as the pinnacle of his one-day career. "I think playing in two World Cups will be great and if we happen to win it again, well, that would be something special."

Yet, Boon's scoring rate is nothing more than what the Australian coach, Bob Simpson, expects: "The great thing about him is that he is a great competitor who can change his style from Tests to one dayers by adapting so naturally," said Simpson. "The miracle about Boon," according to Simpson is that "he has come through to this very high level from Tasmania where the cricket was pretty ordinary. Coming through that school has made him so much harder and tougher and that is the integrity of the man."

Boon has worked hard on his fitness which in turn has helped him to lose some of the excess fat he had. It has also improved his concentration levels. "I was particularly pleased with my concentration when I scored the century in the third Test at Sydney, because we had to bat a long time and it wasn't easy. And one of the most exciting and gratifying one-day innings was the century in Hobart (against India in this year's WSC) in front of the Tasmanian crowd."

Boon is known for his antics in the dressing room. But there's this story of how he was fooled prior to the WSC final against India at the MCG last month. At the nets, on the day the team arrived in Melbourne, Boon went in first to bat. He lost his wicket ten times in a short spell. It was as though Australia's in-form batsman had lost his touch overnight.

His teammates showed great concern, though in private they knew that it was the deplorable nature of the WSC practice wickets that was responsible for the dismissals. When Boon finished his stint at the nets, his teammates pretended to be very glum, telling him he might have had lost his form.

Boon didn't know the joke was on him. He was terribly upset, till Allan Border walked in fuming about the bad wicket at the nets. Boon is now looking for a way to get back at his teammates.

Till then he'll just keep piling up those runs.

Andy O' Brien , Melbourne



"I have found if you just take it easy and play naturally—defend the good balls, belt the bad ones and take singles when they are there—the runs will flow". David Boon

Whose Cup Is It

Even though World Cup fever is yet to grip the average fan Down Under, the diehard and the passionate have already set almost a precondition that Australia must win the Cup to justify the staging of the tournament in a country hit by the worst recession since the 1930's. Andy O'Brien reports from Adelaide

THE Indian accent on the radio is a grossly exaggerated one. "We have Kapil Dev and Sachin Tendulkar" it says. What you are listening to is a radio commercial promoting the World Cup.

Another one is a hoarding campaign which asks, "Who will rule the world?" The picture which accompanies it depicts the captains of the participating teams, national flags in hand and one day colours on, standing on top of the globe. Needless to add the Gooch and Border look-alikes are in the foregound of the drawing. Whether the line-up of the captains is done according to their seeding in the tournament or some other non - cricketing prejudice, one doesn't know. But considering Azharuddin stands in the same row as Imran Khan it would be hard to believe that the line-up is based on the chances each team has of ruling the world'.

By the time you read this, all the nine participating teams would have arrived in this part of the world, ready to begin their warmup matches leading up to the tournament.

The Australian team will be busy with their own domestic Sheffield Shield games, and hence will not be involved in any warmup games as such. But disturbed by the fact that the Perth Test would be the last time his team played as one unit, manager Bob Simpson has insisted that the authorities organise a practice game for the team that go into the competition as the piping-hot favourites.

England and New Zealand will be contesting their Test and one-day international series right up to the World Cup.

Pakistan arrived on the last day of January, with Javed Miandad and Shoaib Mohammed not on the plane. The bookies will be readjusting the odds on the team, expected to be the toughest to beat, because of Miandad's absence. And commentators on Channel Nine and other radio networks have already begun to practise pronouncing some of the new names



Anyway?

in the Pakistan team.

With India having been here for over two months, the Indian names will not pose a similar problem, so long as they don't have to call Raju or Srikkanth by their full names. India are scheduled to fly to Melbourne the day after the end of the fifth Test at Perth and play three one-day games—against Victoria XI, the Australian county eleven and Sri Lanka—in and around Melbourne. And then go on to Adelaide to play a South Australian cricket selection in their final warmup.

As expected there is a great deal of interest in the South African presence in this tournament and it is expected that even their warmup matches will be sold out. No wonder they play their first game in Australia in Perth against Western Australia. And that will be the only day/night match, expected to be a grand financial success.

The only team that will not have a very big lead up to the world's premier cricket tournament will be the West Indies. They play just one practice match two days before the tournament gets under way. But there is renewed interest in the West Indies with the possibility of the return of one gentleman who answers to the name of Isaac Vivian Richards.

The poor performance of the team during the WSC competition in Australia earlier this summer may have upset the West Indian selectors' policy to build a new team. And with Ritchie Richardson breaking a finger just a few days before the team left to return to Australia, the selectors may be planning to postpone the dawning of the new era of West Indian cricket to after the World Cup.

AMIDST all the speculation and preparations, there really isn't much excitement about the World Cup....at least not in Australia—may be because one-day cricket is so much a part of the cricket fans' diet in Australia that the World Cup looks like just another dish on the menu. Australians are actually looking forward to the evening of March 25 when the World Cup will glitter under the lights of the MCG in Allan Border's hands.

"Anything less would be almost a catastrophe for Australia," says a local cricket writer. "If they lose apart from criticising the team you will probably have some people even questioning the usefulness of staging such a big tournament, while the people are reeling under the effects of unemployment and recession." The host country is not only keen to defend their honour.

> "Unless the authorities take control and provide protection to the genuine fans, the success of the World Cup and for that matter one-day cricket in Australia, is in danger"... Richie Benaud

they are desperate. One supposes there is great concern about crowd turnouts at non-Australian matches during the tournament. Unless there is a sizeable expatriate population how many spectators will there be at the cricket ground in Mackay when India meet Sri Lanka? On the other hand crowd-control during the games involving Australia could prove to be a headache too.

"Unless the authorities take control and provide protection to the genuine fans, the success of the World Cup—and for that matter one-day cricket in Australia—is in danger," is Richie Benaud's view.

The police in both Melbourne and Sydney where a semi final and the final of the tournament are to be held, apart from other league games, have already issued that no rowdy and drunken behaviour will be tolerated during the games.

The Australian cricket supporters—at least some of them—have this bad habit of throwing litter into the air. They even throw full glasses of beer into the air during the match. Apart from the obvious waste of good lager in the midst of the worst recession since the 1930's, this disgusting act sends many an innocent bystander back home drenched.

"Those who have experienced this will probably never return for a one day game again," laments Benaud.

Even though Benaud finds all this disgusting, one leading Melbourne paper blamed Channel Nine who shows anything unusual that happens in the game and that includes crowd behaviour. And since the spectators know they will be on TV they go out of their way to do unnatural things. The accusation led to some sledging between the television network and the newspaper.

But in reality the problem of crowd control is a vicious circle in Australia and will be an important factor during the World Cup. If you tell people to behave themselves (which translated in these parts means 'drink-less' mate) then you won't get a crowd. So I guess for the time being—at least for the World Cup—the elbow- benders brigade will be given a 'free hand' to raise their spirit, their glasses, and the gate receipts during the tournament ●

STRANGL

The decision to make the Vizzy Trophy a one-day tournament is choking the supply of talent for the Indian cricket team

IS THREE and five day cricket in our universities becoming as extinct as the dinosaur? The Rohinton Baria Trophy conducted by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has become a limited-overs tournament. Now the Vizzy Trophy, the zonal championship for universities organised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCC), is also following the instant cricket trend. The Vizzy Trophy in progress at Baroda may be the last universities' cricket championship conducted as a three/four/five day event.

At a BCCI meeting in October 1991, the Vizzy Trophy committee without serious deliberations proposed that from next year the format be changed to one-day cricket. This decision led to vehement protests from eminent cricketers Bishen Bedi, Madan Lal and Manmohan Sood. The general secretary of the DDCA and member of the BCCI's Vizzy Trophy committee, Dr. S.S. Sareen expressed dissent at the meeting. Dr. Sareen confessed that this recommendation was done in haste without proper discussion of the matter. He feels the numerous ramifications and repercussions of this decision could have a far reaching effect on Indian cricket.

What were the motivations which led to this change of format? The joint-secretary of the AIU, G.B. Sivia pointed out the basic cause for the change is that the number of universities have increased which cause organisational difficulties.

At present there are 180 universities in India and mostly all participate in major games like cricket, football and hockey. So according to Sivia, time, finance and management are major factors which led to changing the Rohinton Baria Trophy from its traditional format. Another reason is that one-day cricket is in vogue and so the AIU has followed a popular trend.

Lakhmir Singh, manager of the Delhi University cricket team considers the AIU's reasoning as frivolous and preposterous. With his years of experience he explains, "The AIU has no financial



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Bishen Singh Bedi feels this decision is going to further cut off the supply of players for the Ranji Trophy and the national team

ED

commitment in the organisation of the Rohinton Baria Trophy. Each participating university pays for the boarding of its team. The teams bring their own kit and the hosts do not even supply balls for the match. The hosts only provide lodging, invariably in the hostels for which there is no expense."

Former skipper and veteran administrator Bishen Bedi feels that universities are the supply line to the Ranji Trophy and the national team. He forcibly states that without traditional cricket at the universities, the emerging cricketers will lack the temperament and application to succeed in later years. Bedi admits that the sprouting of university teams playing cricket is an administrative problem. However, he feels that sub-zones could be created to sort this out.

Lakhmir Singh already has a formula, "The preliminary matches can be organised jointly by two or three universities near each other to save time. Then a big university which has many constituent colleges with well laid turf wickets can undertake to organise the tournament from the quarter-final onwards."

Both Lakhmir and Sareen feel that the shift to one-day cricket has already caused enough damage. Their concern is that the universities have stopped their supply of players to the national team. Sanjay Manjrekar is considered the last player to emerge after a successful stint in the Rohinton Baria/Vizzy Trophy, when it was played in its original format. Ravi Shastri succeeded in the Roginton Baria Trophy before flying straight to New Zealand in 1981 to make his debut. K. Srikkanth created a sensation in the Vizzy Trophy in 1980 striking



Sanjay Manjrekar is the last university player to make it to the Indian team

Delhi's leg spinner Mayank Mohan for several sixes. Azharuddin, Shivlal Yadav, Arshad Ayub, Ajay Sharma, Atul Wasson, Sanjeev Sharma, Raman Lamba, Arun Lal, Sunil Valson, Yograj Singh, Surinder Khanna and even Kapil Dev all made an impact in inter-varsity cricket before moving onto a higher grade. Lakhmir Singh points out that Manoj Prabhakar started cricket only at college. He may never have emerged as a classy allrounder because in the limited-overs format he would have got restricted bowling opportunities.

The astute Bedi points out that when Delhi was dominant in the Ranji Trophy in the late seventies and for most of the eighties many of their cricketers emerged after getting exposure and developing match temperament in the gruelling Rohinton Baria Trophy. Now the cupboard is dry. For the last three years Delhi University has not provided any players to the State team. Dr. Sareen feels that young cricketers all over the country are not getting the proper exposure to cricket anymore. He maintains that bowlers particularly spinners suffer in instant cricket. He insists that, "Two wrongs do not make a right. University cricket in India should not be destroyed by changing the format of Vizzy Trophy. Instead the AIU should restore the Rohinton Baria Trophy to its original format in the national interest."

Novy Kapadia, Delhi

SPORTING CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
2 Challenger Tennis Tourn. (Bangalore); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Junior Natl. Polo (Delhi); Deodhar Trophy (Calcutta); Australia vs India, 5th Test (Perth); England vs New Zealand, 2nd Test (Auckland); Davis Cup Tennis, World Group 1st Round; Fajar Iran International Badminton Open (Tehran); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).	**3** Challenger Tennis Tourn. (Bangalore); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Junior Natl. Polo (Delhi); Deodhar Trophy (Calcutta); Australia vs India, 5th Test (Perth); England vs New Zealand, 2nd Test (Auckland); Fajar Iran International Badminton Open (Tehran); San Francisco Open Tennis; Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).	**4** Federation Cup Football (Calcutta), Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Junior Natl. Polo (Delhi); Deodhar Trophy (Calcutta); Australia vs India, 5th Test (Perth); England vs New Zealand, 2nd Test (Auckland); Spanish Open Squash Chps. (Madrid); San Francisco Open Tennis; Grand Slam Billiards (Goa); Takti International Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).	**5** Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Deodhar Trophy. Final (Calcutta); Australia vs India, 5th Test (Perth); Spanish Open Squash Chps. (Madrid); Grand Slam Billiards (Goa); San Francisco Open Tennis; Takti International Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).
9 Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); 1st Masters Prize Money Table Tennis (Bharuch); New Zealand vs England, 3rd Test (Wellington); San Francisco Open Tennis; Sisal Trophy Cricket Final (Delhi); 16th Almond Blossom Cross-Country (Algarve, Portugal); Winter Olympics (Albertville)	**10** Federation Cup Football (Cal); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); 1st Masters Prize Money Table Tennis (Bharuch); New Zealand vs England, 3rd Test (Wellington), San Francisco Open Tennis; Welsh Open Snooker(Newport). Winter Olympics(Albertville)	**11** 4th National Winter Games (Nanaii, H. P.); DGST Trophy Polo (Delhi); New Zealand vs England, 3rd Test (Wellington); Welsh Open Snooker (Newport); Memphis Open Tennis (Memphis); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Senior Natl. Boxing Chps (Jamshedpur).	**12** 4th National Winter Games (Nanaii, H.P.); DGST Trophy Polo (Delhi); Welsh Open Snooker (Newport); Memphis Open Tennis (Memphis); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Rumbleows Cup, Football Semi-final (England); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football (Indore); Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madurai); Senior Natl. Boxing Chps. (Jamshedpur).
16 Ranji Trophy Pre-Quarter Finals; Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madurai); Senior National Handball (Shimoga, Karnataka); Memphis Open Tennis (Memphis); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Beach World Series, Volleyball (Brazil); Welsh Open Snooker (Newport); Thomas And Uber Cup, Badminton(Hong Kong); Senior National Boxing Chps. (Jamshedpur).	**17** Ranji Trophy Pre-Quarter Finals; Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madurai); Senior Natl. Handball (Shimoga); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Thomas And Uber Cup Badminton(Hong Kong); Beach World Series, Volleyball (Brazil); SMS Gold Vase, Polo (Delhi); Stuttgart Open Tennis; US Pro Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadelphia). Senior National Boxing Chps. (Jamshedpur) Federation Cup Football Final (Calcutta).	**18** Ranji Trophy Pre-Quarter Finals; Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madurai); Senior Natl. Handball (Shimoga); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Thomas And Uber Cup Badminton (Hong Kong); Beach World Series, Volleyball (brazil); SMS Gold Vase Polo(Delhi); Stuttgart Open Tennis; US Pro. Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadelphia).	**19** Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madurai); Senior National Handball (Shimoga); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Thomas And Uber Cup Badminton(Hong Kong); Beach World Series Volleyball (Brazil); SMS Gold Vase Polo (Delhi); Stuttgart Open Tennis; US Pro. Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadelphia).
23 World Cup Cricket, West Indies vs Pakistan (Melbourne); Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe (New Plymouth); Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Sr. Natl. Handball (Shimoga); Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Stuttgart Open; US Pro Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadelphia); Thomas And Uber Cup Badminton (Hong Kong).	**24** Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Senior National Handball (Shimoga); Grand Northern India Polo Chps. (Delhi); Rotterdam Open Tennis; Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Senior National Judo Championships (men and women) (Lucknow); Asian Boxing Chps. (Jakarta).	**25** World Cup Cricket, New Zealand vs Sri Lanka (Hamilton); Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Grand Northern India Polo Chps. (Delhi); Senior National Hockey Chps. (Bokaro); Senior National Judo Chps. (Lucknow); Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Rotterdam Open Tennis; Asian Boxing Chps. (Jakarta).	**26** World Cup Cricket, Pakistan vs Zimbabwe, England vs Australia vs South Africa (Perth); Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Grand Northern India Polo Chps. (Delhi); Senior National Hockey Chps. (Bokaro); Senior National Judo Chps. (Lucknow); Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Rotterdam Open Tennis; Asian Boxing Chps. (Jakarta).

FOR FEBRUARY '92

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Commonwealth Tennis Tourna. (Delhi); Federa. Cup Football (Calcutta); Nat. Dunlop Football (Indore); Junior National Polo Chps. (Delhi); Deodhar Trophy (Calcutta); Australia vs India, 5th Test (Perth); England vs New Zealand, 2nd Test (Auckland); Davis Cup Tennis, World Group 1st Round; Fajr Int'l Internatio-nal Badminton Open (Tehran); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).
6 Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nat Duniya Foot-ball (Indore), Spanish Open Squash Chps. (Madrid); San Francisco Open Tennis; Grand Slam Billiards (Goa); Takti Inter-national Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); England vs. New Zealand, 3rd Test (Wellington); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda).	7 Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Foot-ball (Indore); Spanish Open Squash Chps. (Madrid); San Francisco Open Tennis; Grand Slam Billiards (Goa); Takti Inter-national Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); England vs New Zealand, 3rd Test (Wellington); Vizzy Trophy Cricket (Baroda); Steel Trophy Cricket Final (Delhi)	8 Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Foot-ball (Indore); Grand Slam Billiar-ds (Goa); New Zealand vs England, 3rd Test (Wellington); Spanish Open Squash Chps. (Madrid); 1st Masters Prize Money Table Tennis Tourn. (Bharuch); San Francisco Open Tennis; Steel Trophy Cricket Final (Delhi). Winter Olympics (Albertville)
13 4th National Winter Games (Nanall, H.P.); DGST Trophy Polo (Delhi); Welsh Open Snooker (New-port); Winter Olympics (Albert-ville); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Memphis Open Ten-nis (Memphis) Nai Duniya Foot-ball (Indore); Senior National Hockey Chps. (Madural); Senior National Chps. (Jamshedpur).	14 4th National Winter Games (Nanall, H. P); DGST Trophy Polo (Delhi); Welsh Open Snooker (New-port); Winter Olympics (Albert-ville); Federation Cup Football (Calcutta); Nai Duniya Football Trophy Final (Indore); Senior Natl. Hockey (Madural); Mem-phis Open Tennis (Memphis); Senior National Boxing Chps. (Jamshedpur).	15 Ranji Trophy Pre-Quarter Finals; Senior Natl. Hockey (Madurai); DGST Trophy Polo (Delhi); Welsh Open Snooker (Newport); Mem-phis Open Tennis (Memphis); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Beach World Series, Volleyball (Brazil); Senior National Boxing Chps. (Jamshedpur).
20 Senior National Hockey Champion-ships (Madural); Senior Nation-al Handball (Shimoga); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Thomas And Uber Cup Badminton (Hong Kong); Beach World Series, Volleyball (Brazil); SMS Gold Vase Polo (Delhi); Stuttgart Open Tennis; US Pro. Indoor Tennis (Philadelphia).	21 Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Wills Masters Golf (Bombay); Senior National Hockey Champion-ship (Madural); SMS Gold Vase Polo (Delhi); Senior Natl. Hand-ball Chps. (Shimoga); Champ-ions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Winter Olympics(Albertville); Stuttgart Open Tennis; US Pro Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadel-phia); Thomas and Uber Cup Badminton (Hong Kong); Asian Boxing Chps.	22 World Cup Cricket, Eng-land vs India (Perth d/n); New Zealand vs Australia (Auckland); Wills Masters Golf (Bombay); Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Senior National Hockey Chps. Final (Madural); Senior National Handball Chps. (Shimoga); Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Winter Olympics (Albertville); Stuttgart Open; US Pro Indoor Tennis Chps. (Philadelphia).
27 World Cup Cricket: Eng-land vs West Indies (Mel-bourne), 3rd; Santosh Trophy Football (Coimbatore); Senior Natl. Handball (Shimoga); Champions Cup Hockey (Karachi); Rotterdam Open Tennis; Asian Boxing Chps. (Jakarta); Sir Pratap Singh Polo (Delhi).	28 World Cup Cricket, India vs. Sri Lanka (Mackay, Aust.); Santosh Trophy Foot-ball (Coimbatore); Senior Nation-al Handball Finals (Shimoga); Natl. Trophy Quarter-Finals; Champions Cup Hockey Final (Karachi); Rotterdam Open Tennis; Sir Pratap Singh Polo (Delhi); Asian Boxing Chps. (Jakarta).	29 World Cup Cricket, West Indies vs Zimbabwe (Brisbane); New Zealand vs South Africa (Auckland); Rotter-dam Open Tennis; Asian Box-ing Chps. (Jakarta); Ranji Tro-phy Quarter Finals; Sir Pratap Singh Polo (Delhi).

OTHER EVENTS

Olympic Qualifying Table Tennis, Asian Zone at Nigata, Japan and European Zone at Italy from Feb. 7—9.

All India Him Hockey tourn. Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, Feb. 7—14.

England vs France Football (Wembley), Republic of Ireland vs Denmark (Lansdowne Road). Feb. 19.

TELEVISION

Live telecast of India's matches in World Cup Cricket, Daily capsule programme of Highlights.

Live telecast of Final of Federation Cup Football, Calcutta, February 17.

Live telecast of final of Sr. National Hockey Chps. (Madurai), February 22.

Live telecast of finals of Nat. Handball Chps. (Shimoga), Feb. 28.

RADIO

Running commentary of India's matches in World Cup Cricket.

Running commentary in Hindi and English on national network of semis and final of Federation Cup Football.

Running commentary in Hindi and English on national network of semis and final of Senior National Hockey Championships.

Running commentary on finals of Natl. Handball Chps.

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

HYDERABAD CRICKET:

NAWABS AND

IF Athens and Sparta were the two great city-states of ancient Greece, then Hyderabad and Bombay are surely the two champion cities of Indian cricket. Far stronger in cricketing terms than the states of which they are part - Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra—they have supplied a steady stream of players for the Test team. Admittedly, they are not the only teams to play as cities in the Ranji Trophy. There is a third, Baroda, but despite the Gaekwads, father and son, J.M. Ghorpade, Kiran More, and of course the incomparable Hazare, it isn't quite in the same league. A fourth, Delhi, has been considered separately, but its rise is relatively recent—in cricketing terms it is *nouveau riche*.

The Grecian analogy can be stretched still further. Just as Athens and Sparta were split in two halves, a free born democratic portion and a slave section, respectively, so too Bombay and Hyderabad have each had two very distinct cricketing milieux. In Chapter Two, we have already noted the island city's two cricketing cultures. Similarly, it has always seemed to me that the social geography of Hyderabad is perfectly mirrored in the contrasting cricketing styles of its most famous players. The spacious palaces of the aristocratic elite have generated one cricketing ethos, the narrow lanes and small houses of the old city yet another.

Again, Hyderabad and Bombay are the only Indian cities to have hosted cricket tournaments that are recognized as 'first class'. The Bombay Pentangular has long since passed into history, but Hyderabad's own tournament—named for a nawab, of course—is yet played when the domestic calendar allows. Endowed by Nawab Moin ud-Dowlah, who watched the early matches from his Rolls Royce, it was later taken over by the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA). This is very likely the only cricket tournament in the world where teams and individuals can play by invitation only. That is, cricketers cannot simply wish to play in the tournament, nor can teams qualify through competition—they have to be invited by the HCA through its moving spirit, P.R. Man Singh. Hyderabad does not often get to host a Test match, but Moin-ud-Dowlah Gold Cup has, year after year, brought the city the finest cricketing talent in India, as well as elsewhere—for the great English opening pair of Hobbs and Sutcliffe appeared for the Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram's



1 & 2. The commoners 3 & 4. The nawabs (apologies to that nawab and gentleman, Abbas Ali Baig)

COMMONERS



Syed Abid Ali: hit the winning stroke in the epic Oval Test

XI in the first year of the Cup, while Learie Constantine and Rohan Kanhai have graced the occasion since

Moin-ud-Dowlah was not, however, a prince who played On the field, the 'nawabi' style in Hyderabad cricket was exemplified by the Nawab himself, Mansur Ali Khan of Pataudi, who abandoned Delhi for Hyderabad, and by his fellow Oxonian Abbas Ali Baig Just to prove that class distinctions cut across religious boundaries, it must also include the city's most famous captain, Motganahalli Laxminarasu Jaisimha, While these three have been the great nawabs of Hyderabad cricket, lesser noblemen who have played for the city s Ranji Trophy team include the Cambridge Blue Santosh Reddy, and Abbas's younger brother Murtaza Ali Baig, who was an Oxford Blue

'Tiger', 'Buggy' and 'Jai' were as dashing a trio of lady killers as ever trod a cricket field With sleeves buttoned to the wrist, perfec tly creased c ream trousers, and silk chokers, they were living testimony of the adage, 'the apparel oft proclaims the man' (and need we add, batsman) Although Tiger and Jai were far better known for their often fatal effect on the fairer sex, Buggy was no slouc h in this respect, once evoking open adulation in the form

On the field, the 'nawabi' style in Hyderabad cricket was exemplified by the Nawab himself, Mansur Ali Khan of Pataudi, who abandoned Delhi for Hyderabad, and his fellow Oxonian Abbas Ali Baig. Just to prove that class distinctions cut across religious boundaries, it must also include the city's most famous captain, Motganahalli Laxminarasu Jaisimha

He (Baig) had been prepared for that call by a strong campaign in the press, led by Keith Miller, which pleaded: 'Don't be vague, ask for Baig!' Using that caption, a cartoon of the time showed a miniature Baig, playing his favourite square cut, inside a (Haig) whisky bottle carrying the label, 'Oxford vintage'



Abbas Ali Baig: made a dream-like entry into Test cricket

of the lady who ran on to the field to kiss him for completing a fifty in a Bombay Test. The trio's favourite strokes were indeed the regal ones—the cut, hook and cover drive. Jai once so far forgot himself as to bat all five days of a Test—setting a world record in the process—and Tiger was known to potter around in his last days as an international player, but in the main the nawabs' batting styles bore the unmistakable stamp of their social origins.

The aristocratic lineage of the nawabs of Hyderabad cricket is manifest, too, in the almost dream-like entry which Abbas Ali Baig made into Test cricket. A freshman at Oxford in 1959, Baig was preparing to join the Somerset County Cricket Club at the culmination of the University season, when an Indian touring side badly hit by injuries called upon his services. He had been prepared for that call by a strong campaign in the press, led by Keith Miller, which pleaded: 'Don't be vague, ask for Baig!' Using that caption, a cartoon of the time showed a miniature Baig, playing his favourite square cut, inside a (Haig) whisky bottle carrying the label, 'Oxford vintage'.

Joining a demoralised team already down in the series, Buggy lifted its spirits somewhat with a crisp 46 in the first innings of the Manchester Test. He did even better the second time, hitting a strokeful hundred and, in association with the veteran

Umrigar, nearly saved the game for India Although India lost the last Test as well, Baig's brilliance had provided a brief flicker of light in an otherwise unremittingly grim summer

If Buggy made a fairy-tale entrance into Test cricket, Jaisimha is perhaps best known for his fairy-tale comeback Again, this was for a touring side crippled by injuries, in Australia in 1968 Asked to name a replacement, Pataudi called for his old Hyderabad colleague Twenty-four hours after stepping off the plane, Jai was playing in the Third Test at the Brisbane cricket ground Astonishingly, he found his touch without so much as a practice net, and scored 74 and 101 not out in the match. The latter innings carried India to within thirty-nine runs of what would have been its first win on Australian soil. Jai had done what was humanly possible but it was not enough There is,

Azharuddin: Distinguished representative of the commoner grain of Hyderabad culture



somewhere, a moving picture of Jai walking off the Gabba at the end of the match The Australian team and the Indian number eleven are already in the pavilion, but a dazed Jai, handsome as ever and with his collar turned up in his inimitable style, is walking slowly and disbelievingly off the ground, surrounded by a group of admiring schoolboys

As for Tiger Pataudi, he made both a fairy tale entry and several fairy tale comebacks to big cricket. He was a prodigy at the English public school of Winchester, where he broke D. R. Jardine's record aggregate for the school season. This was justice of a kind, for Jardine and Pataudi's father had had a famous row in the Bodyline series After scoring a cultured hundred in the first Test of that series, the senior Pataudi was dropped after failing with the bat in the next match, in part because as a 'conscientious objector' he refused to field in the leg trap Jardine had set for Harold Larwood.

The younger Pataudi's batting at Winchester encouraged his cricket master, the former England player Hubert Doggart, to recommend him to the Sussex county side. Pataudi then made his first-class debut, at sixteen, for a team for which both Ranji and Duleep had played (like the princes of Nawanagar, Pataudi was to captain Sussex in due course) Proceeding to Oxford in 1960, he emulated his father by hitting a century in the Varsity match against Cambridge Appointed captain of Oxford the next season, he hit two stunning hundreds against a strong Yorkshire side. (The nawabs of Hyderabad seemed to relish the Yorkshire bowling In the previous year, Abbas Ali Baig, in an innings of 150 against the Champion county, square cut Ray Illingworth so masterfully that he had the off-spinner bowl to him with a third man and cover point on the boundary—and this on a turning wicket).

With three matches left to play in 1961, Pataudi needed just 92 runs to overhaul his father's record for the most runs scored in an Oxford season But just as Tiger seemed poised for greatness, he met with a

serious automobile accident, after which he lost sight in one eye. Remarkably, he learnt to bat with this handicap, and in a year's time was playing for India. Shortly afterwards, he became the youngest ever Test captain—at twenty-one—when Nari Contractor was felled by Charlie Griffith in Barbados. He then embarked on a long stint as captain marked by some notable successes including India's first Test and series wins abroad. For a decade Pataudi, despite his cruel handicap, was also India's best batsman, next only to Chandu Borde. Among a host of courageous innings, two stunning performances in England and Australia earned him the title of the Nawab of Headingley and Melbourne. When his batting form temporarily deserted him, Pataudi was replaced as captain of India and ousted for the 1971 tour of the West Indies. When Wadekar's side were successful in both the West Indies and England, most people were ready to write Pataudi off. But not Tiger himself. He worked his way back into the side for the home series against England, where he hit two fifties, though he probably considers his 14 not out in the Madras Test, made when India lost six wickets reaching a target of 92, to be one of his most valuable Test knocks (it was indeed a little gem of an innings). After opting out of the England tour of 1974, Pat was back once more the next winter, to lead India in the thrilling series against Clive Lloyd's team.

These then are the chronicles, briefly told, of the nawabs of Hyderabad cricket. The city's commoners, for their part, found their cricketing hero in that sturdy all rounder Syed Abid Ali, who hit the winning stroke in the epic Oval Test of 1971. Abid, who had never seen a Test match till he played in one, was known locally as 'Chicha' (father's younger brother), an avuncular epithet no one dare use on any of the lordly trio. Although he now makes his living coaching in, of all places, the United States, Abid never played an orthodox stroke in his life. Far more revealing was his bowling style. Where other fast bowlers have



Jaisimha: best known for his fairy-tale comeback

their slower one, Abid put great store by his lower one, a lethal delivery well known as the *surrah* to anyone who has ever played *gully* (street) cricket. Abid's most famous *surrah* was the one that got rid of Roy Fredericks first ball in the 1971 Port of Spain Test in which India beat the West Indies for the first time (for the startled Fredericks, wrote Raju Bharatan it was a case of 'being hit below the boot'). Ironically, Abid started bowling quite late in his first-class career. He began as a wicket-keeper for the State Bank of India (he even kept wickets for India in a Test match, when Engineer was injured). Capped by Hyderabad as a batsman in the late nineteen-fifties, he occasionally kept wickets for the state. It was only when Hyderabad's regular stumper, R Venkatesh, joined the State Bank that Abid took to bowling. By 1965 he was opening the bowling for Hyderabad, and two years later for India.

It was indeed as a bowler and fielder that Abid contributed most to Wadekar's side of the early seventies, though he did play some fine attacking innings late in the order. On his first Australian tour, where he opened the innings, no less a person than Jack Fingleton remarked that 'Abid Ali has it within himself to become a great batsman'. Although I have watched him in the flesh many times, it is a sight of him in a film of the Oval Test that sticks in the mind. At his own—and Indian cricket's—greatest moment, Abid hit the winning square cut off Brian Luckhurst, and turned for the pavilion. As he did, he saw Alan Knott and Keith Fletcher rush to grab the stumps at his end. Abid turned around, and seeing that the wickets at the bowler's end were still intact, decided that he too wanted a souvenir. Running like a terrier for his prize, he was met by the umpire, arms outstretched, while behind the umpire was an advancing crowd of delirious Indians. The film cuts at this point, but I am willing to have a small wager—a packet of Charminar cigarettes perhaps—that Abid caught his souvenir in the end.

Another equally distinguished representative of the commoner grain of Hyderabad culture is one who is in cricketing terms Abid's nephew, Mohammad Azharuddin. Like Abid, Azhar was educated at the city's All Saints School, but, like Abid again, he clearly learnt his cricket outside the school premises. The cover drive is reputed to be the most classical shot in the game, yet I have seen Azhar, more than once, manage the remarkable feat of playing it, *with a horizontal bat*, from well outside the leg stump. But of course the straight bat is a positive liability in the gullies, whose bumps, holes, and angles make the Lord's pitch, with its famous ridge, look and play like a billiards table in comparison.

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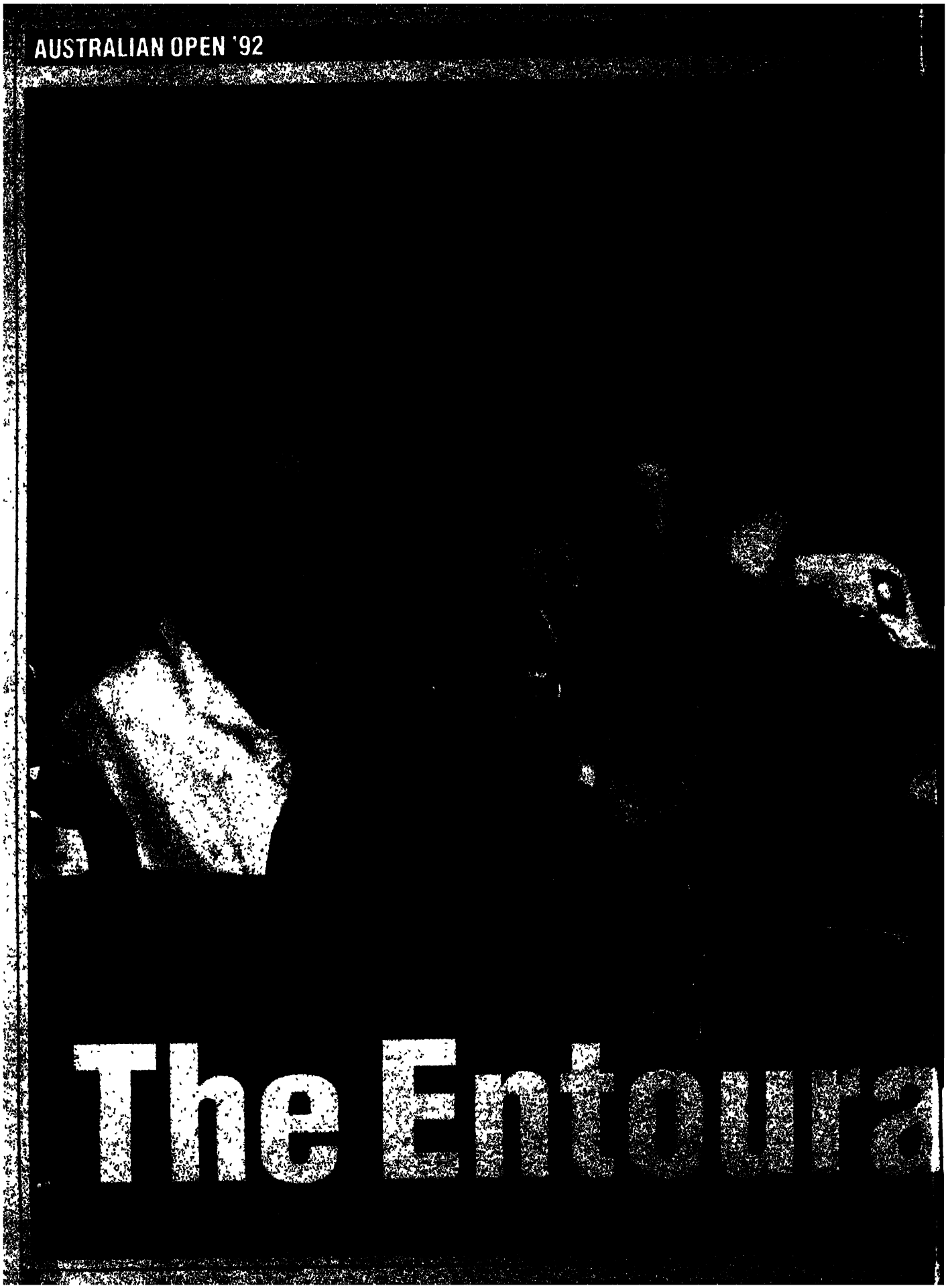
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AUSTRALIAN OPEN '92



The Entoura

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THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE ENTOURAGE

IF you're at a tennis tournament and want to know who's who around the stars, here's a guide to a tennis star's entourage

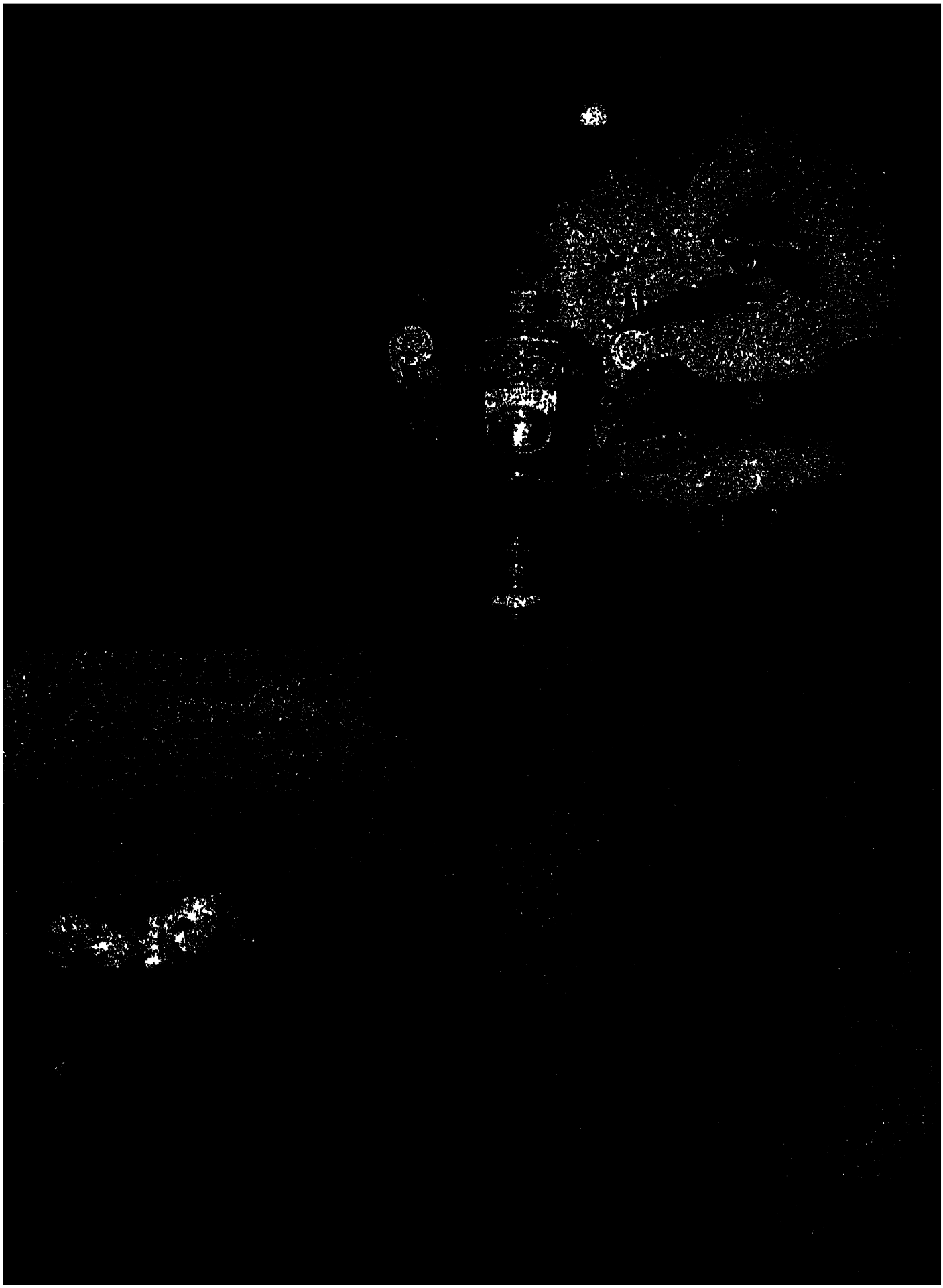
HITTING PARTNER This flunkey has no rights at all, has to be at the beck and call of the player, the coach, the parent, and should he make any mistakes while warming up the player, is soon out of his job Highly unstable position Not for the weak at heart or quick tempered. A third-class citizen

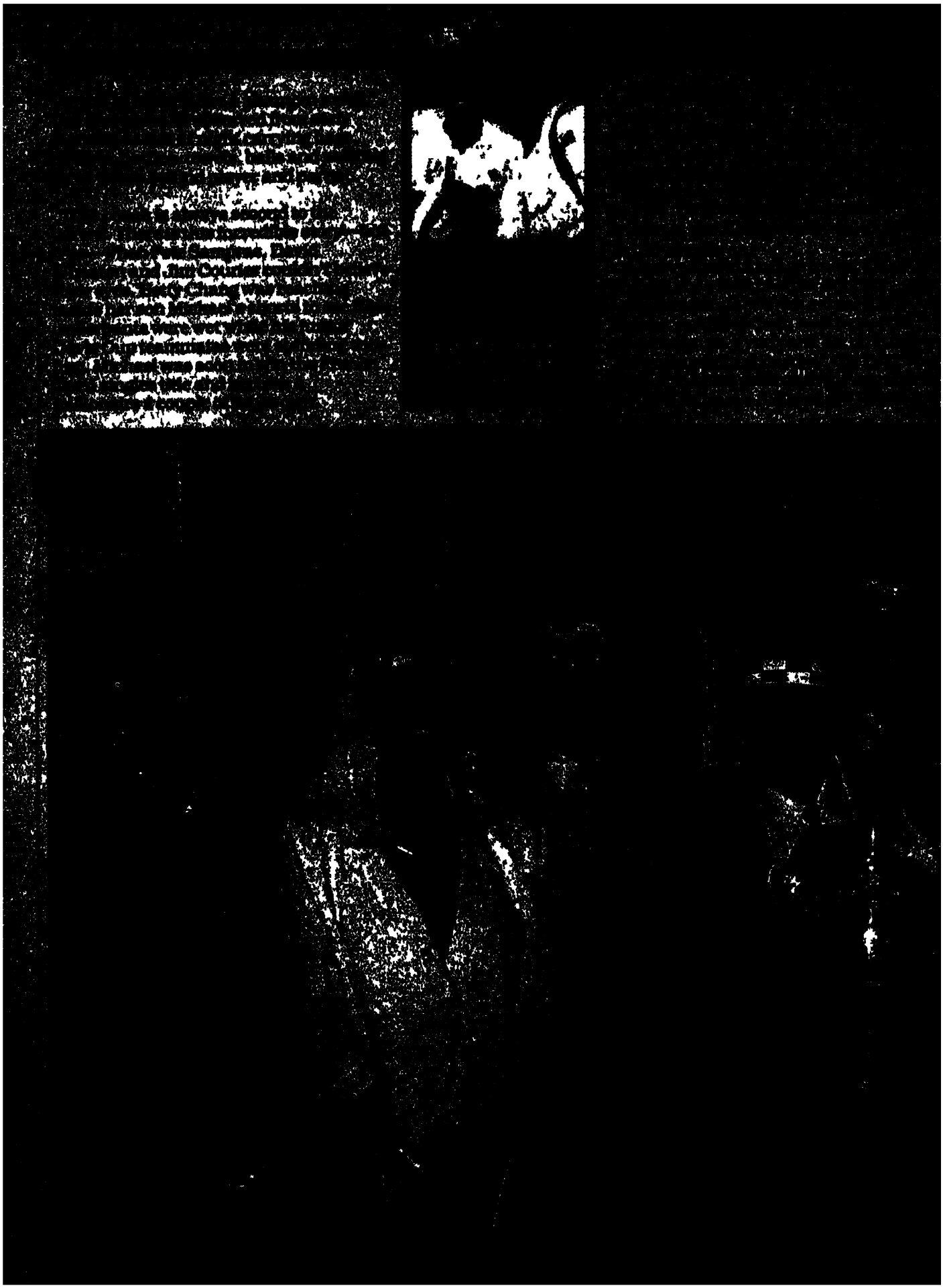
THE AGENT The outstanding member of the entourage, because no matter what the temperature, the agent is out of place at the tennis in suit and tie, sunglasses on, mobile phone or pile of million dollar contracts in hand Tennis writer Bud Collins says he would never wear a suit at a tournament 'I always think if you wear a suit you were labelling yourself as an agent It's like cops, I guess If you're a young player you'd be very wary of agents—they can make you a lot of money but you maybe feel they will also just try to milk your talent So if they see me watching them in my suit, before I even say hello, they've got me pinned as an agent." An agent usually speaks with an American accent and is often seen in deep conversation with either parent or player. Knows how to look innocent at any offer of money that may be made to a player, and while asking for double, is able to calculate his 25 per cent fee simultaneously He's also called upon to accompany more famous clients to dinner and to fulfil any of the player's whimsical demands

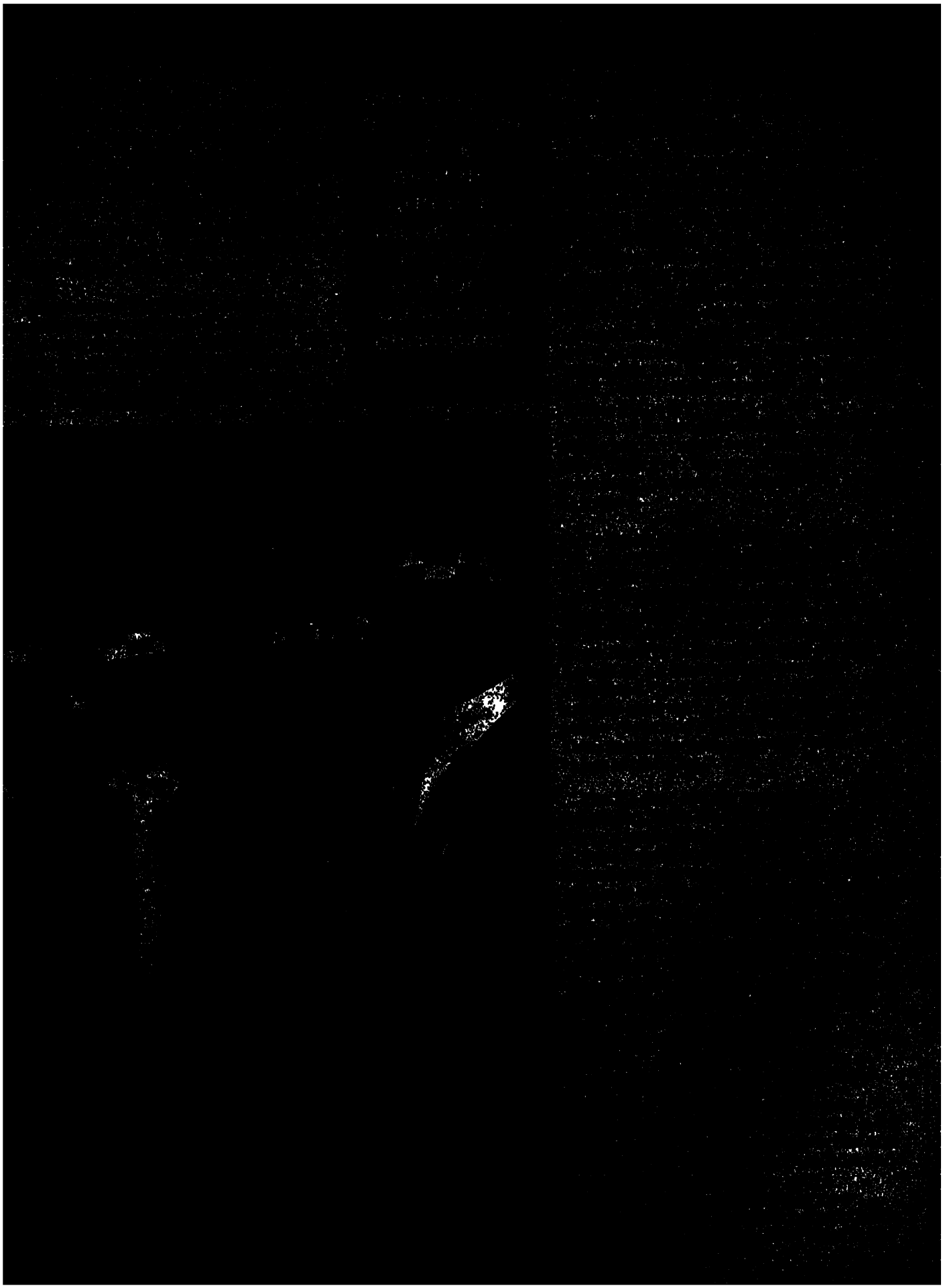
THE PSYCHOLOGIST· Responsible for the player's state of mind—a major task for something so small This apparent guru of the perfect state of mind is responsible for all the player's utterances at media conferences where he manages to turn most into bland affairs Typical offerings include, 'I feel great'. ..'well at the moment I can just tell you that at the moment it feels good and I hope it's going to feel good for the next few days. I cannot tell you much more than that ' The psychologist is easy to spot because he is often meditating It's good for his image. Often plays the upcoming match through his own mind, because he has no idea how to hit the ball himself

PHYSIO: A mandatory underling who ensures the player's aches and pains are suitably attended to. Attempts to keep the player's body as supple as his own mind. Also known as ball-boy and drink-bearer. Walks around with rolls of tape and assorted banda[illegible] in little black doctor's bag.

If [illegible] want more information, contact Jennifer Capriati or And[illegible]asi—if you can get past their entourage, that is.







JOHN McENROE

The Brat Turns Angel

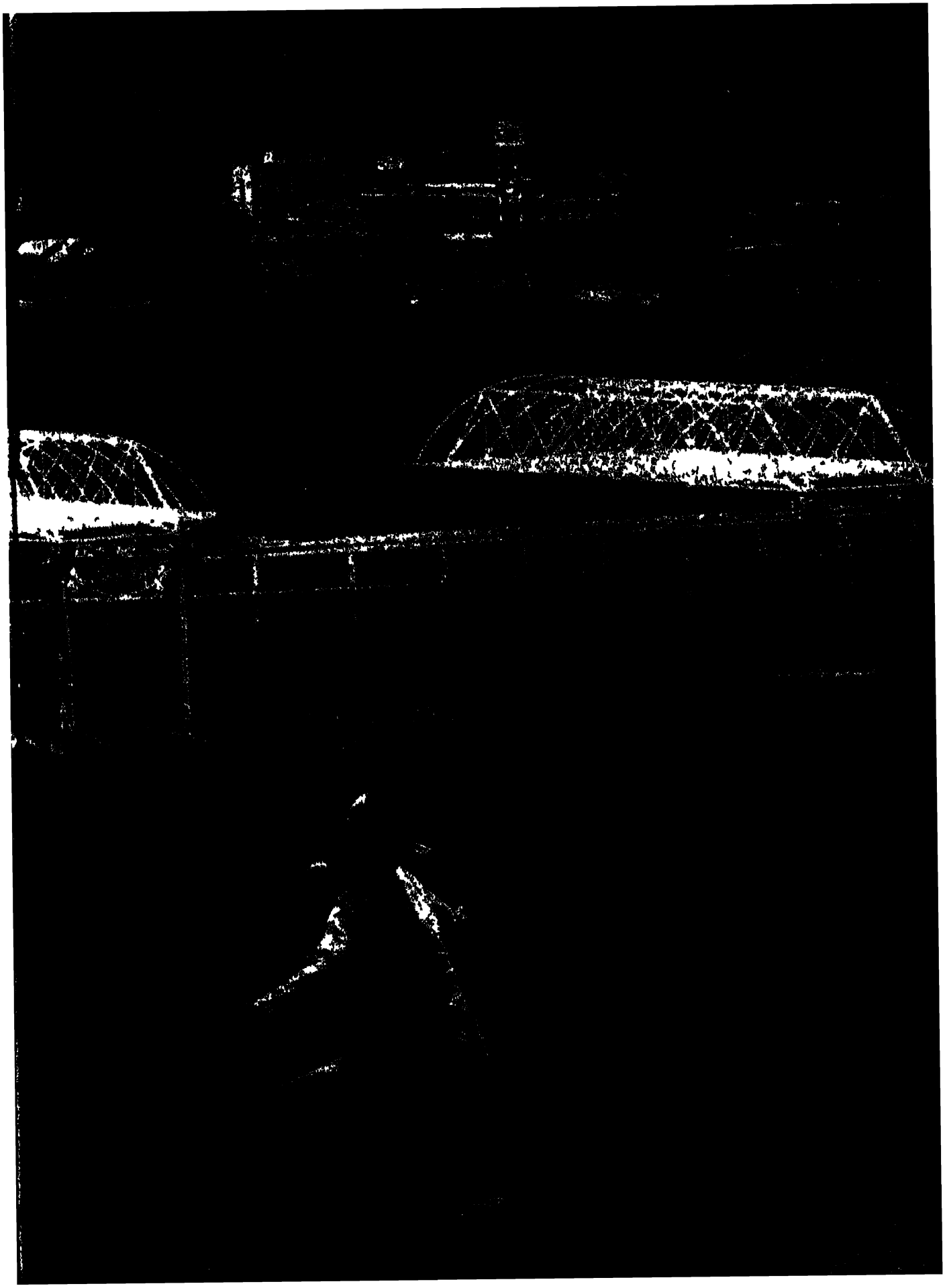


At the Australian Open, people weren't just talking about McEnroe's genius but also about his behaviour. And believe it or not, we're talking angelic behaviour. DAVID McMAHON explains the reasons behind this rejuvenated, refined McEnroe

IF there was one really odd concept about the 1992 Australian Open, it was the fact that John Patrick McEnroe was the oldest player in the draw. Nearly 33, McEnroe is still seven years younger than Ken Rosewall was when he faced—and was blown away in straight sets by—the young Jimmy Connors in the 1974 Wimbledon men's singles final. But, that apart, it is still strange to think of McEnroe as being the grizzled old veteran.

If there was another strange thing about the 1992 Open, it was the fact that Richard Krajicek and Wayne Ferreira emerged in the semi-finals, when, to all intents and purposes, they should have lost, respectively, to 1991 Wimbledon champion Michael Stich and former world number one McEnroe.

This tournament, the first grand slam of the new year, had an eerie parallel with the 1991 U.S. Open, when a rejuvenated Jimmy Connors raced through the draw, making a mockery of the heat, of



The old McEnroe, petulant and patchy, no longer exists

advancing years, of higher-ranked opponents and of his own status as only a part-time artisan of the courts.

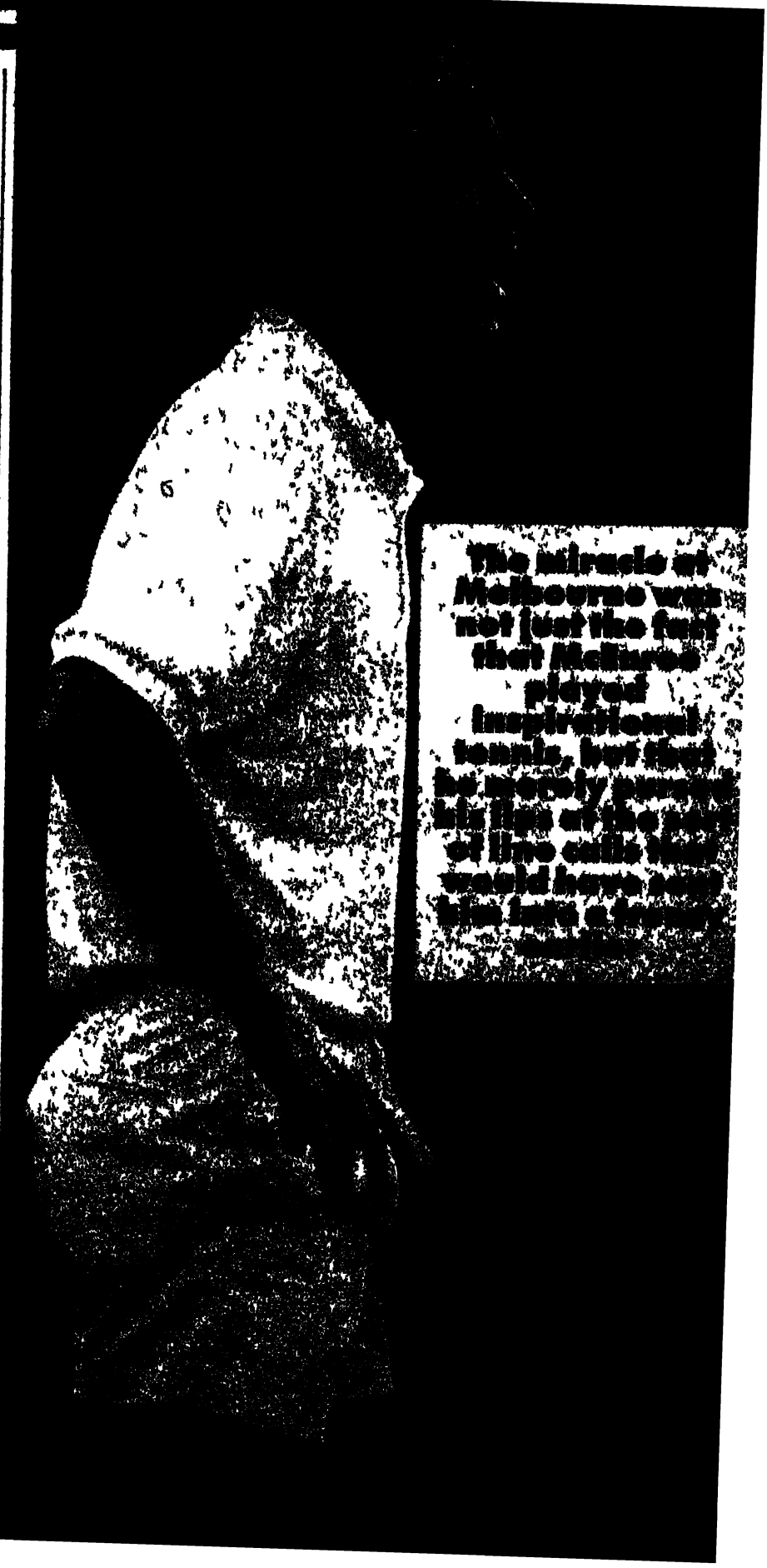
For round after round we witnessed the Connors miracle, the pumping arms, the sweat-drenched brow, the adrenalin-charged crowds, the unforgettable quotes (Here I am, 39 years old, busting my ass on this tennis court, and you call that ball out?') Oh it was thrilling stuff, make no mistake about it It was good tennis, it was good theatre, it was one endless, stirring battle

It all ended in the semi-final when the young Jim Courier brought the dream to an abrupt end, but what inspiring tennis it was from Connors, nine years after his last Wimbledon men's singles crown And now, half a world away and less than half a year later, another tempestuous American was doing the same

Or maybe that should read "formerly tempestuous" American. The miracle at Melbourne was not just the fact that McEnroe played inspirational tennis, but that he merely pursed his lip at the sort of line calls that would have sent him into a frenzy akin to his "pits of the world ' outburst at Wimbledon in 1981

No, the new McEnroe at Melbourne was very different from the one I first saw beating the great Borg as the Swede made his attempt to win a sixth Wimbledon crown Here, McEnroe was focussed as never before on the task of playing the game, getting on with the next point, shutting out all else to the point of total exclusion of matters unrelated to getting on with the game. He pursed his lip, he bit his lip, he shook his head almost imperceptibly, he grinned ruefully...but there was not one word from him about the line calls.

And there was one that might, perhaps, have cost him the only glimmer of hope when he faced the wall against Ferreira The South African with the big serve and the uninhibited ground strokes had served 14 service games in the match and had never been broken, but when he served for the match



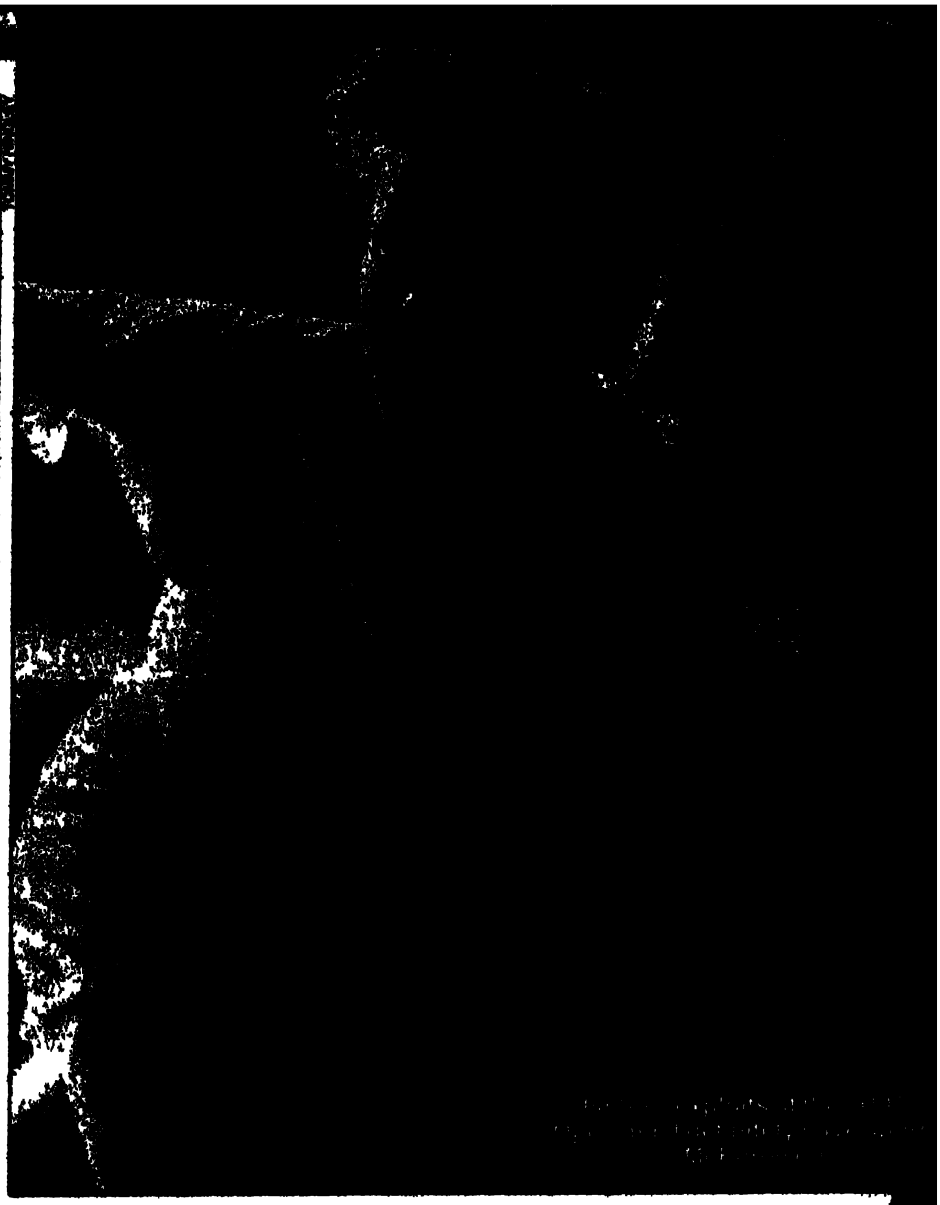
at 0-4 in the third set that Tuesday night, McEnroe won the first point, the first time he had done so against the Ferreira serve for nine games. Then, or so it seemed to us in amazement, McEnroe had won the second point as well, giving him the chance of forcing a break point and putting the pressure on the youngster. But a ball that looked good was called out and McEnroe, aghast at being robbed of a point he was sure was his, merely winced and said nothing.

What was it that gave him this new focus on tennis? What was it that rekindled the competitive fire in a man whose brilliance had ruled the circuit for more than a decade? Was it the example of Connors, so secure in his own sphere of life that he settled down to enjoy his role of parent and touring pro and thence proceeded to carve his sensational swathe through the '91 US Open? Or was it just that McEnroe wanted to show the youngsters on the circuit the powers that had once been so feared in his tennis armoury?

Apparently, it was neither of the above or perhaps a combination of several factors. A former player named Larry Stefanki, who had been a couple of years ahead of McEnroe at university, went to watch the former world number one at an exhibition match in Los Angeles in the last stages of 1991. Later, Stefanki sought McEnroe out and, over a beer, explained to him that he was "demeaning his talent by simply living off a reputation so revered five years earlier."

According to the Melbourne *Herald-Sun*, Stefanki said "I'd known John long before he came into professional tennis and, as a friend, I told him he was selling himself short, he should return to the basics of the game, to the way he used to play. I told him it came down to the simple question of: 'Do you want to play or not'."

When McEnroe agreed to work with Stefanki, the latter made the former star sit down and watch videos of his earlier glories as a ploy to motivate him to try and emulate them. "I had to get John to look at [illegible] he was [illegible]



been. There was a lot of fast-forwarding.

"He's a very different player (from the power hitters at present) and he probably began to believe that he couldn't play his type of game against power—that's hogwash," said Stefanki.

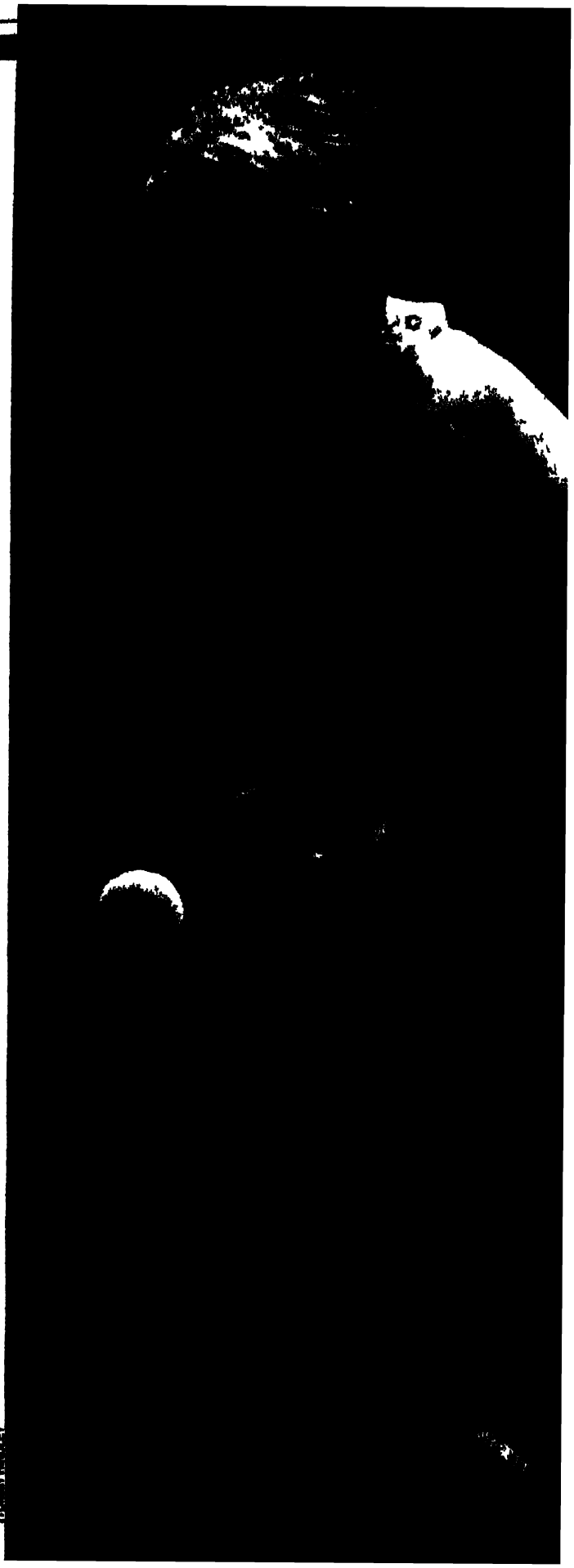
"He had to get back to basics as confidence comes from what you know best. He's won seven grand slams and you don't have to put any steel into him. Maybe his is a dinosaur style but he realises it's okay to have that style. I think he can be like Jimmy Connors and start to really enjoy himself. The only way for him to play is to break them down by taking their time away. That's the way to beat these new-age guys—sometimes you're going to get overpowered, but [illegible]

Who gave McEnroe a chance against the defending champion, Boris Becker? Who gave McEnroe a chance as he faced not one, not two, but three match points against Emilio Sanchez? And ironically, who gave Ferreira a chance against McEnroe? Yet the youngster, who was only six years old when the American first made the Wimbledon singles semifinal in 1977, was the one who walked away triumphant, having defeated his own idol in straight sets without even dropping his serve once.

And as McEnroe walked away, the crowds came to their feet not just for the young victor, but for the old master, to wish him well, to wish him godspeed and, perhaps, to wish him longevity as well. ●

AUSTRALIAN OPEN '92

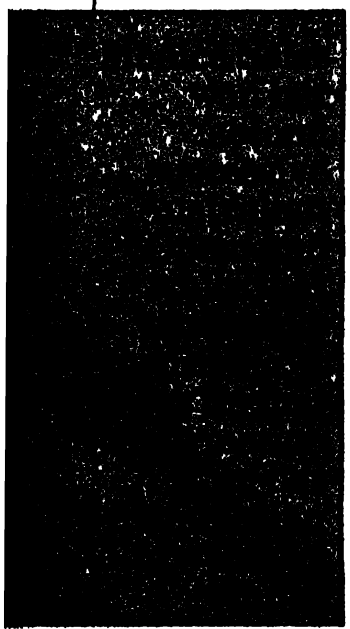
Seles Storm



NOT long after winning her fifth grand slam title, Monica Seles appeared in the interview room in an elegant, full-length, 1920s style dress with a floppy hat, an outfit she perhaps believed her idol Suzanne Lenglen might have once worn Seeing her with that on, one would never have imagined that this was the 18-year-old whose aggressive machine gun returns and tenacious competitive spirit, wiped out Dominican Republic born Mary Joe Fernandez 6-2, 6-3 to take her second successive Australian Open title.

Fernandez, 20, was expected to put up a better effort given her fine win over Gabriela Sabatini, as also her wonderful effort in last year's Australian semi-final against Seles, where she held a match point but lost 7-9 in the third set.

It all sounded plausible in principle, but Seles hits the ball with such consistent venom and manages through her double fisted style such incredible angles, that



BY ANDY O' BRIEN, MELBOURNE

Fernandez found herself pinned to the baseline, her pre-match strategy of attacking the net remaining stillborn.

The ladies final was telecast in stereo, probably with the hope that the Seles grunt would be better heard But in 78 minutes, without even reaching her top decibel level, the defending champion fulfilled what had become an almost foregone conclusion after she relentlessly powered her way through the women's draw.

In fact only one match deserved to be in stereo Seles' quarter-final against the other German, Anke Huber. Not only did Centre Court at Flinders Park sound like a labour ward that day, it was a match worthy of a final

And yet there was no doubt that the women's tournament this year was scarcely enthralling, not just because the men, led by John McEnroe,overshadowed it, but because the end result was predictable before a ball had been hit.

At one stage you even tended to gaze wistfully around Centre Court for any sign of the ghost of Steffi Graf. And truly, without any disrespect to Gorgeous Gaby and Cool Capriati, the tournament was desperately in need of the Graf-factor—or even, bless her old soul, the Martina factor—if only to give the punters some betting options.

Seles' domination of the tournament and indeed women's tennis is total. If there is anyone left in the ladies dressing room who seriously questions Seles' reign, then then she didn't report to Centre Court at Flinders Park for sure.

Seles' confidence has grown with her maturity. She fumbled with the big trophy last year at the Australian Open nearly dropping it Not this time though. She was so comfortable holding it, that she even asked if she got to keep the trophy and hell, the way she's going she might as well collect all the ladies trophies and take them back to her showcase for them to linger there for a couple of years.

But the danger for Seles, as Mary Joe pointed out is that when you win all the time, it's hard to change your game 'Graf dominated for three years and didn't improve," Mary Joe pointed out. 'Someone new always comes along and someone's going to find out how to beat Monica You can never stop improving.'

But the only way Fernandez could have beaten Seles in the final was if the champion had donned her 1920's outfit to play. Even that is doubtful

And yet Seles is always skeptical. "I knew I was going to have a tough time defending the Australian Open title but I told myself that I would just go out there and play the best tennis I can", she said.

That she did. And now there is talk of a grand slam sweep with Wimbledon, of course, being the critical issue. Seles speaks more of the need to improve her game. "I don't want to be like Lendl and try and win Wimbledon for all these years and then not succeed. But to win there I have to have a better serve." she declares.

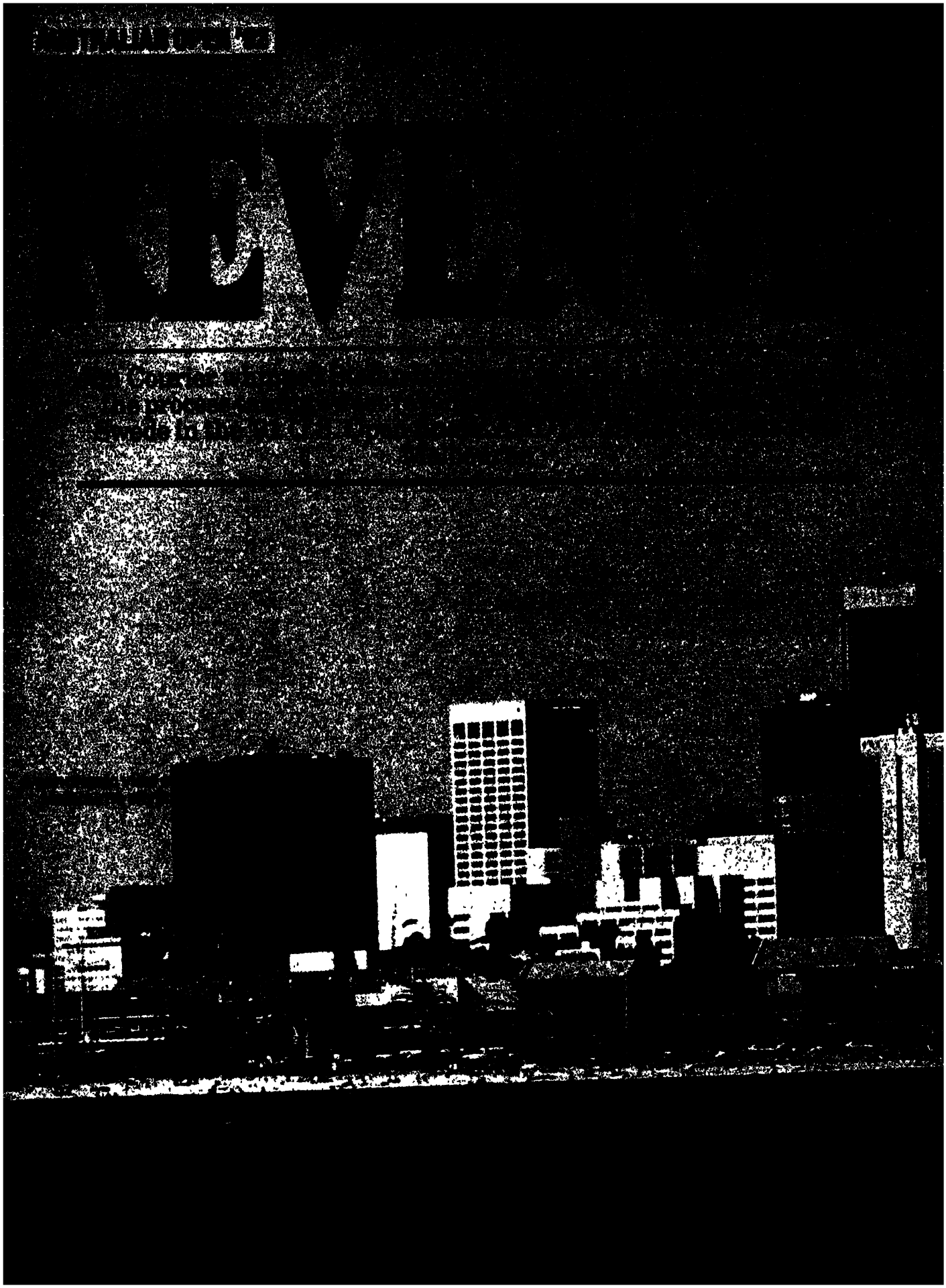
"When you look at women with good serves you see women with really strong shoulders and I need to strengthen my body. I would also have to have the courage to come to the net. That's going to take commitment from me and it's going to be hard because I don't feel

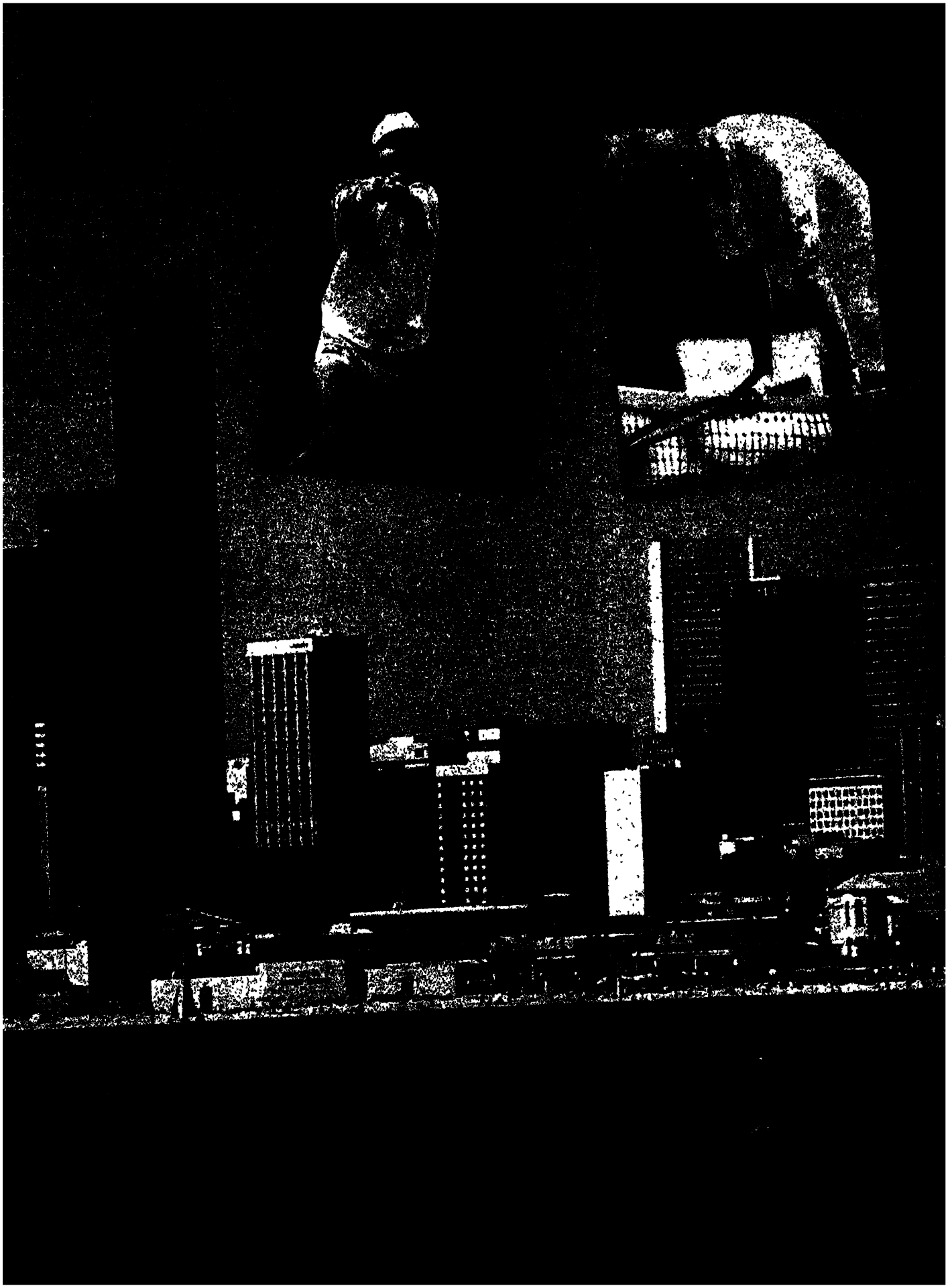
TOMMY HINDLEY



secure. But if I could add that to my game it would be great. I would also like to "strengthen my volley," said Seles.

And regardless of her self perceived weaknesses, Seles left Melbourne, the undisputed queen of tennis and 360,000 dollars richer. ●





Courier: The new American hero

The cynics may claim that Jim Courier couldn't have been luckier on his way to winning his first Australian Open title. The withdrawal of Pete Sampras and the elimination of the seeds on his side, meant that the eventual champion didn't play a single seed till his final against world No. 1 Stefan Edberg. Not to mention not having to hit a ball in the semi finals, when Richard Krajicek defaulted with tendinitis in his serving shoulder.

The cynics may also add that even in the final, Courier was lucky, because, in effect, he was playing a woefully out of form and inconsistent Edberg. Yet, to dwell on Edberg's form and the fickleness of the draw, would be to deny the dude from Dade City the kudos he deserves. From day one of the tournament he asserted himself and never once let go.

The final itself was a battle between the game's quiet men. It was also a clash between Courier's rough-hewn, blistering baseline attack and Edberg's more classic and more sutble net play. But the 26-year-old Swede wilted on that hot Sunday afternoon, while Courier, baseball cap firmly in place, never looked anything but the coolest man in the place. But Courier's composure disguised his hunger, and as he remarked later, "It was mentally taxing. I had to be there for every point though the score would show otherwise."

It was so taxing that after the prize distribution ceremony was over and done, Courier continued the bizarre post match antics of newly crowned Australian Open champions. A year after Boris



Becker had sprinted through the National Tennis Centre to dance around the trees lining Batman Avenue. Courier joined his coach Brad Steyn for a swim in the murky waters of the Yarra river just across the road from Flinders Park. The pair had made a pact to swim in the clouded waters, despite warnings from locals that the river could be dangerous. Said Courier in reply, "It was very dirty, but you don't win grand slam tournaments every day".



DESPITE having won two grand slam titles, Jim Courier hardly classifies as a recognisable personality. Unlike Boris Becker, for instance, who often dons a wig and cloak to ensure anonymity and with it peace, Courier, although the second best tennis player in the world, can walk the streets in most parts of the world without fear of being mobbed.

Such relative anonymity can't last long, but he's enjoying it while he can. And as Courier, hardly exuding star quality, was simply taking care of business at Flinders Park in the early rounds, he rarely attracted the attention of the crowd. When the new American hope turned up at the Australian Open, he strolled casually around the stadium with hardly a soul giving any indication of knowing who he was.

Later he said that people recognise him only when he's under the baseball cap he wears on court. "When I take it off, I find that I can go incognito," he chuckled.

It is a proposition which defies logic, but it hardly matters because the reality is that his status in the game is now beyond disguise. He made certain of that last year with one of the most emphatic quantum leaps up the rankings chart. After losing to Edberg in five sets in the fourth round here last year, Courier took the game by storm.

In an incredible year, he:

- won the French Open beating Edberg, Stich and Agassi in succession;
- lost only to Stich, the eventual winner in the quarter finals at Wimbledon;

"The difference between here and the U.S. Open (where Edberg beat Courier in straight sets) was not so much Jim's performance. I was a long way below my form today" — Stefan Edberg

● got to the U.S. Open final without dropping a set, where he lost to Edberg;
● won $ 1.7 million, more than doubling his earnings since he turned pro in 1988;
● improved his ranking from 24 to two;
● reached the semi finals or better in 11 of the 18 tournaments he played, including five of the last six.

Asked halfway through the Australian Open whether there has been any negative side to all this, to nobody's surprise, Courier was not able to think of one. Unlike some of his fast moving peers, Courier is extremely happy about his position in the top 10.

"It is a lot of fun," he said, "you get to do a lot of things that I dreamt of as a kid—being able to travel around the world and play against the best players. I want to stay in this fantasy world for as long as I can. That's why Jimmy Connors sticks around—he loves to compete, he loves the adulation of the fans he loves to be out there. I think that's what it's all about".

Yes, there is a lot of self containment about Jim Courier. He seems in remarkable control, both on court and off it. Nothing much slips past without him catching it—few tennis balls, fewer tricky questions.

Courier allows his acerbic humour to surface occasionally, but he keeps his reign tight. What you see is pretty much what you get—and what you get is exactly what Courier is prepared to deliver.

He just does things he normally did, he claimed, while questioned about fame. Maybe it was an unconscious thing, but he certainly didn't go out of his way to remain anonymous.

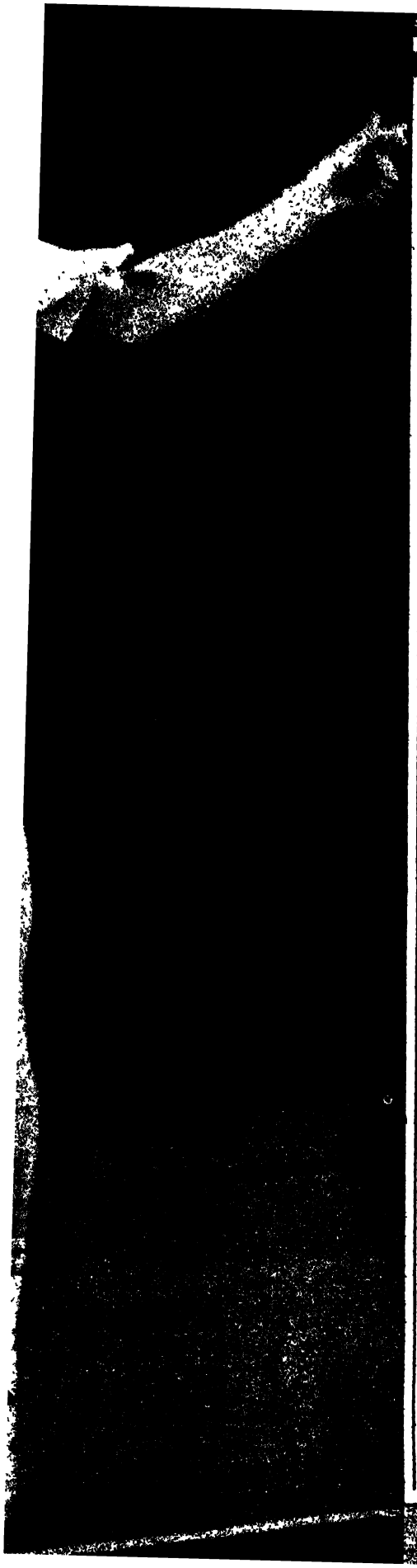
So was he good at avoiding crisis and dramas in the rest of his life?

"As far as you know," said Courier chopping the query off down at the knees.

Fame, pressure, tension...c'mon Jim, how about it?

"There are things that you don't want to have and fame is not something I really need," he said courteously. "And unfortunately the way things are going—or fortunately, as the case may





be—I'm getting more and more well known." He does not do TV commercials, like Andre Agassi (and it can only be assumed that by the amount of Andre we've seen in the Nike ads on television this summer in Australia, the marketing ground has been laid for a personal appearance in 1993). But Agassi and others have made a lot of money from their forays into the commercial world, it was pointed out. "You can make a lot of money winning tennis matches too," countered Courier.

Ahah! An opening! Did he care about making money?

"Well," drawled Courier, "the money is certainly a comfort and I'm not going to worry about it. There's no doubt that it's nice to have, but it's not everything. Money is not happiness because when I didn't have any money, I was just as happy as I am now and there's no reason to be more happy or less happy."

"(Being in the top 10) is a lot of fun. You get to do a lot of things that I dreamt of as a kid—being able to travel around the world and play against the best players. I want to stay in this fantasy world as long as I can"—Jim Courier

His travelling coach, Brad Steyn had shown him a great quote: "Happiness is not what you've got, it's how happy you are with what you have." "And", said Courier, "I'm happy with what I have."

But, in reality, the sky seems to be the limit for this product of the famous Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Florida. Intelligent, articulate, thoughtful and ambitious, he is still only 21 and he possesses the formidable capacity to crunch the ball as only Becker and a handful of others can do. That makes him perfectly placed to thrive in an era where the current obsession is power tennis.

The win at Melbourne separates Courier from the No. 1 ranking by just 20 points and since he will take the court in San Francisco in a few days and Edberg will not, Courier will most certainly become the tenth player to occupy the top spot since 1970. But that doesn't worry the Florida boy too much. "I'm motivated to play the best tennis my game allows. If that means being No. 2 in the world and no better, well that's not so bad. If it means getting to No. 1, well, that will be a great day."

Edberg might have played—as his coach Tony Pickard put it—"the worst game of his life," but Courier's consistency and power off the ground were so good that he could have played with a toothpick.

Courier claimed he was very fired up because the papers had previewed the final almost as if Edberg had won the match. "Maybe next year, you guys will know who I am. I was a little distraught this morning when I read the papers. I thought I had already lost the match," he said in his post-victory conference. "You can say whatever you like about me but today I won the match and I'm all smiles about it."

Edberg, on the other hand, seemed too subdued. He admitted to it saying "considering I had not played too much coming into the tournament I think I did well to get to the stage where I had a shot at the title."

"The difference between here and the U.S. Open (Edberg had beaten Courier in straight sets in the final of last year's U.S.Open) was not so much Jim's performance. I was a long way below my form today," Edberg said. And in spite of that, the match produced the quality of tennis befitting a Grand Slam final.

And at the end of it all, Courier was still that Mr. Anonymous, the name he was dubbed by the press during this tournament. Speaking to a packed Centre Court, Courier said, "He (Edberg) has had better days surely. But he's a champion. The true champion I want to be some day."

And the way Courier is going that day isn't too far away. ●

After watching the Australian Open, ANDY O'BRIEN believes that tennis continues to have too much power and too few personalities

ALL POWER AND NO PERSONALITIES

MAKES TENNIS A DULL SPORT

AFTER every major tournament—known in their world as Grand Slams—the tennis folks take a hard look at themselves and their game. It was no different after this year's Australian Open. And when they saw themselves in the mirror, what did the tennis world see? Some of the same old things they have been seeing over the last few years. Satisfied, that nothing much had changed, the tennis world was ready to walk away, till this die-hard Aussie sports freak came along.

He had seen the Australian Open being played for the first time on an artificial surface—having earlier been under the impression it was played at that place along the freeway to Melbourne City called Kooyong. And he pointed out to the tennis world what they had noticed some time ago, but had failed to rectify. Like the abundance of power play and the lack of personalities.

In both the men's and women's game, it starts right at the top and seeps down to the bottom; from stars to journeymen and women.

Take the man who won the Australian title this year in the blistering heat of a Melbourne summer. It was almost desert warfare at Flinders Park, such was the heat and the competition. And in those conditions who could be better than the All-American tennis marine: Jim Courier.

It was easy to imagine Courier turning up at the tournament offices before his matches, standing to attention and telling officials, "Private Courier reporting for duty, Sir".

Courier is just one of tennis' foot soldiers who in Melbourne found himself on combat duty in temperatures of 30 degrees with a hot wind fanning across the court. His orders were to eliminate the enemy as efficiantly as possible, and then report back. During the debriefing session, journalists asked him about his style of keeping his head down during battle, shunning the limelight! Had he no interest in being a hero?



"Fame? Me, sir? No, sir. I'm a tennis soldier, sir." And that's the kind of guy who will be No. 1 the next time you see the ATP rankings list.

And the guy he will be taking over from, wasn't and isn't any better himself. It is not that Stefan Edberg doesn't want to be liked. It is more that he would prefer not to be noticed. Debate continues whether Edberg has cultivated that low profile image or whether he is just plain, old-fashioned,boring. An Edberg press conference is an exercise in studied understatement. His on court mannerisms seem calculated in their non-description. And his play? Well, most of the times so good that it's boring too.





Jim Courier: Tennis' new Mr. Anonymous

Indeed so successful has Edberg been in removing any trace of personality, that he used to have his initials printed on his t-shirts to remind himself who he was. Though the initials are now gone and the Edberg profile steadily rising.

Nevertheless, the English journalists found Edberg interesting enough to once stake out his London home. Their scoop was—Tennis star does his own washing. Not very interesting, granted. But this is that sometimes dumb Swede who teeny boppers go crazy over. Though one must add that for the teen brigade, personality has never been necessary: The Swede's blonde good looks are enough.

Oh yes, you may point out that Courier did take a dip in a murky river after he won in Australia. Okay, that was interesting. But how many of the paying public were there when he dropped his sweaty body into the muddy Yarra?

Or for that matter, how many were present when Edberg cracked a joke (yeah, tennis' believe it or not) at one of his press conferences?

Edberg celebrates his birthday every year at the Oz Open and every year a cake from the organisers marks the occasion. This year, at a mock press conference on January 20, Edberg glanced down at the tiny cake littered with candles and in his usual drawl commented, in obvious reference to this recession in Australia," Things must be bad in Australia. It's getting smaller every year!"

This preference to be a non-personality is even rubbing off on some of the rising stars in tennis. After Wimbledon last year, Michael Stich was catapulted into the ozone to become a new star. But today he's had enough of the pressures that go with being famous. And one can't really blame him for some of the things that have ha ppened in his life since winning Wimbledon have been outrageous.

The dirty tricks brigade in Germany perpetrated several stunners over the last few months, the most damaging involving a fake weapons company. Armed with the promise of a 25 million dollar five year contract and posing as marketing agents, two German reporters approached ten leading sports persons explaining that they represented a firm selling military hardware to Saddam Hussein, and sought to buy the athletes' endorsements to lift the image of their firm. Steffi Graf, Katarina Witt and Katrin Krabbe were the only ones who said no. Boris Becker was not asked. Bernhard Langer and Michael Gross did not reply. The magazine ran the story of initial acceptance by Stich and his management, severely sullying Stich's image.

The *paparazzi* then swooped again, when Stich's girlfriend crashed his car on the way to meet him at a Stuttgart tournament and received serious leg injuries. Dressed in medical garb, photographers stole into the hospital and emerged with the ultimate reward. The personal invasion shook Stich badly.



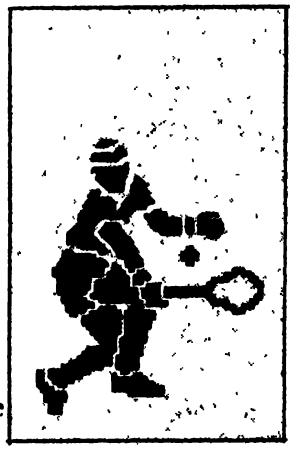


EXCITING: CONNORS, AGASSI, BECKER, McENROE

What is a star, said Stich in answer to Becker's comment after last year's Wimbledon final. Now he knows: a mere trick of the light. And now he prefers to remain secure in the shadow behind the glow.

Lead by a teenager who has it all—the smile of a child, the charm of a princess and the eye of an assassin—the women are not as badly down the personality drain as the men are.

Monica Seles made sure that she didn't create another stir like she made by her non-appearance at Wimbledon last year. This year, just prior to the tournament she wore a neck brace during a practise



session, but soon revealed after a few days of speculation that it was an injury caused by having slept in an awkward position during her flight to Melbourne. Seles was surprisingly embarassed that the neckbrace had called so much attention to her; in the past she had not proved to be such a shrinking violet from the warmth of the limelight.

During the Australian Open, in one of her press conferences , Seles admitted that the Wimbledon saga was a lesson learnt. "My mistake was that I didn't come forward and I was hard on them who made up those stories," she said.

It seems even Seles the child is slowly

BORING: LENDL, CHANG, EDBERG, COURIER







After Wimbledon last year, Michael Stich was catapulted into the ozone to become a new star. But today he's had enough of the pressures that go with being famous

attempting to be more like a woman. She still dresses up to attract attention but she has stopped playing tennis matches braless. And that's a good beginning.

But while it seems everyone shuns 'image' off the court these days, they are taking to power when on court. We are talking about the increase in the use of wide bodied rackets, double handed backhands and forehands, and the takeover by the power set. As Boris Becker, joint holder with Jim Courier of the Mr Power title, put it during the Australian Open: "Let's say with the power game and the young players coming up so early and having that much power and strength it's not that easy for anybody especially the older guys."

Even Stefan Edberg expressed concern about the increasing dominance of the power game. "It is the fashion now and it is probably going to be like this for some time because of these new rackets, which give more power," he said in Melbourne. "I've also seen in the past year that generally the balls are getting quicker and quicker, so that doesn't help either. It is a bit of a problem for the game. It's not a contest to see who hits the ball hardest but a contest to move best on the court. "

Becker dismissed as sour grapes the suggestion of law changes to curb the power game: "It's not the opinion of the players—it's just one or two players who ain't that fast now. The people are very much here to see tennis the way it is being played now."

In the women's section too, Seles' dominance because of a power-based baseline game, is a pointer to the future. There is no point hoping that the new rackets, or the two handed groundstrokes or the power play or Monica will go away. And the frightening thing is that Monica feels that there is plenty of room for improvement in her game.

So where then does the rest of the world start?

The focus must now shift strongly to the women's serve. The men complain about the free points the big hitters now get with their serves. But the serves of the top women hold little fear for opponents. "Eventually people are going to catch up to her," said Mary Joe Fernandes after Seles blasted her off centre court at Flinders Park last month. Eventually, may well be the operative word.

For the men you have to have the power these days to be a threat. Players like Richard Krajicek and Wayne Ferreira proved that. But in the women's side the top player who develops a big serve will be the new threat. Seles who has only a useful serve, realises this and is talking of going to a gym and working out on her shoulders. In the long run pumping weights which has suddenly become very popular on the men's tour might find a way into the women's dressing rooms as well.

In the meantime, the free points in the women's game will rest more with attacking the weak second serve. When Sabatini is sharp she does well, stepping deep inside the baseline for the second serve, but Seles hesitates to do it, as do many other women. So the riddle here will be, which comes first—the stronger serve or the second serve blitz return? And how will the women be able to combine increased strength with mobility and flexibility to force their way to the net to make the volley?

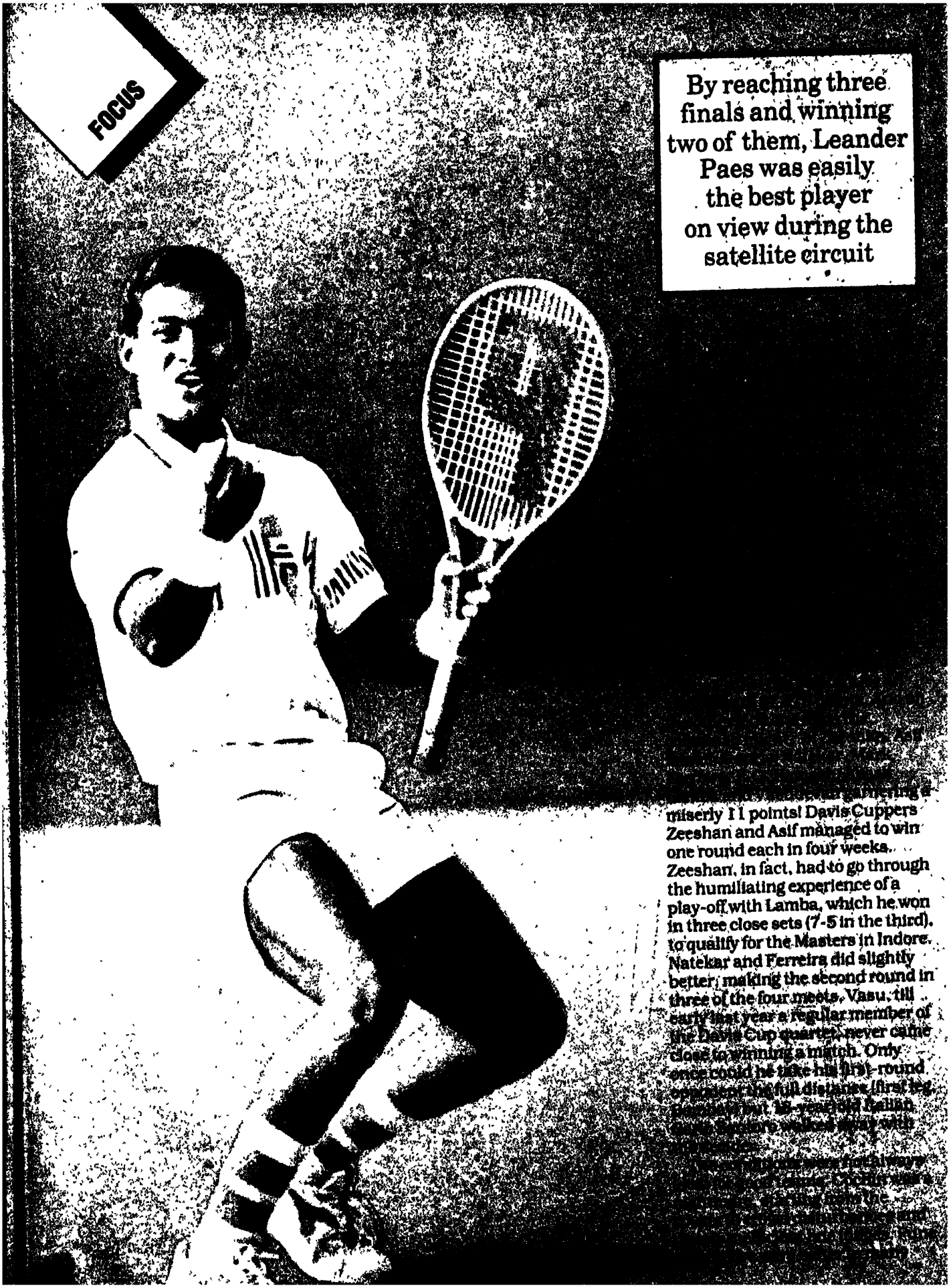
But at present it's power, and Seles has it and she's in control. And she sets the example. Which reminds one of the story that Jim Courier recounted about his experience at Nick Bollittieri's tennis academy. The power of Seles' groundstrokes proved too awesome for the other female students at the academy, forcing Bollettieri to ask Courier to hit with her. Courier recalled: "First ball, whap, she hits a winner. Next ball, whap, she smacks another winner. I said, 'Okay, I'm impressed. You can play. Now let's practise. 'Uh-uh. Whap. Whap. Whap. Whap! After 15 minutes I walked off. I told Nick 'never again.' He could get another guinea pig."

Now you know why Seles is so looking forward to that exhibition with Jimmy Connors. Tennis sure looks different now!



FOCUS

By reaching three finals and winning two of them, Leander Paes was easily the best player on view during the satellite circuit



miserly 11 points! Davis Cuppers Zeeshan and Asif managed to win one round each in four weeks. Zeeshan, in fact, had to go through the humiliating experience of a play-off with Lamba, which he won in three close sets (7-5 in the third), to qualify for the Masters in Indore. Natekar and Ferreira did slightly better, making the second round in three of the four meets. Vasu, till early last year a regular member of the Davis Cup quartet, never came close to winning a match. Only once could he take his first-round opponent the full distance (first leg [illegible] 18-year-old Italian [illegible]

INDIAN SATELLITE CIRCUIT

BOMBAY, PUNE, COCHIN, INDORE

The Terminator

ways, but the slow surfaces suited the scores of European hopefuls more than the Indians. Because this was one satellite being organised by their own association, the Indian players could not be faulted for expecting more suitable and advantageous conditions. There is no denying the fact that the AITA played truant to some extent. At the same time the point to be kept in mind is that the adverse conditions were applicable to Paes' case as much as to his fellow-Indians. While Paes dared to defy and overcome adversity, the others were not bold and mentally strong enough to rise above the script. To be a champion, one has to cope with any opposition under all circumstances. And that is one trait which makes Paes so refreshingly different from the others. Indian tennis badly needs a few more of his ilk urgently.

It was as much a test of Paes' consistency as of his fitness. A sore wrist had kept him out of action for nearly two months and prevented him from picking up a racket for over four weeks. Misgivings about his form were only natural. Two weeks into the circuit, the 18-and-a-half-year-old had stamped his class in a most authoritative manner. He went through the Bombay leg without dropping a set and had denied an encore by the plucky Bulgarian Mark Markov. The same Markov, who took a set off him in the first round in Pune, went one better in Cochin, and showed Paes the door following two tight sets.

Came Indore and Paes was ready to defend his Masters title and, consequently, prove that the defeat at the hands of Markov was just an aberration. Second-round opponent (all eight seeds got a bye) Silvio Scaiola, a handsome 21-year old Italian, surpassed himself and played scintillating tennis. To be honest, Scaiola did everything but win on that bright morning at Yeshwant Club. The primary reason why Scaiola ended up the loser was that his opponent was just not prepared to accept defeat.

Sturdy Frenchman Alois Beust who thrashed Ferreira the previous day was Paes' next victim. Mihnea Ion Nastase then ran away from Paes in the pretext of shoulder pain. Paes was not a match away from the title. It was there for his taking. Indorites who had seen him in action against Scaiola and Beust thought. Even with the new Wilson racket borrowed from Gabrichidze as seven of his favourite Prince Graduates broke by the third week, he adjusted pretty well, even though the timing of the strokes went a trifle awry at times because of the smaller head and different grip.

Danielle Musa had other ideas. The thin and lightly-built Italian with deceptively hard and flat groundstrokes crept up the draw without being noticed and suddenly he was in the title-round. Alex Simonian, Keith Evans, compatriot Ettore Rossetti, Gabrichidze—they all bowed to Musa. Barring Simonian, the other three were all seeded and the next target was Paes. Gabrichidze, of course, had no intentions of winning the semi-final against Musa. The Georgian tanking the match left a bitter taste in the mouth and hurt the organisers and sponsors more than anyone else as they had been hoping for a Paes-Gabrichidze final going live on the National Network. Not that Gabrichidze's patronage diluted Musa's upset victory all that much. He has playing solid hardcourt tennis and could have scalped Gabri or run him close had the Georgian been playing seriously.

In the final, Musa returned serves like a champion and had a few amazing backhand winners. Perhaps he was a bit lucky to run into an off form Paes whose miseries were compounded by a blister on the right palm which burst early in the second set. Nothing seemed to go right for him and it was all over in an hour and a quarter.

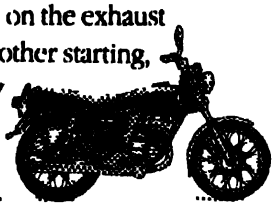
The doubles was Paes and Zeeshan's monopoly. Three title triumphs and a runner-up finish may suggest that the Indian pair had a whale of a time. But anyone watching closely could not have missed the lack of camaraderie one normally associates when Paes is one of the partners. There were times when both gave the impression they were not enjoying themselves. Zeeshan, in the midst of a terrible spell, was the weak link more often but Paes too did not have a great time in Indore. If they still won so many matches, it was because the opposition was no great shakes. Not a good augury for Indian tennis desperately in need of a solid doubles team. After all, Ramesh Krishnan is not going to be there for a terribly long time.

Amitava Dasgupta, Indore



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READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. In the year 1119, a game betwen Henry I of England and Louis VI of France is supposed to have given birth to a new genre of chess Name the genre.

2. Which Argentine Grandmaster, an aide of Bobby Fischer in his playing days, was banned from competition after two visits to South Africa?

3. Which challenger and erstwhile USSR's notable woman Grandmaster created a stir by eloping with John Donaldson, the non-playing captain of the US ladies team during the 1988 Olympiad in Greece?

4. Who was the first junior world chess champion and in which year?

5. Which was the longest running chess column?

6. Apart from USSR and Hungary, which is the only other country to have won a women's chess Olympiad and in which year?

7. In the last Olympiad at Novi Sad, who is the only woman to have played in the men's or general section?

8. What, in computer chess, is *'horizon effect'*?

9. Which university of USA has announced a prize of $ 1,00,000 to a programmer whose programme can hoodwink the world chess champion?

10. With which opening would you associate the *'Frankenstein-Dracula variation'*?

11. What, in chess problem parlance, is a *'cook'*?

12. Originally written in Russian as *'Luzhin's Defence'* under the pseudonym V Siris, this book is hailed as the best novel ever written about chess. Later it was translated. Name the book and the author

13. IN *'2001 A Space Odyssey'* the supership had a chess playing computer. Name it.

14. Who said this to whom." When you are lonely, when you feel yourself alien to the world, play chess. This game will raise your spirit and be your counsellor in war"?

15. What is *'Alcoholic Chess'*

16. Which Calcuttan gave the world the *'King's Indian Defence'*?

ANSWERS

1. Correspondence Chess
2. Miguel Quinteros.
3. Elena Akhmilovskaya.
4. Ivkov of Yugoslavia in 1951.
5. In the *Illustrated London News*. The column was founded by Staunton in 1845 and discontinued in 1986
6. Israel, 1976.
7. Pia Cramling for Sweden.
8. Unlike human beings, computers are normally programmed to calculate, say five moves deep. A smart human being will then start looking for traps which are 'over the horizon', i.e., six or more moves deep. This is called 'horizon effect'.
9. Carneggie, Mellon University.
10. Vienna Game.
11. It is the solution of a chess problem in fewer moves than the composer thought it was possible or an alternative solution that he was not aware of.
12. *The Defence* by Vladimir Nubokov.
13. HAL 9000.
14. Aristotle to Alexander the Great.
15. Alcoholic Chess is an absurd game played on a large board with glasses or bottles replacing the chessmen. If the opponent's piece is captured the drink it represents must be consumed by the capturer before the play proceeds.
16. Mahesh Chandra Banerjee.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

PRANAB MUKHERJEE,
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All answers sent in by the contributor

KAMLESH MEHTA



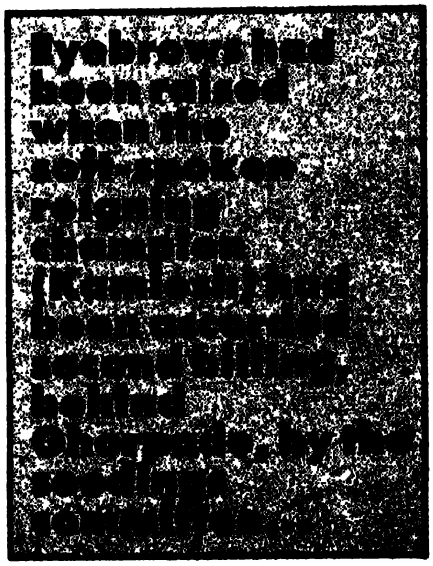
THE MAESTRO

Kamlesh Mehta (left), the men's singles champion with runner-up Sujoy Ghorpade

THE tribute from the maestro of the not-too-distant past, Gautam Divan, summed it up perfectly. "Regrets? None at all. For my record has not only been erased by a great player, but by one who also is a marvellous gentleman. Kamlesh Mehta without doubt has been the country's finest player in the last decade."

Indeed, Kamlesh's history-authoring seventh title during the recent 53rd National Table Tennis Championships was the highlight of the Bombay tournament. And by thrashing top seeded Sujay Ghorpade in the title-round, Kamlesh not only sent overboard Divan's achievement of winning the Maharaja Pithapuram Cup six times, but assured for himself the top spot in Indian table tennis' Hall of Fame.

Eyebrows had been raised when the soft-spoken reigning champion had been accorded second billing, behind Ghorpade, by the seedings committee. Those entrusted with the task had even overlooked the fact that just a few weeks before the Nationals, Kamlesh had beaten Ghorpade to the SAF gold in Colombo. Perhaps there then was one more point for Kamlesh to prove. And perhaps this accounts for the vengeance with which Kamlesh went about retaining his crown.



The seedings committee was also severely embarrassed in the title round of the Travancore Cup—the symbol of supremacy in the women's section—when Niyati Shah, seeded ninth, made shortwork of top seeded Ambica Radhika. Though Niyati required four games to win her third singles title, the final was pretty one-sided and more than the quality of play, what held one's attention was the charming presence of the finalists!

The bronze medals in the open events went to Karnataka's Chetan Baboor and to Bengal's Anindita Chakraborty. Both highly gifted.

Baboor beat unseeded S. Ramaswami to the number three spot. While among women, the class IX student of Hind Motor HS, Anindita, dashed the aspirations of third seeded B. Bhuvaneshwari. Anindita was seeded 14. The shy Bengal girl also bagged the Fairplay Trophy.

Though there were quite a few upsets, especially in the women's section, when the last eight stage was reached it showed just one unseeded player in contention for both the Maharaja Pithapuram as well as the Travancore Cups. It was Ramaswami (who gained the quarters at the expense of fourth seeded Arup Basak of Bengal) in the men's section; Bengal's Debosmita Das among women.

(In fact, while both Anindita and Debosmita made the last eight, Bengal went unrepresented in the men's quarter-finals. Basak and Pradip Samanta made the pre-quarters, but made no further progress. From East Zone's point of view, Assam's talented Arun Jyoti Barua was the lone man to finish in the last eight.)

While Kamlesh successfully defended his title won at Jaipur last March, Mantu Ghosh, the youngest-ever women's title-holder, failed even to make the quarters. Drawn against Niyati in the third round, she went down rather tamely and quickly dissolved into tears.

The success of Kamlesh and Niyati only confirmed the 'old guard' was a cut above the rest.

In the Inter-State championships, which preceded the Open Nationals, Railways scripted the most sensational upset, dethroning the Kamlesh Mehta-led Banks Sports Board (BSB) to lift the Barna Bellack Cup. It was a classic final, and it really came to life when the flashy Nupur Santra shocked Kamlesh. That was too much for BSB. And in the decider, Ganesh Kundu gave BSB's Sunil Babras few opportunities, ensuring that a new champion team would be crowned at the Andheri Sports Complex.

The women's final for the Jayalaksmi Cup was one big yawn. Indeed, old-timers were hard-pressed to recall exactly how long back had a title round seen such a listless finale. For the record, Tamil Nadu coasted to a fairly comfortable victory over Maharashtra B. And in doing so, made history. For the TN women had never before annexed the Cup.

It was a proud moment for the TN coach, Chandrasekhar. As captain, he had guided the TN men to three titles. And now, as coach, he had quietly inspired his team to a national title. Someone promptly dubbed him 'the Beckenbauer of Indian table tennis'. And with some good reasons too.

Coached by the affable Manjit Dua, the Delhi teams made the semi-finals in both sections. The home state, Maharashtra, too, secured last-four berths in both the men's and women's categories.

Where Bengal is concerned, both the men and women made the quarter finals, as in Jaipur. But there was a difference. The men, riding Basak's virtuosity, finished fifth, an improvement by two from the last nationals. (Incidentally, eventual winners Railways had stopped Bengal 3-2 in a nerve-wracking quarter final. A match which had a peculiar emotional dimension as two of the Railways players—Santra and Kundu are Calcutta-based and had first caught the eye whilst turning out for Bengal).

The Bengal women, though, slipped marginally, ending at number 6, down one position. Still, even though Railways, champions at Jaipur, beat Bengal to the fifth spot, Bengal's Anindita brought considerable cheer to the state camp by winning both her singles against the much more fancied Radhika and Mantu.

Sonali Bhattacharya, too, had her moments, but it was Anindita who was not only more consistent, but clearly looked the more classier player. It's a pity really—and very surprising—that Anindita (runner-up in last December's junior nationals) failed to figure among the four probables for the Olympic qualifying tournament.

That both the Assamese men and women also made the last eight in the team championships is quite heartening. In fact, it's very good news for the region.

Lokendra Pratap Sahi, Bombay



Women's singles champion Niyati Shah with the Travancore Cup. Ambika Radhika looks on

PHOTOGRAPHS BY R K BOWRIE



Moderate Success

THE recently-concluded inaugural under-21 Rajiv Gandhi Gold Cup at Jamshedpur, which can certainly be termed as a moderate success in footballing terms, has thrown up some uneasy questions at its wake Can the All India Football Federation (AIFF), bankrupt in more senses than one, find out a way to sustain such a new and expensive concept? For it is hardly feasible that they can find such a willing taker as the Tatas every alternate year

The way the federation worked in its inaugural year was an indicator of the shape of things to come. They had entrusted the Indian Football Association (IFA) for hosting the fare The latter, citing that their schedule was already too cramped with the Federation Cup and the under-21 Nationals (the dates of which are yet to be fixed), lobbed the ball back to the AIFF's court and it was at the last moment that Tatas came to the rescue

As the tournament wore on, though one was touched by the youths' promised keenness on the field, it was quite apparent that the gate receipts were not really upto expectations So the organisers then decided to let the local schoolboys and girls enter the stands at a subsidised rate to give them a look Though no official confirmation was forthcoming, the loss was estimated at several lakhs and hence the question of the tournament's sustenance is now of prime importance



The Nehru Gold Cup which was started in 1982, is still alive and kicking Thus, I don't see any problem with this tournament's future also,' said Mr Priya Ranjan Das Munshi, the AIFF president.

To get on with the tournament proper, the Indian performance told an all-too-familiar story. A story of flattering to deceive Coach Jahar Das' boys started with a flourish in their first match against Iran which ended goalless. In their second engagement against the eventual champions Romania, they came up with a stirring display of defensive football before going down by an injury time goal.

As is wont in a round robin league format, the power equation among the five contestants-Romania, South Korea, Egypt, Iran and the hosts had emerged clearly after the first half of

Romanian striker Ionel scores against Korea

the tournament. India, realising that they were out of any real contention for the finalists' berths, had little option but to play an open game and paid the penalty by losing 0-3 to Egypt in their next match. The team morale sunk to a low and they ultimately finished wooden-spooners. A feat, which their senior counterparts had been achieving with great consistency in the Nehru Gold Cup.

Though the tournament once again exposed the vast discrepancy in standards between the developed footballing countries like Romania or South Korea (the runners-up here), it must be said that the hosts had let go the opportunity of finishing much more honourably by failing to win the first match itself. There was little difference in the standards of the bottom three—Egypt, Iran and India and full points in their opener against Iran would certainly have kept alive their hopes a little longer.

While the concept of the under-21 format was hailed here by the experts and the coaches of the foreign teams alike, the AIFF supremo's hope of building up the nucleus of a team for the next Pre-Olympics from here is unfounded. While the four foreign teams had mostly experimented with players with an average age of 18-19 years, India chose to fall back on players who are "borderline cases" and would be past the Olympic age limit of 23 years in another four years' time. The stars of this Indian team like captain Alok Das, Goutam Ghosh, Shibu Thapa—by their own admission—fall within this category.

However, loftier ambitions apart, one feels that this set would be certainly able to produce a sizeable bunch for their senior teams in future and that was the only positive thing about the Indian performance. One of the most consistent performers was the shy, quiet Hemanta Dora under the bar. Barring the occasional lapse he suffered in the Egypt match, Dora was a picture of confidence throughout—always intercepting the crosses correctly and bringing off those acrobatic saves.

Stopper Alok Das, who comes from the North 24-Parganas town of Basirhat and a TFA protege since its inception, had enough international experience under his belt, was another source of strength. He, however, faltered in the latter stages due to an old shin injury and was rested in the last inconsequential match against South Korea.

The revelation in the Indian defence was, of course, the puny Subir Ghosh—another Calcutta-bred product who had assisted George Telegraph last year. Midfielder Aqeel Ansari, already a seasoned campaigner at 20, was consistent throughout with his frail structure capable of taking an enormous workload. The two-man forwardline of Goutam Ghosh and Tauseef Jamal, erstwhile TFA collegues, did not look thrustful enough before the powerful, man-marking defence lines. Ghosh, who was fortunate enough to train with the Dutch giants PSV Eindhoven last year for two weeks during TFA's European sabbatical, had little to show apart from a spectacular goal against the Koreans.

Ever since they played their first match against Egypt, Romania looked the best bet for the title and they did not disappoint. The violence-marred final against the Koreans did leave a bitter taste in the mouth, but it was a fallout of the typical 'professionalism" indulged in by the European teams today. While both the teams were playing the tactical "waiting game" with more emphasis on defence, the East Europeans added their own variety to it with surreptitious kickings and play-acting.

The Koreans fell into this well-laid trap by retaliating and earning series of bookings They even gave vent to their frustrations by inflicting a serious injury on Romanian Gane Ionel, (top-scorer in the tournament with five goals including two in the final), who had to leave the ground with a bloodied mouth. Things reached a flashpoint with about 10 minutes from full time when after a free-for-all, two players from each side were given marching orders. Thus, it was an ungainly climax to a relatively placid and well-conducted tournament.

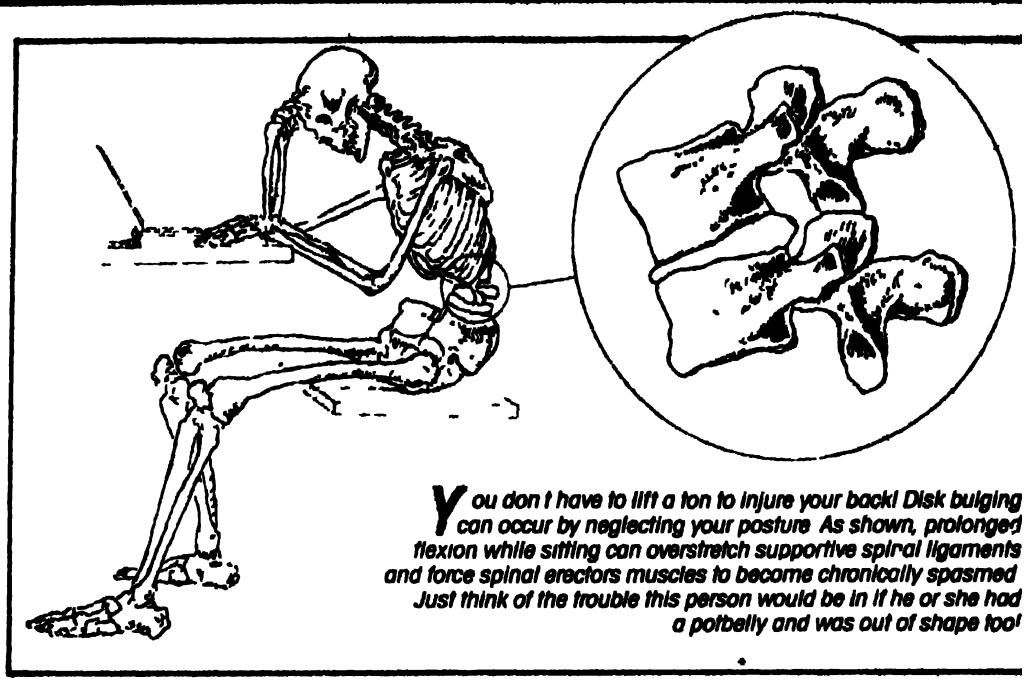
Gautam Bhattacharyya, Jamshedpur

PHOTOGRAPHS BY RAJIB DE

The jubilant Romanian team with the Rajiv Gandhi Gold Cup



Don't bend yourself out of shape



You don't have to lift a ton to injure your back! Disk bulging can occur by neglecting your posture. As shown, prolonged flexion while sitting can overstretch supportive spinal ligaments and force spinal erectors muscles to become chronically spasmed. Just think of the trouble this person would be in if he or she had a potbelly and was out of shape too!

THERE you are, sweating away training hard squeezing out the last rep on the bench press. This is one exercise that you are good at, but it certainly is not your favourite. But then you devote extra time and energy to it because you happen to be good at it. Fine but there's a slight problem that could develop into serious injury. Hey what are you talking about did we hear someone say?

What happens is this. All of us who are into fitness have one particular set of exercises that we keep on doing. Maybe this is because there are specific bodyparts that have to be developed (this again varies from person to person) and so excessive strain and stress is placed on these parts. These parts in course of time do develop all right. That is where the problem starts. When one set of muscles are being strengthened the opposing muscles suffer from strain and stress imbalance. And this focussing on one muscle group to the exclusion of the opposing muscles can wreak havoc on your posture, leaving you vulnerable to joint problems and pain in the back, especially the lower back.

Though one may not always realise it, posture is very essential to body builders and fitness enthusiasts. Without good posture, training can be slowed or interrupted by injury. But there's a catch regarding posture and weight training and its this; weight training and exercise can help correct posture problems but training incorrectly can ruin your posture.

And you can see this problem reflected in the physique of most people who are into the fitness trip. The torso leaning forward, as if being pulled by some invisible force, or a very prominent posterior accompanied by an exaggerated curve to the lower back. Or the most common one of them all, stooped ,rounded shoulders that is very often related to guys who are heavily into the bench pressing scene. Each of these sights are caused by muscle imbalance.

What then is good posture? It's one that puts the least amount of strain on the ligaments

The Health Column

and joints of the spine, pelvis and legs. It is a reflection of the balance between curves of the spine, the degree of tension of ligaments and muscles, and the strength of the muscles of the lower back. Good posture means having your muscles and joints function in the most efficient way, at the same time minimising chronic stress, and keeping the back free of injury.

By contrast a bad posture, a stooped one for instance, puts uneven pressure on the discs between the vertebrae and forces the back muscles to work overtime holding you up. Muscles can go into spasms and disc pressure can irritate nerves. And back pain is the net result.

Time and time again in the Fitness Column of this magazine we have stressed on abdominal exercises. The abdominal muscles play a major role in holding you upright and when these muscles are not in the best of form or if you've got a potbelly then you are in for bad times. Having the extra weight of your tummy hanging onto the front of the body means that the person has to focus all his energies to lean back, to keep him from falling forward, and in the process puts all his weight on the spine.

But unfortunately this condition is not restricted to potbellies. Unfortunately it can also happen to fitness enthusiasts with over-worked lower back muscles and weak abdominals.

Muscle imbalances and chronic muscle tension are not the only causes of bad posture. Other day-to-day factors cannot be overlooked. High heeled shoes are a common cause of bad posture. This happens because wearing high heels forces the pelvis to rotate forward (and at the same time forces the posterior out), placing unnatural stress on the lumbar spine. Heels should not be over an inch to prevent this problem. Wallet in the hip pocket is another reason. This has the effect of rotating the pelvis to one side when you are sitting.

In today's world, prolonged sitting is another reason for incorrect posture. Even without a wallet in your hip pocket, prolonged sitting can be a strain on your back. Because of the effect of nonalignment, sitting puts a force on the lumbar spine that is almost 50% greater than the one exerted when you are standing. If you have a job that requires your sitting at the table for long hours on end then, get up from your seat at least two times in an hour and walk around. And when you are at work do not sit hunched forward. This again places undue pressure on the lower back.

At this juncture it is only proper to concentrate on how one can avoid muscle imbalances and the incorrect posture that comes with it. Well it's actually very simple. All you've got to do is closely monitor your training. Don't make the common mistake of focussing only on the exercises that you are best at, or the glamour exercises. But if you are developing the anterior deltoids to the exclusion of the medial and posterior deltoids, you're setting yourself up for trouble.



Correct your posture if you're to stand tall in the walk of life

Here is the rule of the thumb for avoiding muscle imbalances: For every pushing exercise counter it by a pulling exercise to counter the opposite muscles. For every set of bench presses, do a set of rows.

Through balanced training, appropriate stretching and carrying yourself correctly, you can correct your improper posture, starve off injuries and maximise the efficacy of your training.

Paying attention to posture can be a very big step to standing tall in the walk of life. ●



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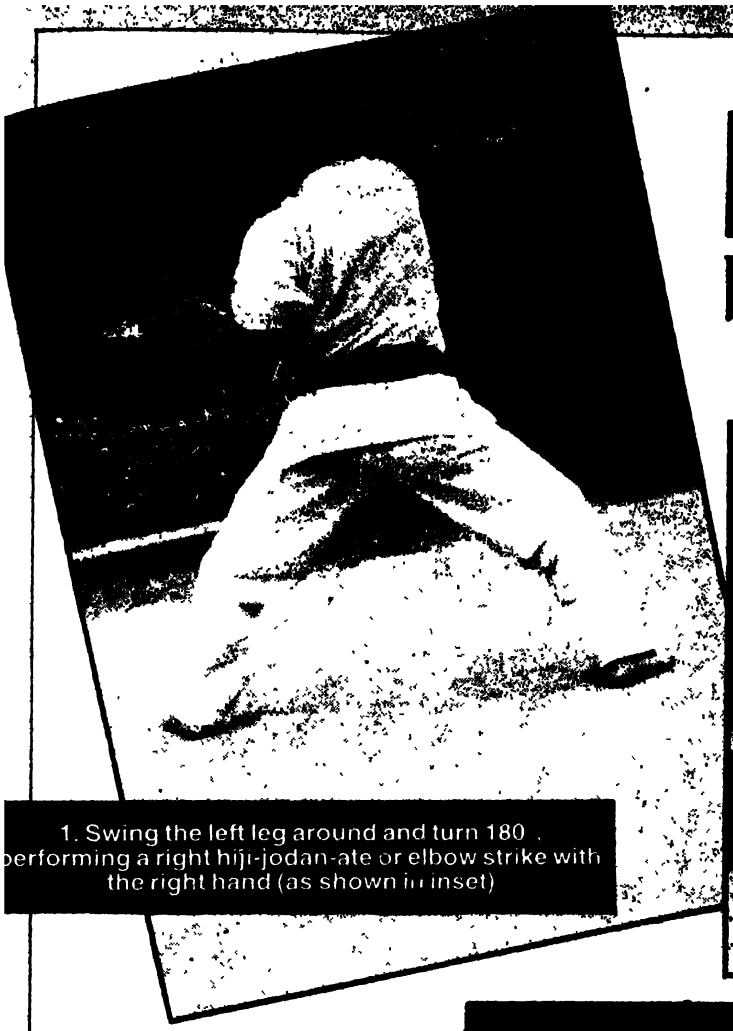
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KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



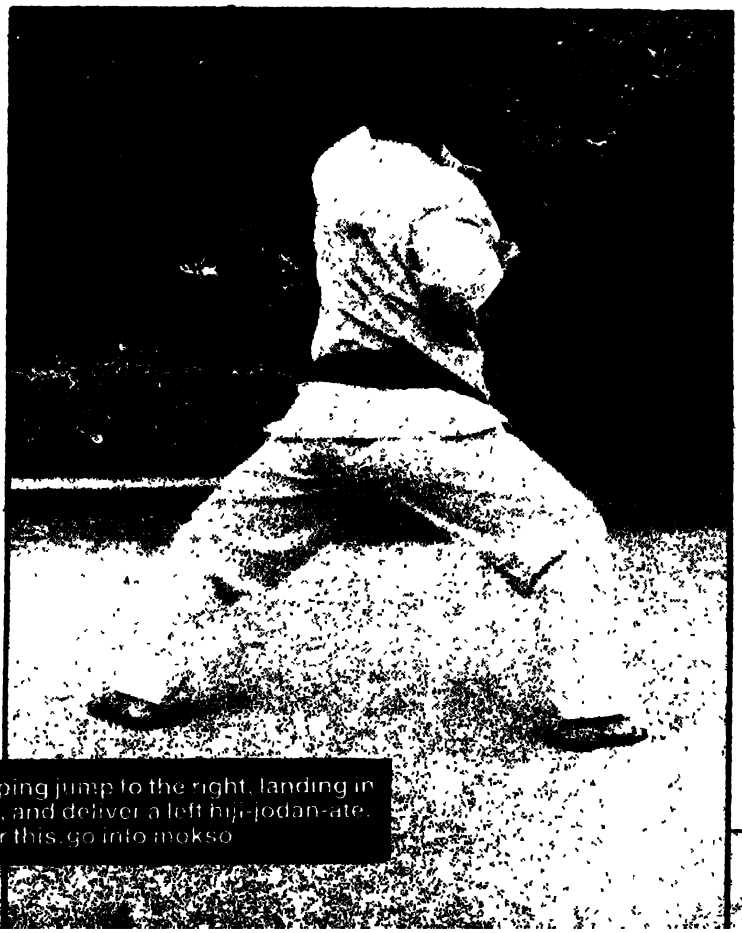
1. Swing the left leg around and turn 180°, performing a right hiji-jodan-ate or elbow strike with the right hand (as shown in inset)



THIS is the concluding portion of the *kata* we have been serialising. From the position we left you in last week, turn 180°, and perform these last few movements before going into *mokso* and ending. Hope you've got all the movements clear. If not write in, and we'll try and clarify your doubts.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



2. Perform a hopping jump to the right, landing in the same stance, and deliver a left hiji-jodan-ate. After this, go into mokso

NEW DELHI

Rath Marathon

A DAY before the Ekta Yatra entered the capital, a Rath yatra without political overtones took place here. 900 runners participated in the 10th edition of the annual Rath Indian Open marathon organised by the Shriram Foods and Fertilisers Industries. As in the past, the 1992 Rath Marathon was dedicated to a national cause, the earthquake victims of the Uttarkashi region. Previously the Rath marathons have focused on ecology, harmony, national integration, health and fitness and other such laudable themes. The themes are chosen in keeping with national aspirations of the particular year.

The greatest contribution of the Rath marathon has been to popularise road running amongst Indian women. In 1983, a diminutive, bare-footed college girl from Delhi, Asha Aggarwal displayed remarkable grit in winning the Rath marathon.

Inspired by the publicity and support that she got, Asha became India's foremost woman marathon runner and set a trend in the country. Other eminent women runners to emerge after their baptism in the Rath marathon are Suman Rawat and Sunita Godara nee Anand. The intensity and sharp rivalry of this trio nearly matches that of Seles, Graf and Sabatini in international tennis.

Suman achieved a hat-trick of wins, 1987—1989. Asha has also won it thrice, 1983, 1985 and 1991. Sunita won the event in 1984 and again this year. Asha holds the meet record for this event, a creditable 2:40:26. The women's race hogs the limelight annually in the Rath Marathon due to the pioneering efforts and rivalry of Asha, Suman and Sunita Godara.

For Asha the Rath Marathon will always have fond memories, for it launched her athletics career. Two years after her initial success she became the first Indian woman to win a marathon gold at an Asian meet, the 1985 ATF at Jakarta. The 1992 Rath Marathon was a disaster for Asha as stomach cramps compelled her to drop out midway through the event. She was then trailing her arch rival Sunita Godara, by about two and a half minutes.

The lanky Sunita a scientific runner who plans her diet, competitions and schedules meticulously, set a scorching pace. Till the turning point, she matched the sturdy male runners, stride for stride. Her winning time was 2:49:11, the fourth best ever in this event. Her splendid and convincing win silenced many of her detractors in the AAFI. Many doubting jonahs felt that the shrewd Sunita Godara picked her marathons to notch up easy wins. Now her aggressive front running silenced many of her critics. It was her first major win in India, earlier she had won marathons conducted in Malaysia and Thailand. Teenager Ringzen Angmo, a product of the SAI's high altitude training centre at Shilaru came a creditable second in the women's race with a timing of 2:59.28.

There was a new winner in the men's race this year. 34-year-old Sandhur Singh of the Services won his first major marathon in a creditable time of 2:23.42. Sandhur who has been training at Pune in the Services camp ran a well-judged race and took over the lead in the latter stages only. He said, "with better competition I would have run faster." The meet record was set in 1982 by H.K. Seetharama with a timing of

Sandhur Singh was the men's winner in the Rath Marathon



2:18.52. Second in the race was Ramesh Singh of Pune Armed Forces Sports College. He did the bulk of the early running but was overtaken in the last 10 kms.

Novy Kapadia

CALCUTTA

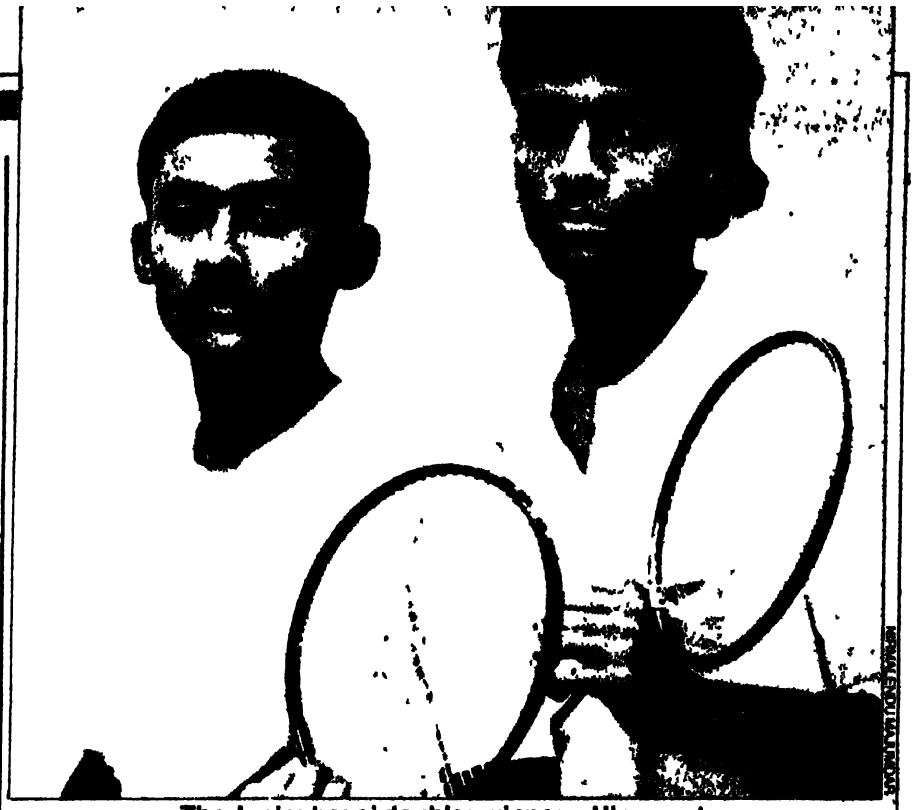
Junior State Badminton

SOUTH CALCUTTA district's emergence as the sole producer of juniors in the State was the highlight of the State junior badminton championships which were held for the first time at Milan Sangha in Lake Gardens. South Calcutta made a virtual sweep of the singles titles as its shuttlers wrapped up five of the six titles at stake. Only Debasree Dey of Central Calcutta prevented South Calcutta's domination.

But if the South Calcutta district players took the cake in the State meet, the School of Badminton, only one of its kind in the State, deserves a lot of praise. The private school, which has centres all over Bengal, has already carved a niche for itself in badminton circles in the State. And the fact that all the five South Calcutta players to win laurels at Milan Sangha are or were School of Badminton products, speaks eloquently about the school's success.

Although the State meet passed off rather smoothly, the organisers can be faulted for a major blunder which saw the early exit of quite a few good players in various age groups. Till the third round of all the age groups, the organisers flouting tournament rules, held games of 21 points each. Ironically, despite a number of West Bengal Badminton Association senior officials, including its secretary, being involved in the meet closely, little effort was taken to rectify the unprecedented elimination procedure.

Another major blunder was detected in the junior girls' draw. Two players of the same district were pitted to meet in the first round and when the error was pointed out to chief referee Manoj Guha, he messed it up more by putting one of the players, an unseeded entry from Hooghly district, in place of the top seed's place, who had pulled out due to health reasons.



The Junior boys' doubles winners: Himangshu Goswami (left) and Debanjan Roy Chowdhury

Despite the controversies, the tournament saw some promising players in Arup Baidya and Arindam Dasgupta in the mini-boys section, Isha Bhattacharya in the junior girls category, Sandipan Dasgupta and Debanjan Majumdar in the sub-junior boys and Arindam Mukherjee in the junior boys sections.

Arindam Mukherjee had the quickest final win in the tournament. A School of Badminton trainee, Arindam, nicknamed 'Atom' blasted Samrat Das 15-5, 15-3 in an one-sided final.

Left-hander Isha made the most of top-seed Amrita Banerjee's absence in the championship. She landed a fine double by winning the sub-junior girls crown defeating Sujaya Mukherjee 9-12, 11-2, 11-5 and the junior girls title beating Indrani Chatterjee of Burdwan 11-7, 11-5. Isha, who now trains under seven-times senior State champion Indrajit Mukherjee, has all the makings of a fine player.

Perhaps, the best final of the tournament was the mini-boys event. This saw Arup Baidya and Arindam Dasgupta fighting it out till the last point of the match that went till the third and deciding game. Baidya the top seed lost the first game 14-18, but clinched the second 18-15. Arindam made a flying start in the deciding game and even took a 9-3 lead. But, Baidya, showing enormous composure bounced back and won the game and the final 15-12.

The State meet's other individual winners included Debasree Dey of Central Calcutta, 11-6, 11-3 winner over Ashrafi Asidhar in the mini-girls section and Debanjan Majumdar, a 12-15, 18-13, 15-0 victor over Sandipan Dasgupta (who pulled out midway through the deciding game due to cramps) in the sub-junior boys section.

In the doubles section, the sub-junior boys crown was won by Saikat Mukherjee and Debrup Mukherjee; the junior boys title went to West Dinajpur's Himangshu Goswami and Debanjan Roy Chowdhury and the mini-boys crown was annexed by the Central Calcutta team of Arindam Dasgupta and Rudravo Shome.

Soumitra Bose

Wake up, Azhar

ON this tour of Australia Azhar's performance has been simply shocking. It was sad to see an experienced player like him wilting under pressure. One feels that if he has any self respect and love for his country then he should step down from the captaincy and concentrate more on his personal performances. As a captain he was a dismal failure. Even in terms of strategy he on many occasions let the opponents take away the honours.

It is high time he voluntarily stepped down from captaincy. In case he does not do so then it's time for the Board to scrutinise matters and come up with a solution.

N. GUHA
Calcutta

How much longer Azhar?

AFTER a tremendous season with Derbyshire last season, one hoped that Azhar would do wonders for India with his batting. But his performance in Australia has been very dismal. He has certainly not done any justice to his reputation as a batsman or as a captain. Even after a major part of the tour is over Azhar is still struggling to find his form and come to terms with the fast and bouncy Australian wickets.

If Azhar does not find his form in the near future then the Indian selectors will have to find a replacement for the Indian captain in the forthcoming World Cup. You have it in you Azhar! It's time to show the world that you are one of the classic batsmen of our times.

JOYDEEP GHOSH
Howrah

Azhar got a century in the Adelaide Test. Now does that make a difference?—Ed



AMIT DUTTA

Sachin Tendulkar: continues to impress

Bravo Tendulkar

SACHIN TENDULKAR is one person who certainly impressed on the tour Down Under. When the rest of the team just did not perform to expectations, there was this youngster who, at times of pressure, took the load on his shoulders and on many occasions put India into a comfortable position. His strokeplay and running between wickets was stupendous.

That he impressed the Australians came as no surprise to anyone.

Here's hoping that this talented youngster continues to enthrall his fans all over the world and put up more inspired performances. Indian cricket could certainly do with more players like him.

B. S. VISWANATH,
Bangalore

'Tis certainly not cricket

SUNIL GAVASKAR through the years and made himself many well wishers and was like an idol to millions. But during this tour to Australia certain utterences made by him were certainly not in the best interests of the game and worse still did not befit a man of his stature.

The statement that he made against the Australian umpires India is not playing against 11 but against 13 was not in good humour. There is enough tension in the world of cricket and this statement did nothing but aggravate the situation.

Certainly not something expected from the great Gavaskar. It is high time he understood that even the 'greats' have to be sportsmen in the true sense of the word.

RAVI SHARMA
Bombay

Good reading

THE Olympic ideal in the issue dated 1-7 Jan made good reading. It is very true that the Olympic ideal is certainly missing in today's sporting world. It has now been replaced by megabucks and the desire to win at all costs fair or unfair.

There is certainly no point in blaming the changing times. It is not just the times that are changing but the attitude of the people. Winning at all costs is the motto of people in all spheres of life. Earlier on, participation was more important than winning, but those days are now history. Now it's the money that makes the world, including the world of sport, go round. One wonders if things will ever change; or is it too late?

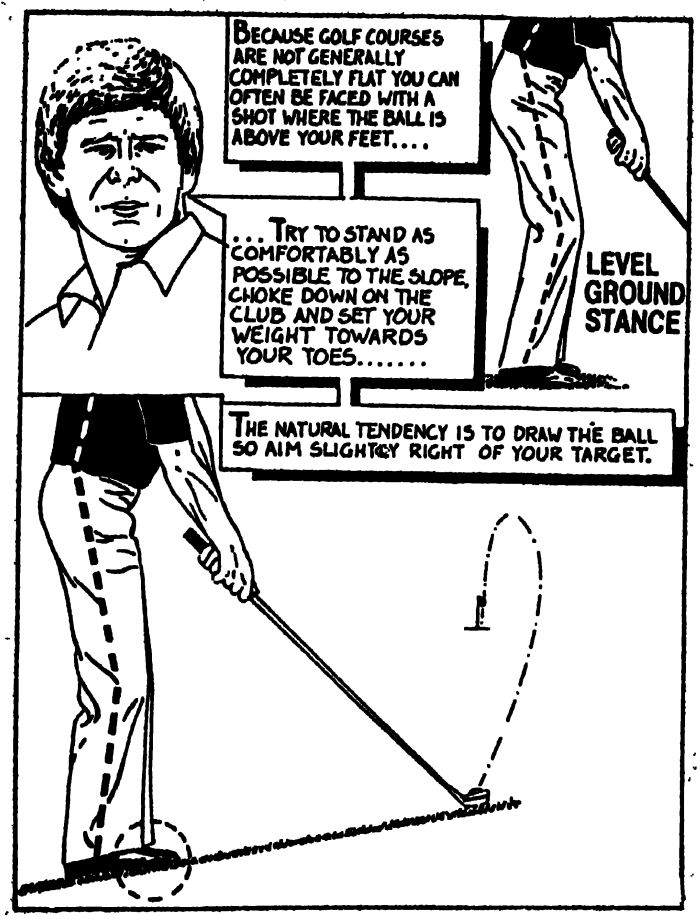
ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack

The cover photograph of Kapil Dev in this issue is by Kamal Julka and the poster photograph of Monica Seles is by Tommy Hindley.

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

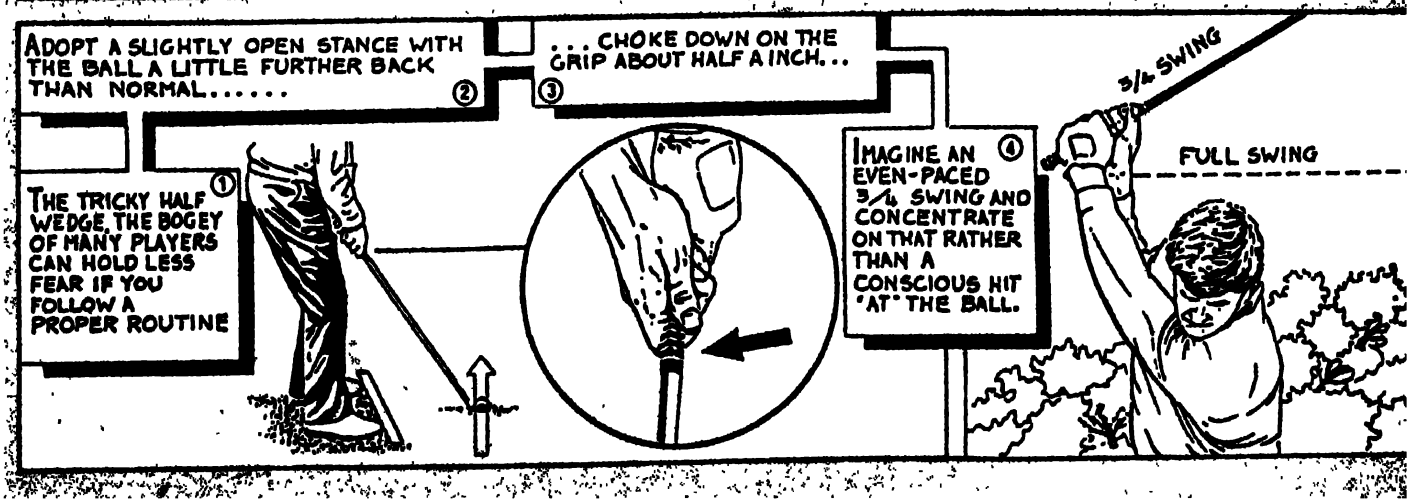
Ball Above Feet



Ball Below Feet



The Half Wedge



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Which of the current Australian cricketers is nicknamed Daniel ?
2 Which cricket captain of England was born on All Fools Day?
3 Which current Australian cricketer has Clarence as his middle name?
4 Who was the first bowler to achieve a hat trick in a limited overs International?
5 Who is the first Australian to score a century in each innings of two successive first class matches?
6 When for the first time was Boon promoted to open the innings?
7 What is common to Allan Border and Geoff Marsh?
8 What was the dressing room nickname of Mike Gatting?
9 Which member of a visiting cricket team is alleged during a Test match in Calcutta to have appeared from sick bed and invited team mates to a round of golf?
10 Who scored 91 first class centuries between his 40th and 50th birthday?
11 Which Australian bowler made a remarkable Test debut taking eight wickets in each innings?
12 Against whom and where did the bowler referred to in the above question make his Test debut?
13 On which ground was the first Test of the Bodyline series played?
14 Who was the first bowler to capture 100 wickets in England Australia Tests?
15 Who is the only man to have captained England in both football and cricket?
16 Against which country did Kapil Dev celebrate his first Test victory as captain?

ANSWERS

1 David Boon
2 David Gower
3 David (Clarence) Boon
4 Jalaluddin (Pakistan) v Australia at Hyderabad in 1982 83
5 David Hookes (185 105 v Queensland and 135 156 v New South Wales), both in Adelaide in February 1977
6 Against India in Adelaide 1985-86
7 The middle name—'Robert
8 Bulldog
9 Geoff Boycott
10 Jack Hobbs
11 R A L Massie
12 Against England at Lord s
13 Sydney Cricket Ground
14 Johnny Briggs
15 R E Foster
16 England

CHESS

ANATOLY KARPOV may no longer be as terrifyingly accurate a player as he was but he still produces masterpieces on a fairly regular basis Given a position with clear strategic motifs Karpov knows exactly what to do Like when playing with an Isolani

White Karpov Vs Black Inman OHRA 91

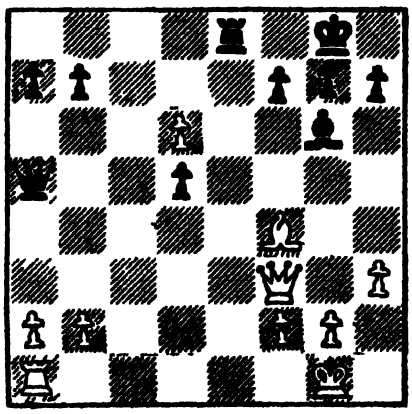
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dc4 3 e3 e5 4 Bc4 ed4 5 ed4 Nf6 Nf3 Be7 0-0 0-0 8 h3 Nbd7 9 Nc3 Nb6 10 Bb3 c6 11 Re1 Nfd5 12 Ne4 Bf5 12 Ne5 Nd7 14 Qf3 Ne5 The quiet 14 Bg6 may have been safer Now white has a strong initiative and f7 is weak

15 de5 Bg6 15 Be6 16 Bd2 still leaves black feeling uncomfortable

16 Bf4! Qa5 Simplifying by 16- Nf4 17 Qf1 Be4 18 Re1 will leave white with a total grip on the light squares

17 Nd6 Bd6 18 ed6 Rfe8? Very natural but there is a very natural refutation **19 Re8 Re8 20 Bd5! cd5** (See Diagram) **21 d7! Re7** The passed pawn can t be stopped easily 21 -Rd8 22 Qe3 f6 23 Rc1 Qb5 24 Qc6 Bf7 25 Qe7 is crushing **22 Rc1 23 Rc8 Rd8 24 b4! Qb6 25 Bc7 Rc8 26 Bb6 ab6 27 Qd5 h6 28 Qb7 Rc1 9 29 Kh2 Rc2 30 Qb6 Ra2 31 Qd4 (1-0)**

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

SUCCESS in bridge as in most other games, comes largely from avoiding errors rather than from executing brilliancies the chances for which occur all too infrequently Therefore, it is a pity that a brilliant play is sometimes tainted by an opponent s technical error Today s hand from a Swiss Teams in Canada early last year is an example

NORTH
♠ K Q 9 4
♥ K 7 6 3
♦ Q 8 5 2
♣ K

WEST
♠ 10 7 2
♥ 10 5
♦ 9 3
♣ Q J 10 9 7 2

EAST
♠ A J 5
♥ Q J 9 4
♦ J 10 7 6
♣ 8 3

SOUTH
♠ 8 6 3
♥ A 8 2
♦ A K 4
♣ A 6 5 4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

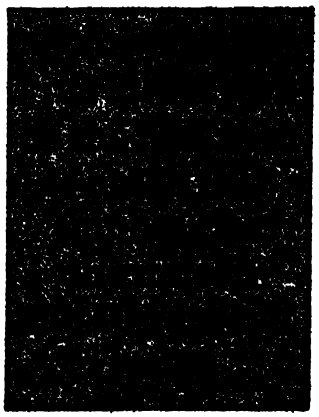
This was the auction at both tables One declarer won the club queen lead came up to the diamond king and led a spade to the king losing to East s ace South ducked the club return won the next round of clubs and led a spade to the *nine* keeping West off lead and scoring his contract with three diamond tricks and two in each of the other suits

At the other table after an identical start Mike Passell of USA world champion in 1979 followed to the first spade with the *jack!* On the second round of spades declarer expecting him to have started with the singleton jack or jack ten doubleton went up with the queen and down in his contract A brilliant defence for not only did it create a losing option for declarer but also paved the way for an entry to the West hand in case South misguessed, as he duly did

Losing option? Misguess? Well, it is hard to see why declarer should have played the way he did for if West had the spade ace the contract was hopeless in any case—he would have gone up with the ace to cash his club winners

Santanu Ghosh

40+ AND STILL GOING STRON





John Walker turned 40 on January 12. That morning, he got up from his bed and walked to the door. Outside, the sky was a translucent blue. Pink bougainvillaes formed a brilliant canopy over the front porch. A tangled heap of running shoes lay on the porch; perhaps the only sign that the owner of the house was a world class runner.

He bent and flexed his knees slowly. Injury had hit him once again and now, he could no longer take part in the race that was scheduled to be held later that evening called, 'The Night of Miling'. Walker planned to be the first man to break four minutes for the mile at the age of 40. Now the attempt was to be pushed to February, when he would have recovered from the injury.

JOHN WALKER, one of history's finest milers, lives in Auckland on a 10-acre horse and animal farm, with his wife Helen and three children. He owns another 56 acres, 13 miles away, where he grazes cattle He often has Helen driving him to the other pasture and leaves him there with nothing but his running gear So he is forced to run back home.

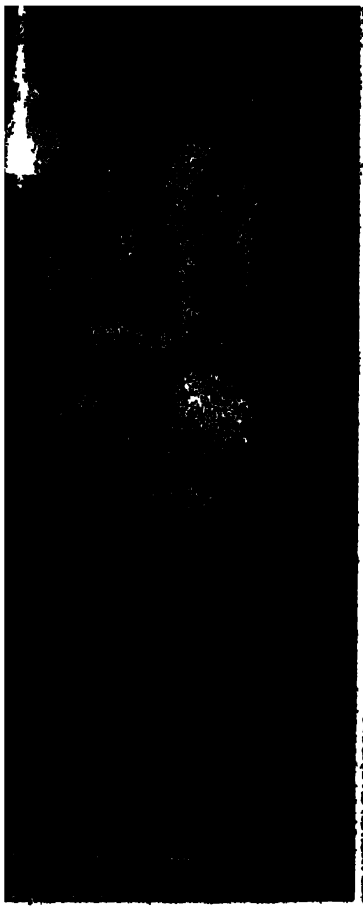
'I just don't have any idle time,' he says, 'for example, a recent morning went like this. We ran the horses at eight o'clock. The blacksmith arrived at half-past nine to shoe them for the sale next week. Then after that, I have to wash the horses. In the afternoon, I have to go and shift the cattle and the horses have to be taken for a run once again '

The farm is not a large operation. But despite the pleasures got from running it, it is actual, physical running that still gives him the most enjoyment. And even now, at age 40, it is the setting of records that brings the most thrill. At present, Walker has his eyes set on being the first man at the age of 40 to break four minutes in the mile. The world mile record for men 40 and over belongs to Wilson Waigwa of Kenya, who ran 4:05 39 in 1989, four months after he turned 40.

'There's a big difference between 4:05 and 4:00,' says John Walker, 'damn big difference. We're talking about 40 metres. I get amused when I hear about people taking five years off and expecting to come back and break four minutes. There's no way you can! Added to that, I'm not as good as I used to be. I've changed. My stride length's probably half of what it was. I probably haven't got the same desire. But I'm still bloody competitive on the track.'

John Walker has indeed been a fierce competitor on the track. A list of his achievements conclusively proves this: 1500m Olympic gold medalist in '76. The first man to break 3:50 in the mile. The first man to run 100 sub-four minutes races. And now, in his 20th year in international athletics, he is running strong to





PHOTOGRAPH: ADRIAN MURRELL

> 'He has a tough exterior,' says Steve Scott, 'but once you break through it though, he's extremely kind'

set that new record in the 40-year range. As young miler, Joe Fallon says, 'He pioneers everything.'

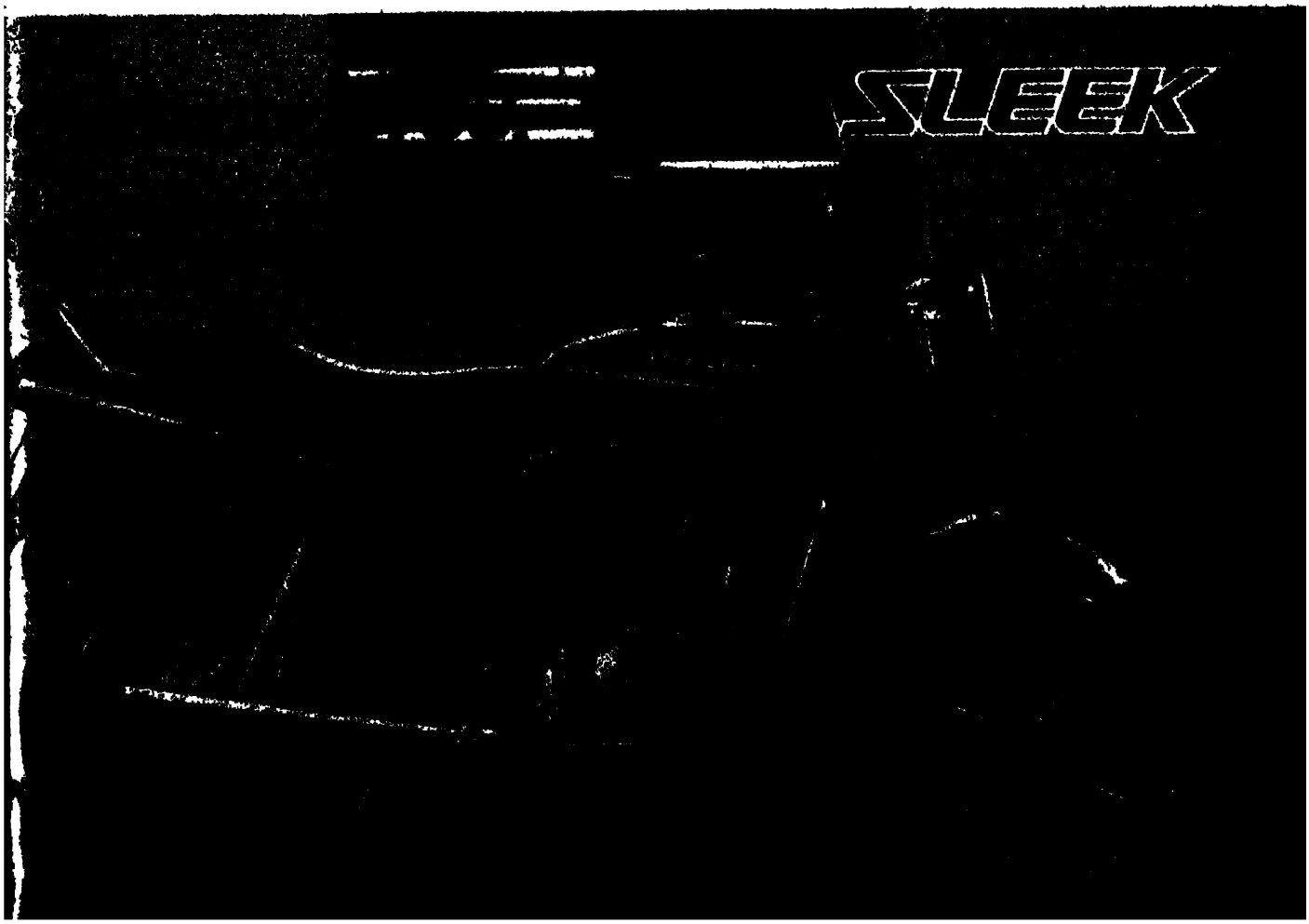
Not only is he regarded as a sort of pioneer, but his persona has been a focus of interest on the athletics circuit. Earlier, he would walk around, with long shoulder-length hair, and strings of necklaces around his neck, casual, cool, silent, but racing fiercely. Nowadays, a lot of the bohemian in him has gone, as he has settled into a happy domestic life. 'He has a tough exterior,' says US miler, Steve Scott, 35, who has been one of Walker's closest friends, and fiercest rivals for years, 'but once you break through it though, he's extremely kind.'

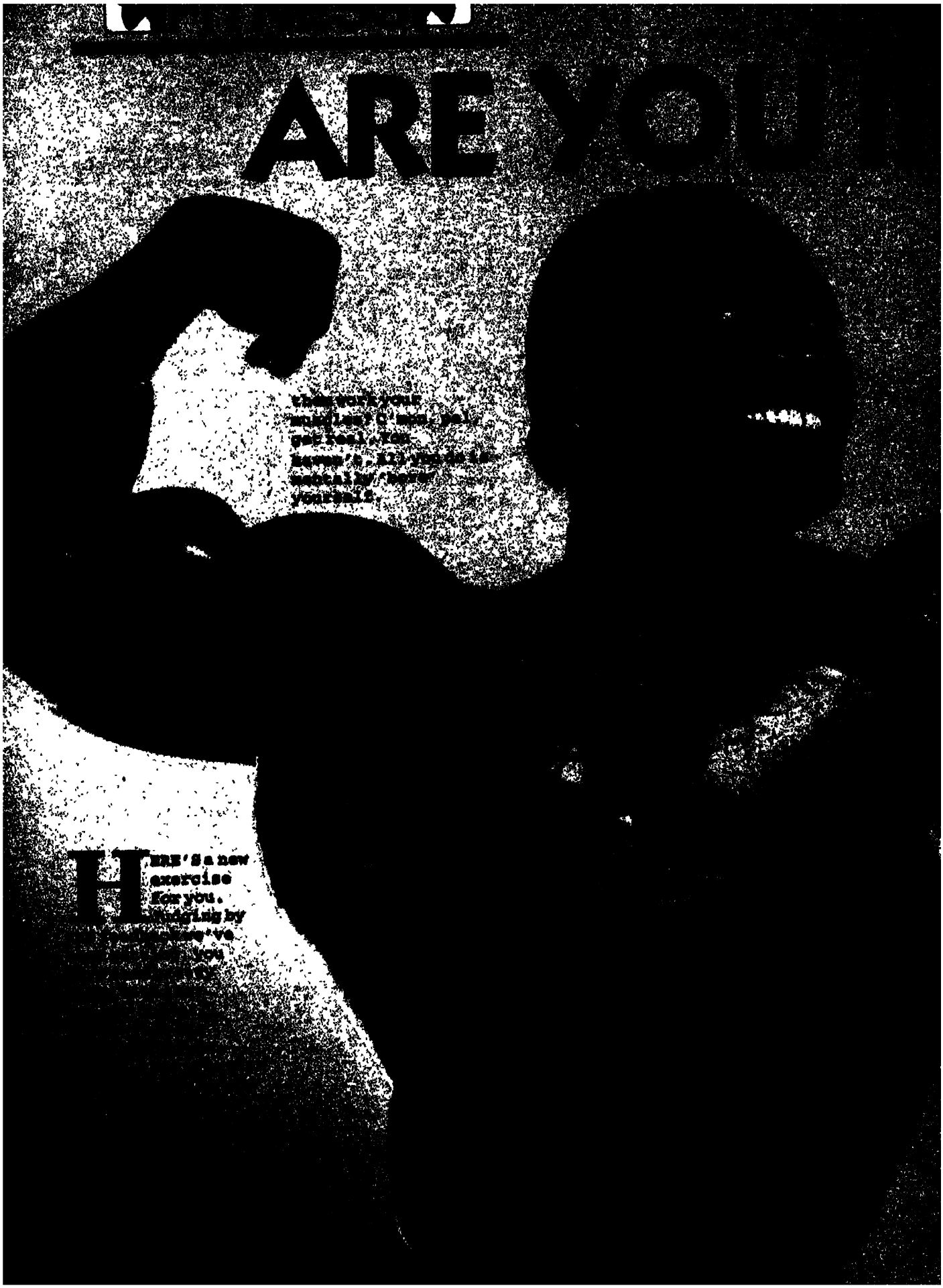
And enigmatic too. Because, unlike the normal life of discipline of most top class athletes, Walker has been breaking the rules without paying for it. 'He's not the model you show to an aspiring runner,' says Frank O'Meara, a young miler, 'he doesn't stretch, he doesn't warm up, and he's been carrying too much weight for too long. While most athletes watch themselves, if they're going to be doing intervals, John will go out and work on his farm. He doesn't do the things a world class runner is supposed to do. The only thing you'd want to emulate about John is his results.'

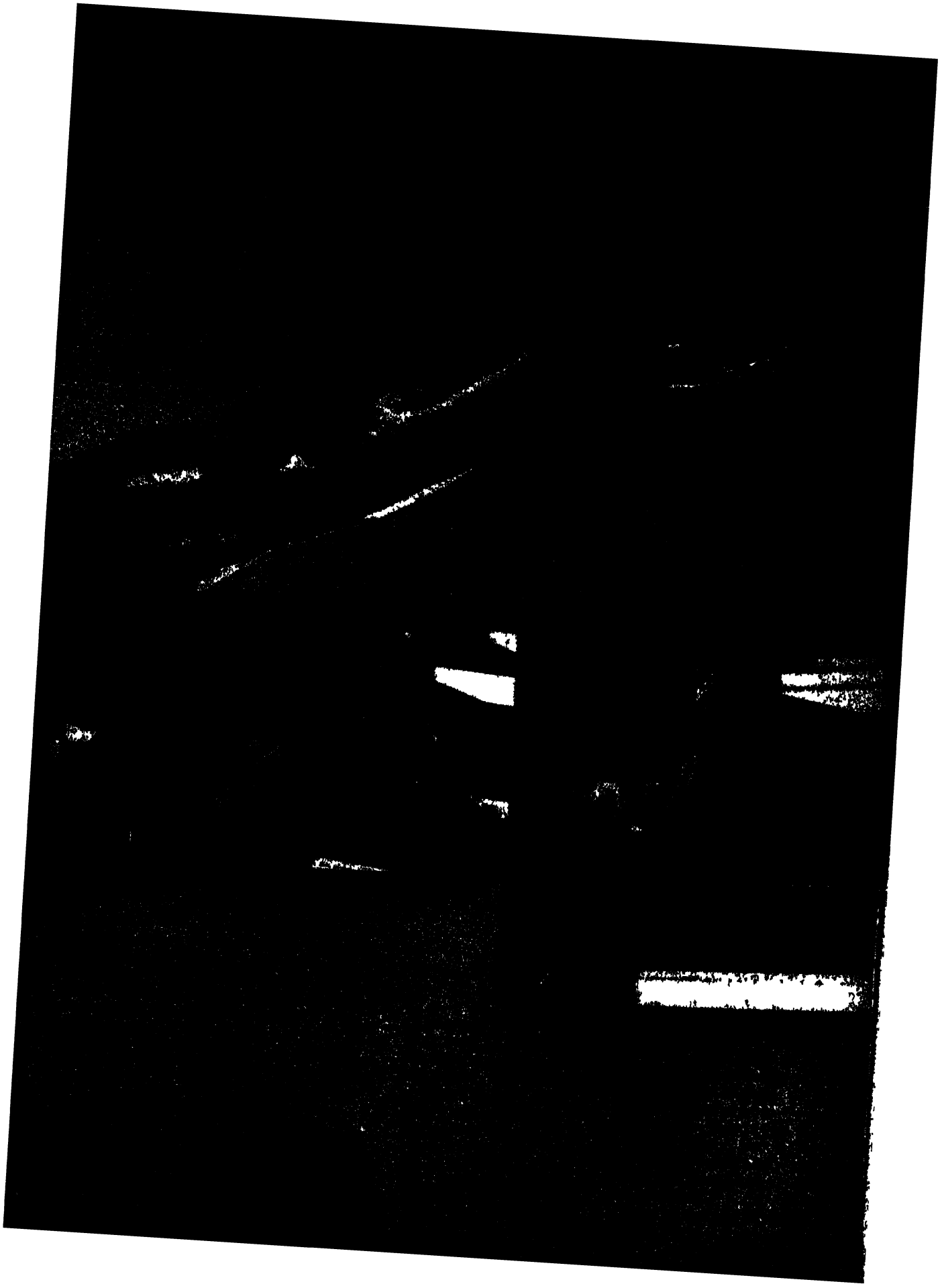
And so, this man carries on running, pushing 40, but now quite clearly thinking of retiring in a year or two. As Andy Norman, the powerful British meet promoter, said, 'He doesn't run for the money. He runs because he loves the sport.'

As John Walker slowly fades away into the twilight zone, you can be rest assured that he will be around, on some training track, imparting his valuable tips to youngsters, with a dream in their eyes and a song in their heart.

Aelwin Thomas




ARE YOU
Here's a new



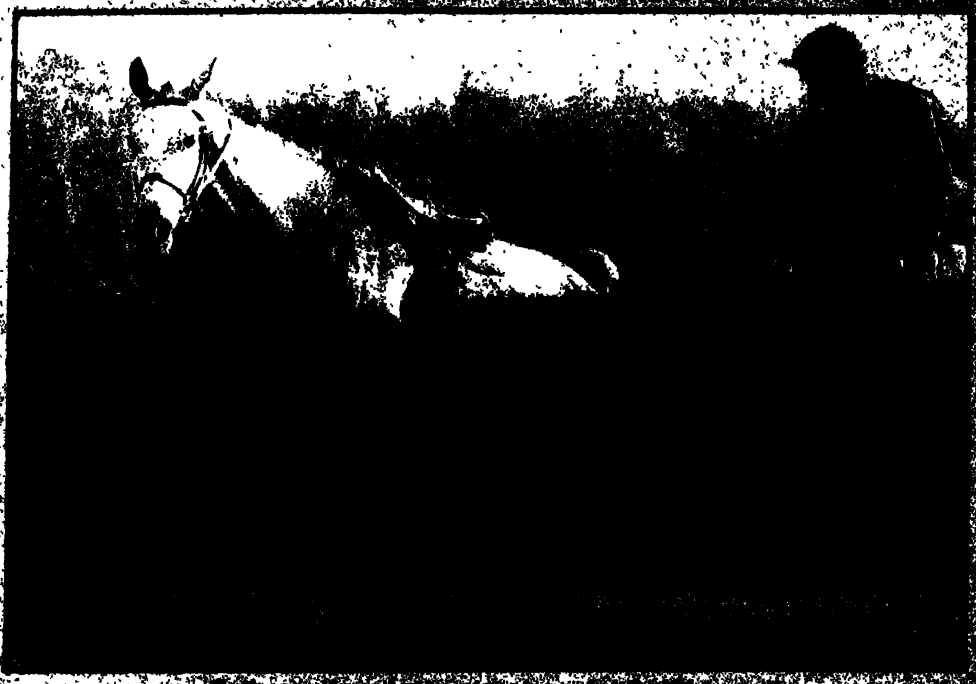
IFFERENT TROKES

SITTING ON A FENCE?

[illegible] Josh Gifford's grey chaser Cythere, sick and tired of jumping fences decided enough was enough. At the second last fence of the Hunted Handicap Chase at Lingfield the chaser straddled the fence and refused to move.

The reason apart from being tired of jumping fences was that Cythere had fallen on the previous jump and parted company with jockey, Declan Murphy. So if the jockey couldn't stick with it why should Cythere?

The last that was heard of Cythere was that it was still sitting on the fence!



Cythere [illegible]

KNIGHT WITH NO CHARGER

AFTER surviving a near fatal accident, having missed three out of eight world championship races, thrice world champion Jonathan Jones has returned to defend his title.

With only a few weeks left for the start of the Formula One Powerboat World Championships '92 at Durban, South Africa, Jones has suddenly realised that he has neither a boat nor a sponsor.

These boats are highly sophisticated pieces of precision machinery—producing speeds of 150 mph—and not easily available. Having won his last title on a borrowed craft, Jones is at present attending to customers at the Midland Bank wondering what went wrong.



World [illegible]

A BAN ON BLOOD AND THRILLS

Boxing is for blood and thrills, boxing is recommended. Fighters reeling around the boxing ring with blood dripping down their face might now be a thing of the past. Ever since 'Magic' Johnson announced that he had tested positive for the AIDS virus, a lot of people associated with boxing have had sleepless nights.

Boxing produces a lot of cuts and open wounds and the amount of blood splattered during a bout increases the chances of transmission of the dreaded HIV virus. In an effort to reduce the risk of boxers contacting the virus, the boxing commission is going to pass a law which requires all trainers to wear surgical gloves during bouts.

Another rule which might be passed is that every boxer will be tested for the HIV virus. All this is fine, but imagine the scenario when professional boxers take to the ring with head gear....so no more blood and gore folks! Look for another alternative.



Boxing in future might be minus the blood and thrills because of the AIDS scare

FINANCIAL GREED OR JUST 'MAGIC'



Don't cry for Magic because having just the sport has popularity hasn't gone down

Freeloading

THE Aussie sporting fan comes in all types. There is first the desperate variety. The guy who plans his annual holiday for it to clash with his favourite sporting event of the year. He then contacts the ticket agent months in advance to do his booking. When the time comes, he is there at the venue, wonderfully prepared: Ivan Lendl-like cap, sun tan lotion, tinnies (the Australian word for beer in cans) and sandwiches he made from the previous night's left overs.

And if you think he's got his act together on the food-front then you haven't seen the picnic-variety. Food baskets and ice buckets too big for a single person to carry, they make their way to the venue hoping to pick up tickets at the gate. If not they will happily drive to an outside town picnic spot and satisfy their culinary desires, returning in the evening to see the TV highlights of the event they had set out to see.

Then there are the louts and the yobos, whose sole intention during a visit to a sporting arena is to knock back the tinnies, throw them in the air, shout, create some confusion and at the end of the day proclaim, "Thet was a bloudy gud time mait".

Lastly there is the social variety of sporting fan: their main objective being to be seen at the event so that they can go back and tell their friends, "Yeah, I was at the tennis yesterday..... or "I was at the cricket over the weekend....."

These are the folks who don't know much but yet are seated in the choicest seats at the stadium. Like the father and son sitting beside me in the seats reserved for the press, the players' guests and invitees at Court No. 1 at Flinders Park while Ivan Lendl played his third round match against German Marcus Zoecke.

Zoecke's big serve was troubling Lendl and at one stage Lendl who normally speaks to himself in English these days muttered something which wasn't really audible from where we were seated.

"What did he say Dad?" the boy inquired.

"Oh he spoke to himself in Russian", Dad explained very confidently. The lady sitting in the seat in front, turned around and gave the gentleman a smile. Our knowledgeable friend obviously didn't recognise Mrs Samantha Lendl.

While on the topic of recognition let me tell you a story that veteran cricket writer Dicky Rutnagar, now touring Australia with the Indian cricket team, narrated at the press box the other day. Dicky rang up the Grosvenor hotel in Melbourne wanting to speak to Ian Chappell.

"Could you put me through to Mr Chappell's room please," he requested the hotel reception.

After a few minutes she told him "Mr Chappell isn't staying with us, sir."

"Of course he is staying at your hotel," insisted Dicky, "can you please check again?"

Another pause and a rattle of the computer key boards. "Sorry sir Mr Chappell isn't staying here, you could try the hotel the Australian cricketing team is staying at."

"I'm talking [illegible]



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SHAPE UP!



Officers Choice

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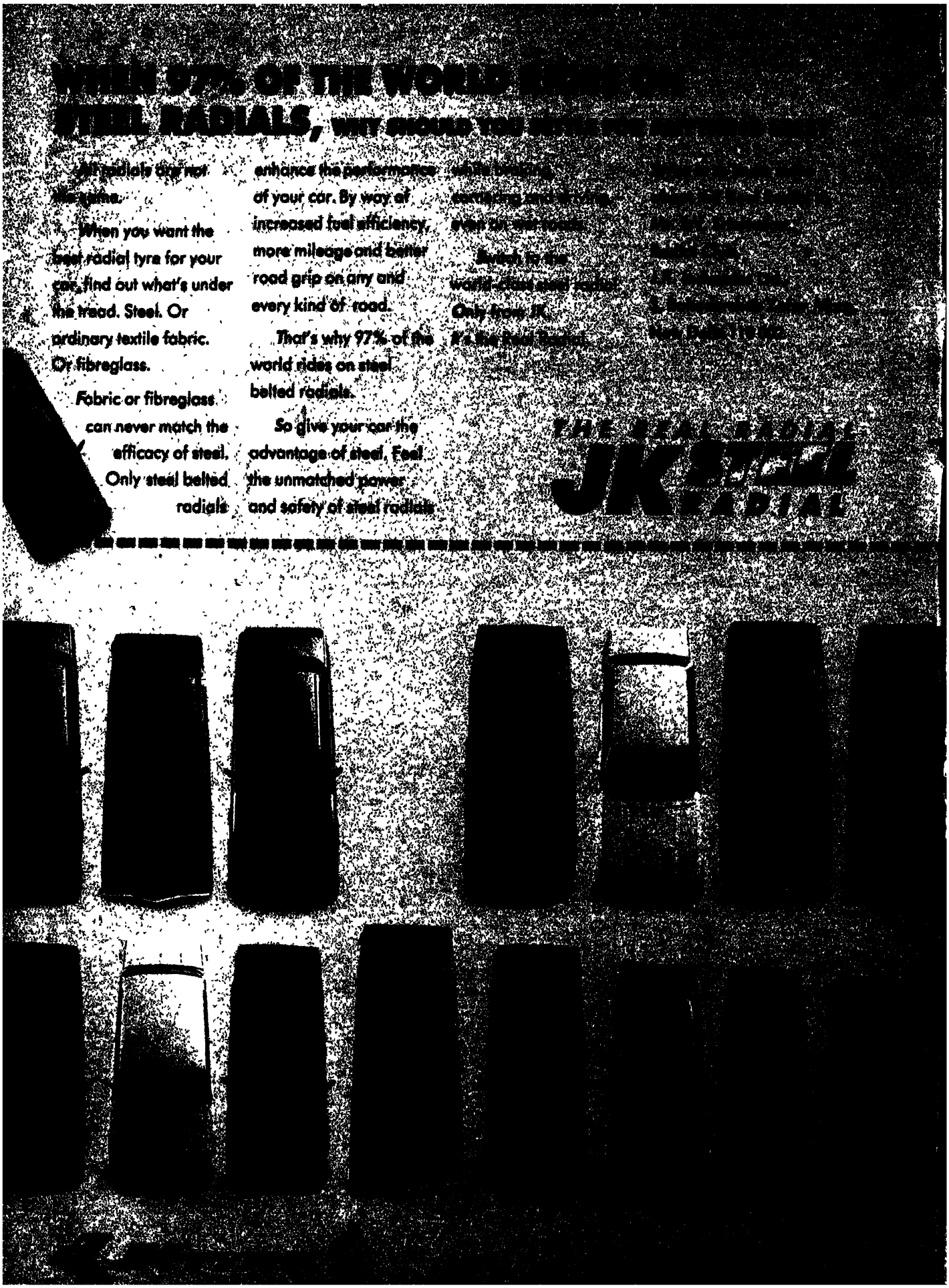
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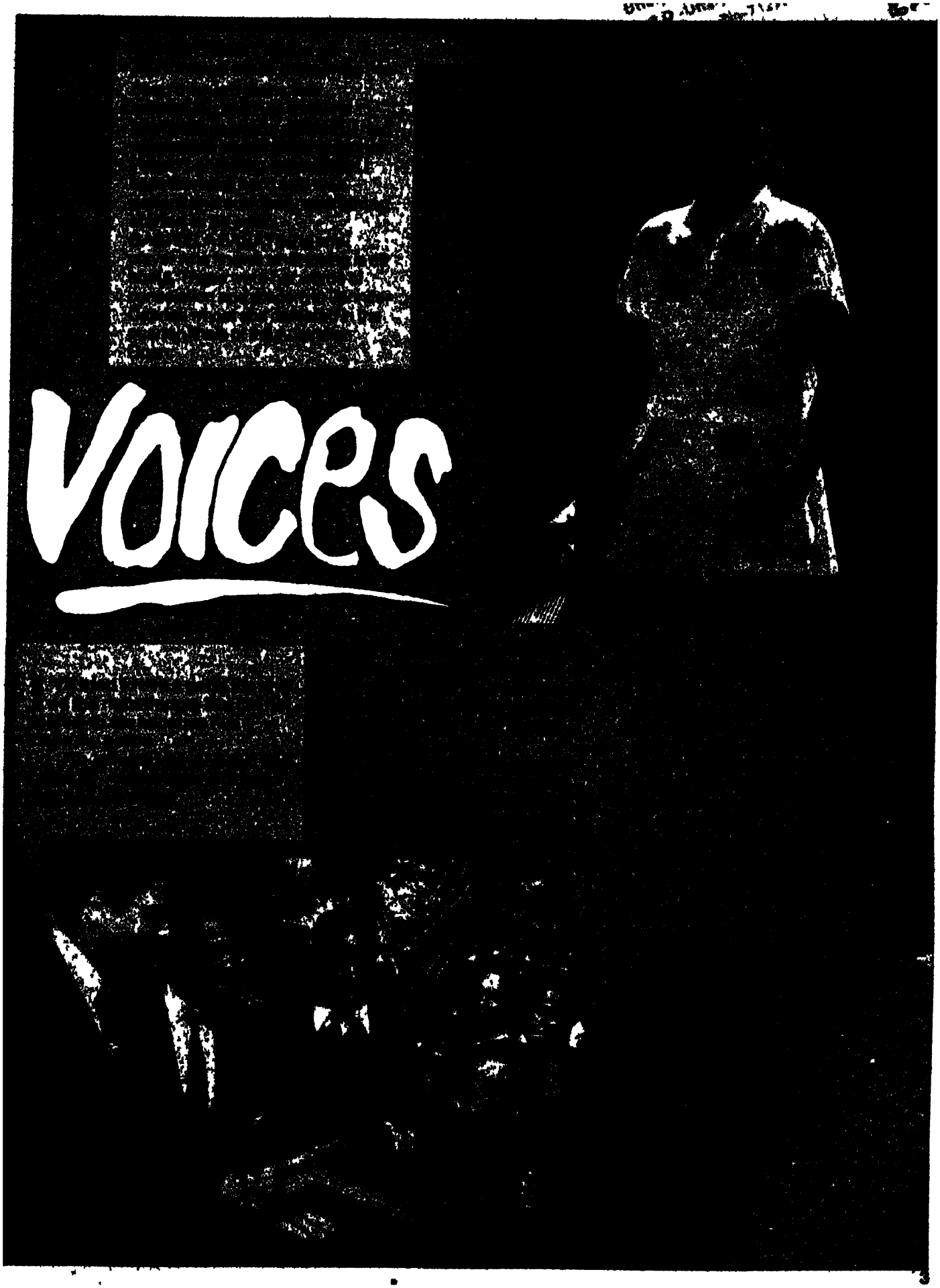
Sportsworld



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH IMRAN KHAN

THE FINAL MISSION?


STEEL RADIALS,
All radials are not the same.
When you want the best radial tyre for your car, find out what's under the tread. Steel. Or ordinary textile fabric. Or fibreglass.
Fabric or fibreglass can never match the efficacy of steel. Only steel belted radials
enhance the performance of your car. By way of increased fuel efficiency, more mileage and better road grip on any and every kind of road.
That's why 97% of the world rides on steel belted radials.
So give your car the advantage of steel. Feel the unmatched power and safety of steel radials.
JK STEEL RADIAL


Voices

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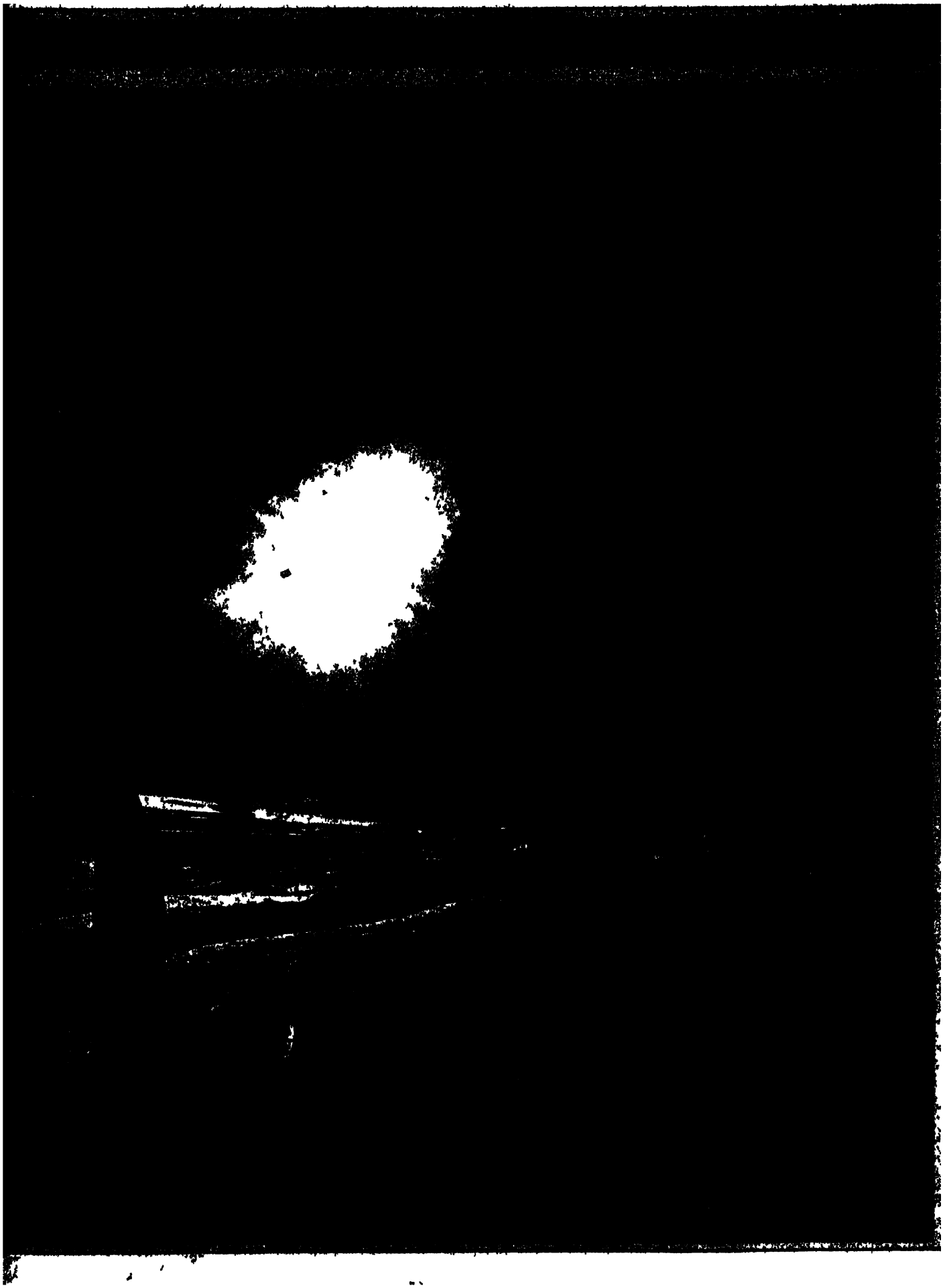
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All illustrations by Debasish Deb

[illegible] Manager: Ali Khan Rashid
[illegible] Editor: Andy O'Brien
[illegible]



The biathlon – part of the Winter Olympics underway at Albertville – is a bizarre event that combines cross-country skiing and rifle marksmanship. For every missed target, one minute is added to the biathlete's time.





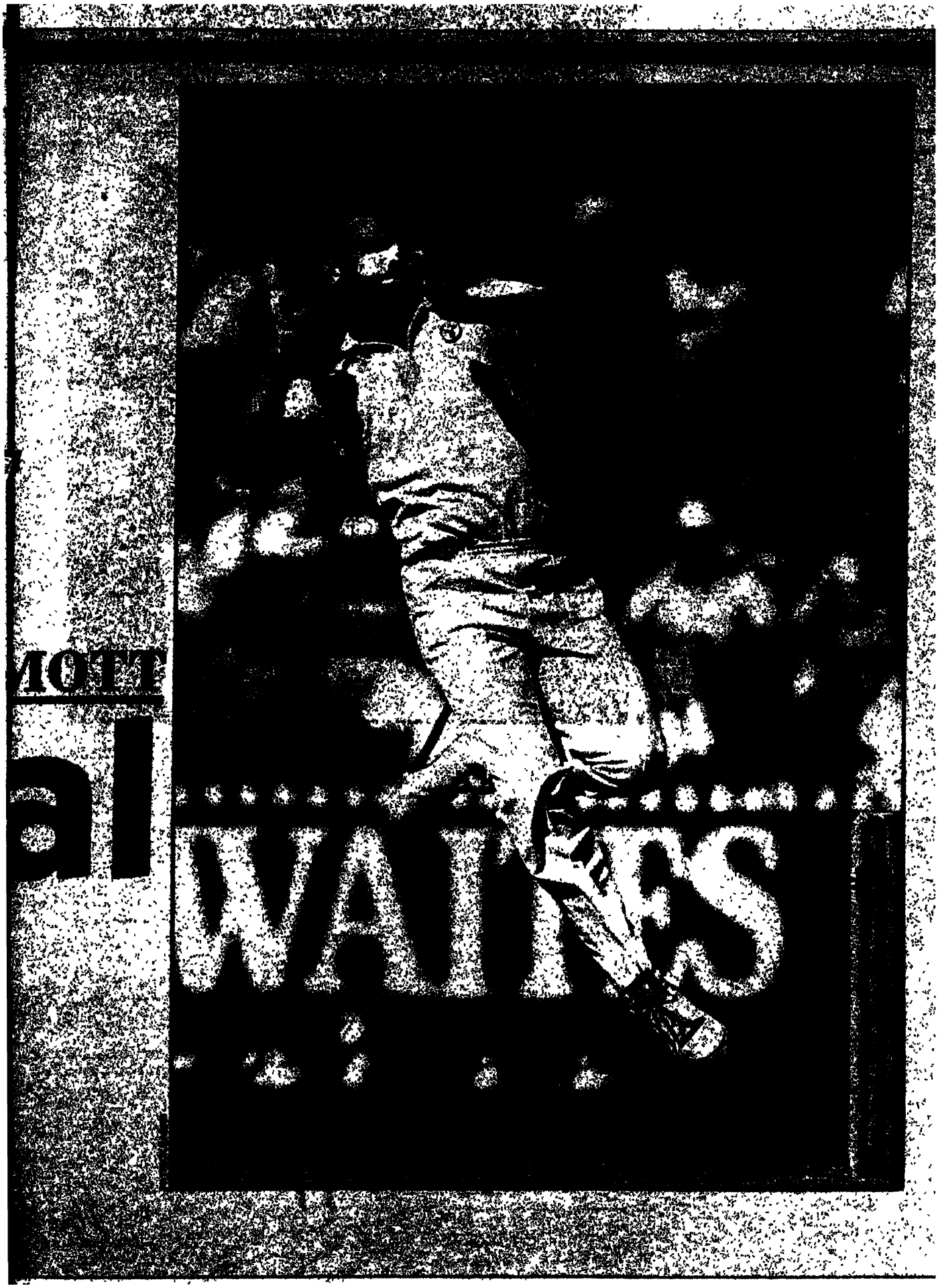
It was the second day of the fourth Test match at Adelaide last month. Having bundled the Aussies out for 145, India in reply were in some trouble but still had a lot of batting to come. Skipper Azharuddin was at the crease, struggling with his form. Craig McDermott had been bowling from the cathedral end since the morning, and it was obvious that Australian captain Allan Border would make a change at the end. But even before Border could call Mike Whitney in, McDermott went up to his skipper and requested him for just one more. Border agreed.

The game was never to be the same again. Bowling with a vengeance as if his life depended on it, McDermott had Azhar looking like a number eleven batsman. But the Indian skipper managed to fend off five deliveries. Had Azhar played the last ball too, things might have been different for India.

CRAIG McDER

Leth Weapon

After losing his way for three years, Craig McDermott has re-emerged as a transformed bowler and man. ANDY O'BRIEN [illegible] on how McDermott has become Australia's finest bowler.


DON'T
ALWAYS

But McDermott came up with an express ball to send the Indian skipper back to the pavilion. He followed up with two more wickets to nullify any kind of advantage India had by dismissing the Aussies for their lowest score in the series.

That is the new Craig McDermott who is reaping the benefits of the toll he has heaped on his mind and body for the past two years. McDermott today is fit, fast and a more subtle bowler than at anytime in his sometimes tortured career which began with stardom in England and was too hot not to cool down.

Seven years ago he played his first Test match as a 19-year-old and it seemed that Australia had found its successor to Dennis Lillee and Geoff Lawson. But things changed quickly. McDermott, always a big, very fast bowler in junior cricket, had what skipper Allan Border describes as an "armchair ride". The pressure to perform well at the very highest level was too much and the young man crumbled. On his own admission, he even began to look for excuses instead of reasons for his wayward form.

Since then, McDermott has been through a somewhat torturous journey of self discovery. He had lost his way for three years but has remerged as a transformed bowler—and man.

It is now obvious that both in cricket and in life 'Billy the Kid' has grown up. "In the end it is a mental game," says McDermott." It's the mental side that gets you through the days when you are feeling a bit flat. I've finally found a balance within myself—training, playing, touring everything. I went through periods when I couldn't cope, but now I feel content with my life."

The two factors that have contributed the most towards the transformation of McDermott are his new fitness regime and his new wife Susan. Both have played their share in the maturing of Craig McDermott.

"Billy was a little immature," says Border who has also had a big influence but on the big fast bowler. "Even when he was 23 he was still a kid."



McDermott's wife Susan, is his fitness trainer

Fitness, Border agrees, has been the key factor apart from maturity to the turnabout in McDermott's career. Australian team physiotherapist Errol Alcott says that McDermott is the fittest Australian cricketer in many years, if not the fittest ever. "When you take into account aerobic fitness, strength and flexibility,

Australian team physiotherapist Errol Alcott says that McDermott is the fittest Australian cricketer in many years, if not the fittest ever

Craig is probably ideal. Certainly for a fast bowler."

McDermott was properly educated about fitness after he spent time with Trevor Hendy, Australia's triathlon champion. "I spent only two weeks of my holiday with Trevor, but the main thing was that it instilled in my mind what you have to do to be that fit. And how much dedication you must have to be No. 1."

[illegible]

"Billy's at a stage where he doesn't have to be at his best to take wickets. He's exactly what Australia needs a good, genuine strike bowler" Allan Border

learned long and hard for this. Don't worry about one bad season. You deserve success, it was a great debut."

McDermott says, and all his teammates agree with the assessment, that he is a different person now. "I've learned to cope with the pressures of big cricket. I've also learned from the lives of others and their careers. Early on you kid yourself that you are fit, that you'll bowl better tomorrow. I used to spend so much time being upset with umpires or bowling no balls or whingeing about catches dropped that I forgot what I should have been focussed on—my bowling. These days I can let those things go by."

McDermott's case is a perfect example of what can happen to a young player suddenly thrust into the heady world of big time cricket. McDermott agrees and says that the crunch comes after a while when the glamour fades and the hard work keeps coming back.

But the hard work over the past two years seems to be paying off with McDermott getting a remarkable 70 wickets in international cricket over the past 12 months.

One of the main motivating factors for McDermott is that he goes into every match as if it were his last match for Australia. He has become a very intense competitor who judges himself harshly.

See him at the nets and you will notice that he grinds his teeth while running up to bowl. He views bowling as being a battle against the man with the bat facing him. The zinc oxide he wears on his face is more for psychological reasons than for keeping the sun from burning his face. He is a lethal weapon and he shoots to kill.

Such is his intensity and desire for success that Border says that, "Even when Billy is not bowling well, he chips in with two or three



Marshall and McDermott: The former a legend, the latter soon to become one

all time is [illegible] McDermott is already basically been developed by [illegible] man on his own. He has [illegible] technique without any help, a [illegible] Ask him about a mentor or hero and he just nods and says, "No, nothing like that." Not even Dennis Lillee? "No I was too young to remember that," he admits.

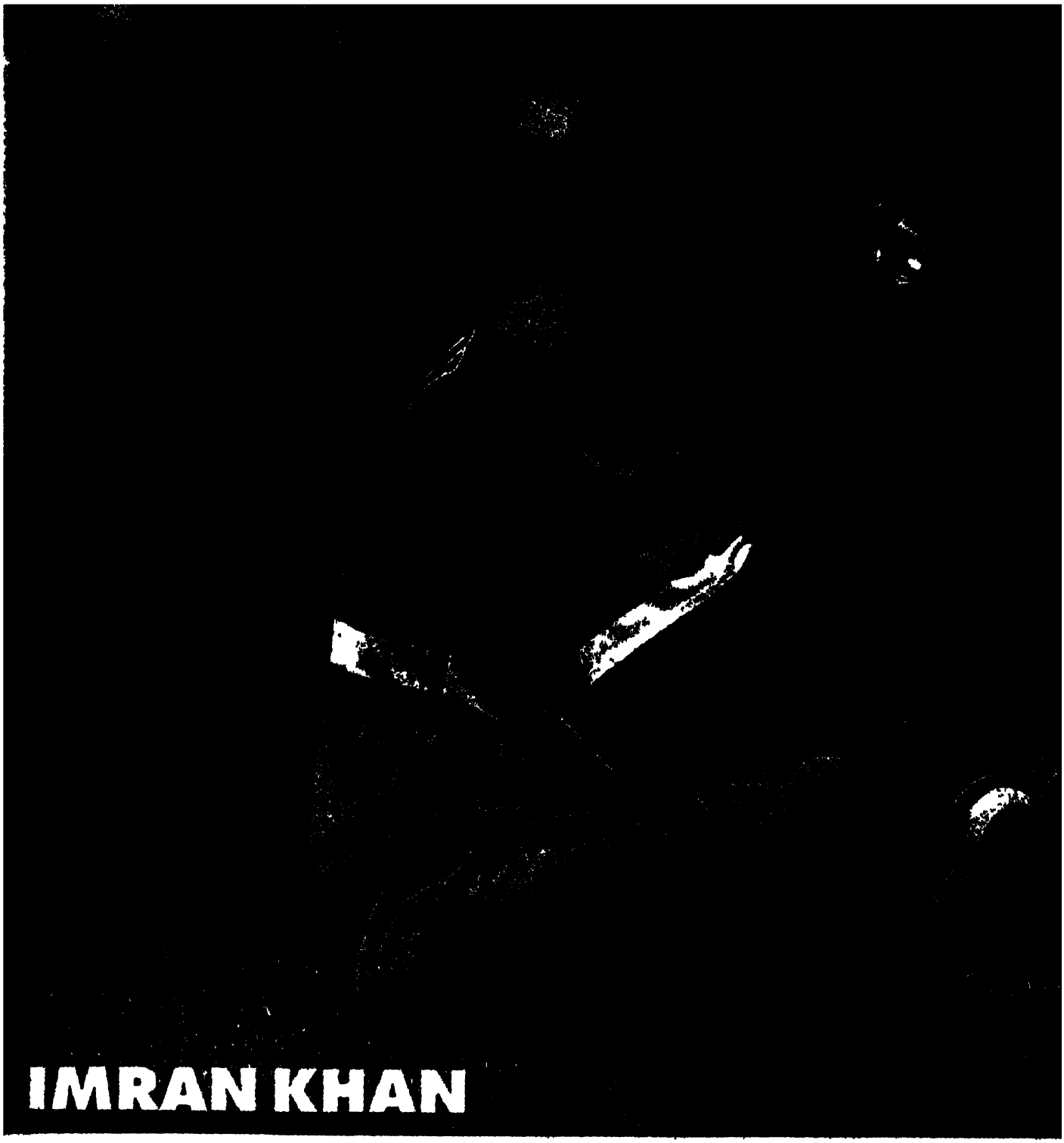
One of the methods McDermott uses to practise is bowling with the old ball at the nets to make life a little harder. "Basically he set about it himself," says Border. "He's worked hard on technical things and now he is a class bowler. He's at a stage where he doesn't have to be at his best to take wickets. He's exactly what Australia needs a good genuine strike bowler."

These days McDermott's peace with himself is very obvious. He's no extrovert but talk to him about cricket and you'll know that the guy has the perfect attitude for a modern day fast bowler. And more importantly he is honest about his past mistakes because he knows he has learnt from them.

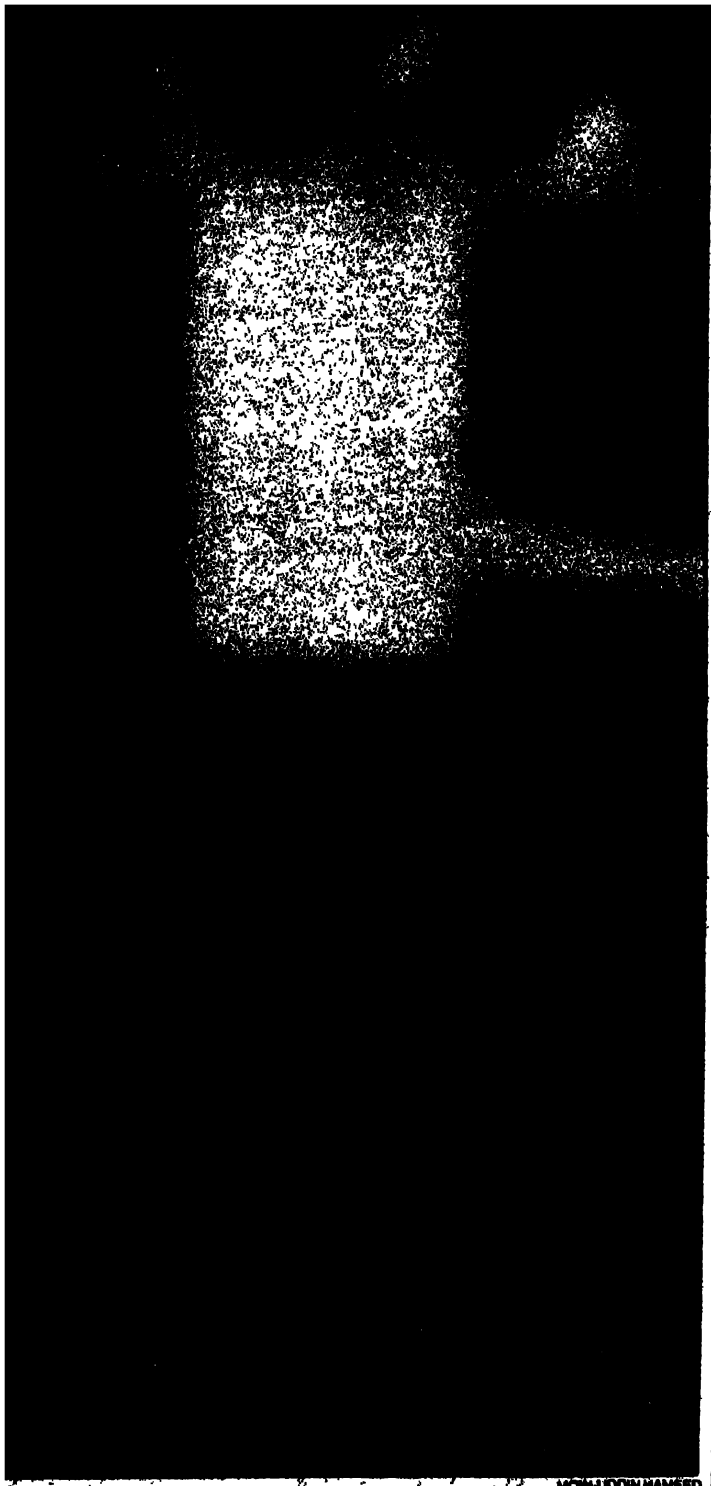
They say that it is not reaching your destination that is gratifying, but the journey which is more satisfying. McDermott agrees. "Those two years I spent out of Test cricket were the best years I've spent."

McDermott has also just become a father—Susan and he had their first child recently. "It makes you feel that much more mature—that much more responsible," says McDermott. At present his other responsibility is to spearhead the Australian bowling attack for the [illegible] Years.

"[illegible] pretty high standards for myself," says the harsh self critic. "But that responsibility doesn't bother me at all."



THE MISSIO

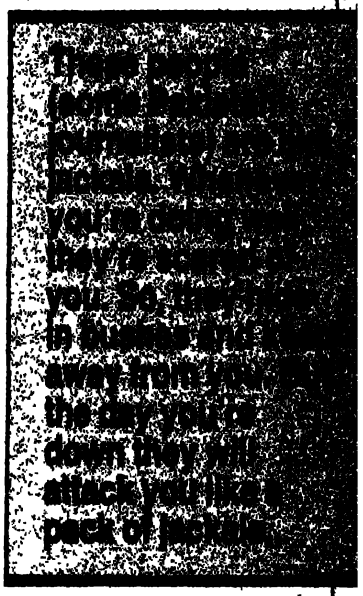


MOIN-UDDIN HAMEED

NARY

SPORTSWORLD: Playing top class cricket even at 39 may be quite acceptable to you but many of your admirers feel you are not doing justice to yourself as a cricketer. Your bowling has definitely gone down, and tomorrow if your batting also declines, then you have to quit very disgracefully. I always thought an intelligent person like you would wake up to these realities before it is too late. But that does not seem to happen. Why are you still carrying on?

IMRAN KHAN: Well, the biggest mistake I ever made was to announce my retirement a year too early. You can never foresee how things can change in just a year's time, as it did in my case. When I had taken the decision to retire I didn't know there would be a rearranged series against West Indies. Australia was supposed to go there but they cancelled and Pakistan took their place. Now, had I known this initially, I might not have announced my retirement decision because West Indies in West Indies always means an exciting prospect. And the biggest lesson I have learnt was that what I think at this moment may change totally in a year's time. Or even six months.



And to give you an example of how things change drastically and swiftly enough to make your plans go haywire, I will tell you the full story.

After the Australian tour of '89-90, I decided that was it. Fortunately, I did not announce the decision. I say 'fortunately' because soon afterwards pressure mounted on me from the Board of Governors of my cancer hospital. They pointed out that I had to keep on playing just to keep the trust flowing at a very vital stage of our fund-raising. It made a lot of sense to me that if I kept playing, it would be easier to raise money for the hospital. Since I didn't announce my decision to retire, it was easier to come back and keep playing. By playing for Pakistan—of course, as long as I am not

In a frank interview to Gautam Bhattacharya, Imran Khan reveals that his motivation to play on at 39 comes solely from his ambition to build a cancer hospital in Pakistan.

making a fool of myself—I can project my hospital scheme much more effectively, as you can understand

Once the hospital starts functioning, once it is on its own feet, then of course, it won't be necessary to keep playing.

But for a cricketer of your stature, even retirement is not going to put you totally out of the limelight. Sunil Gavaskar retired four and a half years back, but continued to be a craze, wherever he went....

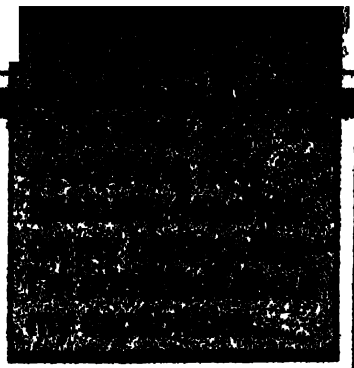
No, that's not true I think, the moment you step out of the limelight, the moment your name stops appearing in the Press...you know, people might remember you still, but it's not going to be quite the same thing.

And also look at the opportunities I can utilise, if I continue to be part of the team. For instance, we've got an England tour next. Now already there is so much interest building up around the English tour in England amongst the Pakistani community, and obviously it is not going to be very difficult to raise funds from them...if I am in the team.

So, how long will this fund-raising process go on?

KAMAL SUKA



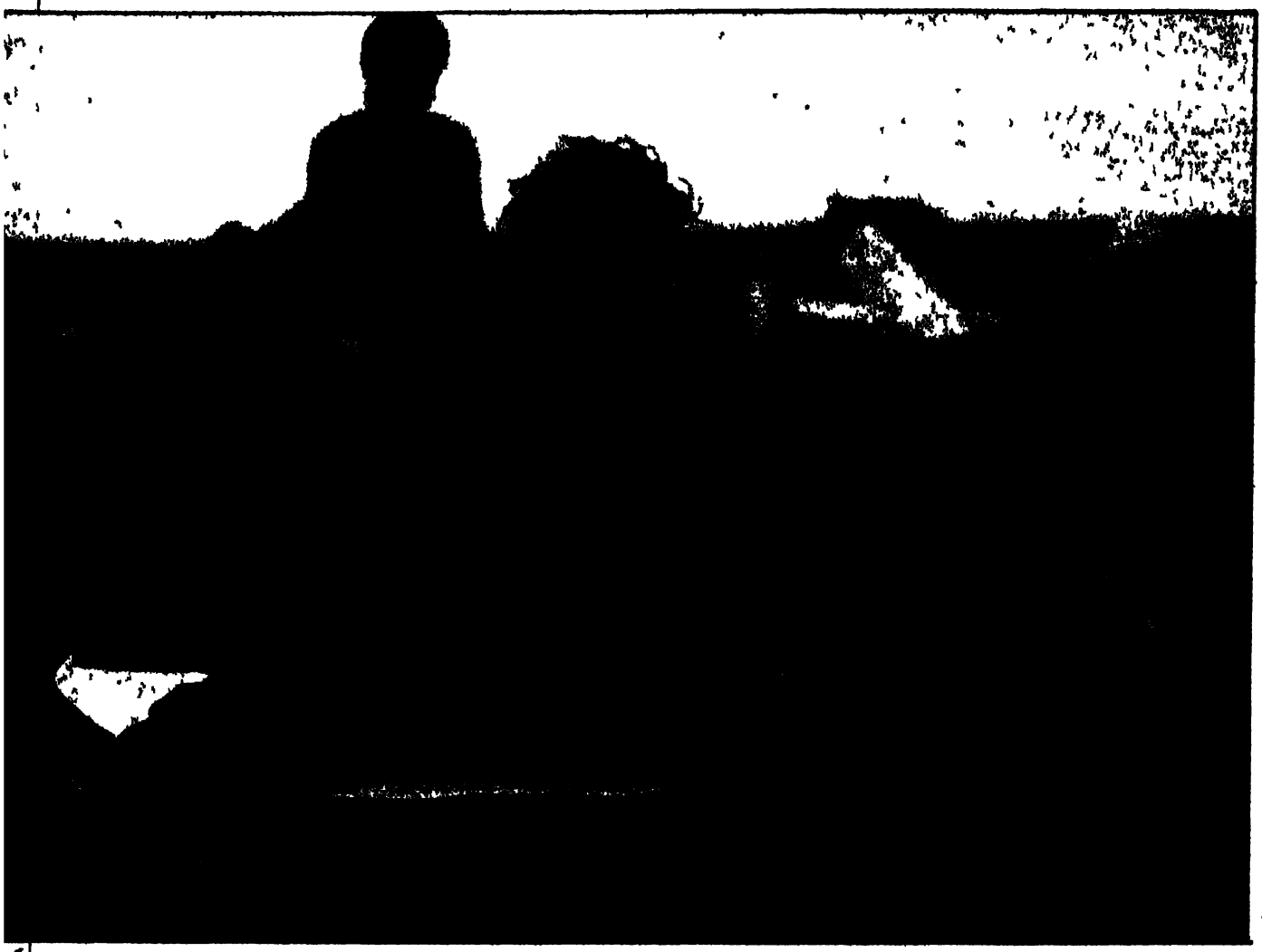


I don't know. These days I don't plan very far ahead, as I told you. I would just see how it goes. I would also watch how I do in the World Cup. As far as the hospital is concerned, the construction work has already begun; we have already raised nearly four and a half million dollars, so far. I've basically targeted the Pakistani community at home and abroad, for the hospital is going to be the only one of its kind. The first comprehensive cancer hospital in our country. Of course, there has been a lot of help from India too, from people like Vinod Khanna, Parameshwar Godrej, my friend. They have been very good, very kind. They have always supported us, just as I have tried to be of help to the Indian cancer society. I've played two matches for them and was scheduled to play another in Delhi, but it was cancelled. But, if asked, I'd come and play anytime for them. As far as I am concerned, cancer has got nothing to do with political boundaries.



At your age, how do you keep yourself motivated for international cricket, especially after such a long layoff last year?
In fact, it is easier if you have a long layoff. Had I been playing althrough last year I might have lost all motivation to carry on. But now I'm feeling rejuvenated. Your hunger for the game comes back, you know. And secondly, the motivation stems from the goal, the cause I'm working for. The hospital. Probably, if we manage to win the World Cup it will be the biggest fund-raising ever achieved by anyone in sport. So, the cause I'm working for would be more than a sustaining source of motivation.

But, do you think your decision to stick on has gone down well with the average cricket fan?
Well, it's a straightforward formula. Nothing succeeds like success. You know, if you're successful, the reaction is good. If you fail, there's a great deal of disappointment. So it's very simple. Obviously, there are those who are waiting to see my downfall, people who have been waiting for a long time, and against that kind of a backdrop, I think it's quite a bold decision on my part to stick on with the game



KAMAL JULKA

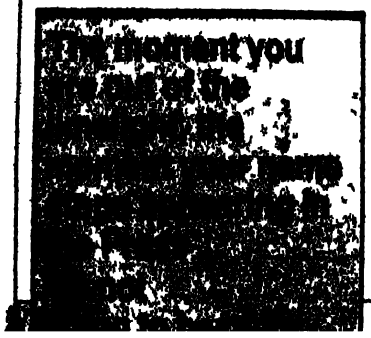
and face the challenge of proving myself useful

My bowling quite clearly is no longer as effective as it used to be once So, everything now basically depends on my batting But I'm confident about my capabilities

You, know, sitting in the Press box, one clearly gets the impression that you are not exactly the darling of the Pakistani media...

Yeah, but it s nothing new And I know why I know why these journalists are so much opposed to me

Quite ironically, however, it always seems that you've more well wishers in the Indian media...



(laughs) Yes, but as I told you, I know the reasons why these journalists in the Pakistani media are opposed to me To start with, there are some journalists in our country who are downright blackmailers. If you're not good to them, they write against you. That's how they expect the players to succumb to them. And sadly, many players have fallen for this trick in the past. You know, they were always allowed inside the dressing room; they could dictate things to the players, they used to get away with almost anything. Tremendous clout and advantages, they used to enjoy. But ever since I became the captain, all this has stopped. Some of the journalists took it very well. But the rest, the petty-minded guys, people who thought they were all-powerful just because they had a column in the papers, have all along been trying to get back at me. This is a kind of moral bankruptcy in journalism. These people are like jackals. Whenever you're doing well, they're scared of you. So, they hide in bushes and keep away from you. But the day you're down, they will attack you like a pack of jackals.

Do you think you've got a fair deal from the Indian media?

Oh yes, the Indian media on the whole operates on a much higher level. Basically because there is so much competition there. Why only the Indian media, I have been treated very fairly by the English and the Australian media.●

IMRAN KHAN The Final Mission?



PATRICK EAGAR

The aging—yet debonair—all-rounder is still in search of his World Cup dream

VIV RICHARDS is 39 and has not been chosen for the West Indies World Cup squad. Graham Gooch is 38 and says, "I haven't got much petrol left in my tank to carry on for much longer." Yet ask Imran Khan, 39, about how long he intends continuing in international cricket and he makes no committment. "I had retired once before and went back on my word, so I'm not going to make the same mistake a second time," he maintains. But will this World Cup be your last, I ask over the phone the evening after he has returned to Melbourne from a World Cup warm-up match. "Yes this will be my last..." and just as you thought you had something going for you he adds, "...the last World Cup." Considering that comes once every



four years, Imran's really keeping his options open

And why not? He has come to practically rule Pakistan cricket in a manner no other captain from any other country has What Imran wants Imran does What Imran asks for Imran gets

It is a known fact that the Pakistan selection committee is an almost redundant body with Imran having his way on most occasions Imran walks into a training centre is impressed by a youngster asks him to come for net practice with the Pakistan squad, and next thing you know the boy s playing international cricket

The funny thing says veteran Pakistan cricket journalist Qamar Ahmed is that he gets away with it not only because of the kind of respect he has gained for himself but mainly because all his experiments with young players seemed to have clicked

Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis are only two of such examples

Imran is the kind of guy who can go to a county manager and tell him that he has a talented boy who should be given a chance And they take him for his word, says Ahmed

That s what he did for Waqar Younis Today in the English county circuit Waqar s inswinging yorker is the most dreaded ball

Even before the World Cup gets underway, Younis and Akram have already let people know that the stuff they can send down is second to none In the practice games they have played havoc, with Akram actually putting Simon O'Donnell's place in the Australian side in further jeopardy, by giving him a torrid time in a warm-up match against Victoria

What these two might do with the white ball, which anyway swings more than the red one, and is only used for 25 overs, is frightening many batsman already And Imran Khan is hell bent on getting his bowlers to bowl all-out in the practise games to build a psychological edge even before the more serious business of the World Cup begins.



Where the Khan goes, his team follows

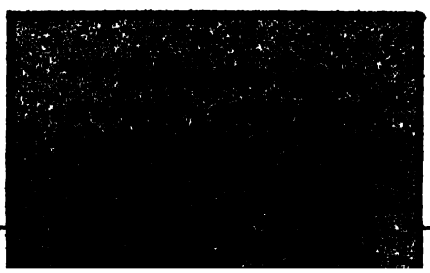
Indeed, Imran has already begun his battle for the World Cup. Pakistan have highlighted how seriously they are taking this World Cup by arriving three weeks earlier than any other team—before their first official Cup clash. "We struggle on these wickets," says Imran, "we need that adjustment. We always find it difficult batting in Australia because of the bounce."

And now that Imran intends to play mainly as a batsman, he is very keen that his batsmen learn the wickets before the World Cup starts. Of course, Imran is a man never short on words. And he always says what he thinks is right. He does that back in Pakistan and he does it even when he is abroad. He has already kicked up a storm, when he sided with India to criticise the policy of having home umpires for the India-Australia series.

Neutral umpires must be the nearest thing to Imran's heart as the cancer institute back home is. But the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) refuses to accept the concept of neutral umpires because of the cost involved and the lack of incentive for local umpires. Instead the ACB supports international observers at Tests.

On landing in Australia and hearing that the Indians had many complaints about the umpiring, Imran let loose "It's the biggest eyewash this idea of international observers It is a complete joke It is not going to prove anything as we have seen. It is people trying to stall what is inevitable: neutral umpires. Every year the ICC talks about the lack of discipline on the field. Why is there indiscipline on the field? It is always because the touring team loses faith in the home umpiring." Unlike his Indian counterpart, Imran is almost clinically honest about what he feels about umpiring

In fact, Imran doesn't hold back no matter what the situation. When Javed Miandad was dropped from the Pakistan team for the World Cup, Imran made sure that Miandad's inclusion be kept open right till the last day given by the World Cup authorities for the naming of squads.



Imran still says that Javed has a 'good chance' of playing in the World Cup and team officials will wait until February 15 before finalising the squad. And if Javed is fit and comes to Australia then two of the present squad will be sent home

Which other team captain could have managed to change selection policy? Or for that matter, which other captain would, on arriving on foreign soil, announce that he had in his team a player unheard of, but who happens to be "one of the best players of fast bowling anywhere." That's how Imran described opening batsman Inzamam-ul-Haq. Incidentally, the 21-year-old was spotted by Imran at a coaching clinic and within six weeks was in the Pakistan squad for the one-day series against the West Indies. All, of course, courtesy Imran Khan.

No wonder Imran doesn't want to quit Pakistan cricket. "Apart from being the pillar of Pakistan cricket I think he is very keen to play in South Africa also," says Qamar Ahmed. "He won't retire now "

"I'll slowly fade away," responds the Khan. And with it will go a leading light of Pakistan, nay international cricket.

Andy O'Brien, Melbourne

400!

Kapil Dev joins Sir Richard Hadlee in the exclusive 400-plus club. ANDY O'BRIEN reports on the tumultuous scenes that took place in Perth after the great Indian all-rounder achieved his landmark

THERE weren t many happy moments for the Indian team touring Australia Day two of the fifth Test at Perth was just another day It was almost completely ano ther bad day for India on the field Yet after play the mood in the Indian dressing room suggested that the team had just scored a great victory in the match But that was not the truth

What was being cele brated was not the team s performance but one member s lifetime achievement Amidst the many moments of darkness—and on this tour, there were more than many- -Kapil Dev's 400th wicket was like a light from heaven And in moments of desperate despair you tend to hang on longer to those passing moments of joy For would there be happiness if there was no such thing as sadness?

On a tour that has had its fair share of downs it was but natural to cherish these occasional moments of achievement

In one corner of the room, champagne bottle in hand sat the man who had provided



Amidst the many moments of darkness—and on this tour, there were more than many—Kapil Dev's 400th wicket was like a light from heaven. And in moments of despair, you tend to hang on longer to these moments of joy.

the reason for the cele brations Kapil was on a high but it wasn t the bubbly liquid that was the catalyst for that

It was a sense of ac hievement

A sense of pride

What I feel most pro ud about is that I am an Indian and I have done this despite the fac t that India is not known to pro duce fast bowlers he said between gulps of champagne He was going at the bottle like a kid for candy I promis ed not to drink till I got my 400th wic ket so I haven t had a drink for nearly a month he declared Today he was ready to more than make up for that abstine nce And he gave no bones about it

He was more than pleased to acc ept an addi tion to his collec tion of green bottles and wasted no time in unc orking the two bottles presented to him by the Indian press who were pre sent to wit

"What I feel most proud about is that I am an Indian and I have done this, despite the fact that India is not known to produce fast bowlers." Kapil Dev

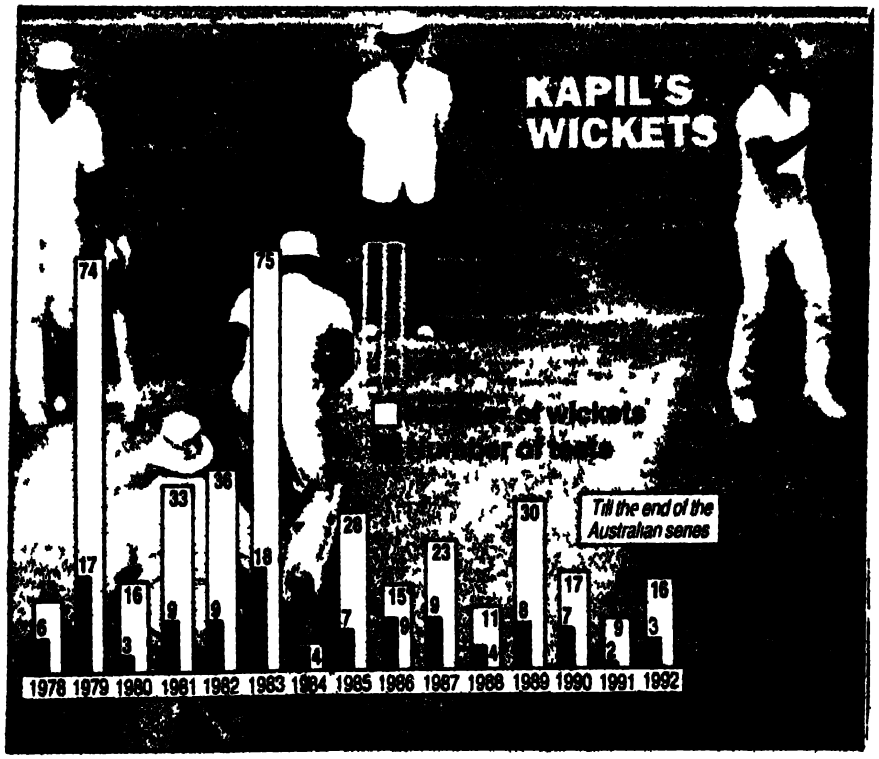
ness the historic moment

Apart from the players and the press there was one Sunil Gavaskar pres ent too For 48 hours he and the rest of us in the Press Box had waited for Kapil to move from 399 to 400 Every time the ball left Kapil s hand we had expec ted the moment to happen But it didn t

For a while it seemed that destiny had it that Kapil would have to wait until the third day s play (February 4th) to become the second man after Sir Richard Hadlee to join the 100 Club Hadlee had achieved the feat on Feb 4th 1990 Kapil after two days of desperate effort—sometimes exces sively desperate—had perhaps left it to destiny and fate

That came in the form of Mark Taylor For two days since Kapil remov ed Border it seemed the Australian batsmen were determined not to end up on the wrong side of history One press box bookie opened up a sweepstakes where you had to guess who Kapil s 400th wicket would be

And when Kapil wrapp ed Taylor on the pads in the first over after tea on the afternoon of Febru ary 3 it seemed as if it was just another frustrated appeal Those few seconds that umpire Tony Crafter took to lift his finger to declare Taylor out must have seemed like a lifetime But when he did you could almost hear a sigh of relief from Kapil



Yes, I was a little con- scious I won t say I wasn t worried, ' admitt- ed Kapil, and he hopes he can reach the 432 mark as soon as possible," probably because he wouldn t like to go through the same experi ence again Kapil provi- des another reason I want to get to 432 before Allan Border or any one else can reac h Sunny s record Then we will have two Indians at the top of the records We have to have both of us as Num ber One

Gavaskar agreed I think it is about time that we added the prefix His Magnific ent or His Majes ty before Kapil s name he said but he admitted that behind all those sweet sounding state- ments, there were tears of joy When you recalled that there was a time when the two giants of Indian cricket were at log gerheads it was hard to believe as they both hug ged each other that inde ed there were such times of enmity They were both complimenting each other and both were hoping that one day they would be sitting on top of Test cricket together

My record won t stand so long but if he breaks Hadlee s record, that will take some breaking That is a far tougher record to break than my 10 000 runs and that he had done it in spite of playing so muc h in Indi an conditions, speaks even more of the achieve ment " added Gavaskar

The messages of con gratulations kept pour ing in and it was so much that Kapil couldn t handle the inflow But the first message to arrive was from Hadlee himself, Your determi nation to strive for exc ell-

Cheerio Norman Mailer

Kapil Dev joins the exclusive 400-wicket club

TEST RECORD AGAINST EACH COUNTRY

	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct	Balls	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	5wi	Best
v Pak	29	41	2	1054	27.02	84	—	8	9	5943	200	2982	99	30.12	7	8.85
v WI	25	39	4	1079	30.82	126*	3	4	17	4639	169	2218	89	24.92	4	9.83
v Eng	24	36	5	1255	40.48	116	2	7	8	6036	212	3040	78	38.97	4	6.91
v Aus	20	26	1	687	27.48	119	1	3	14	4662	194	1974	78	25.30	7	8.106
v NZ	9	13	—	189	14.53	40	—	—	5	1787	67	792	23	34.21	—	4.34
v Pak	8	12	1	427	38.81	163	1	2	3	1816	73	860	33	26.06	1	5.110
	115	167	13	4691	30.46	163	7	24	66	24883	915	11866	400	29.66	23	9.83
At home	58	79	9	2594	37.05	163	5	13	37	11461	434	5453	204	26.73	11	9.83
Abroad	57	88	4	2097	24.96	110	2	11	19	13422	481	6413	196	32.71	12	8.85
As Captain	34	48	5	1364	31.72	163	3	8	26	6718	265	2926	111	26.36	4	9.83

Note: Statistics updated to the end of third day (Feb. 2, 1992) of the final India-Aus (Perth) Test of 1991-92 Series.

MILESTONES

50th Wkt (in 16th Test)	B. Yardley	Kanpur	1979-80
100th Wkt (in 25th Test)	Taslim Arif	Calcutta	1979-80
150th Wkt (in 34th Test)	C J. Tavare	Lord's	1982
200th Wkt (in 50th Test)	A.M.E. Roberts	Port of Spain	1982-83
250th Wkt (in 65th Test)	A.J. Lamb	Bombay	1984-85
300th Wkt (in 83rd Test)	Rumesh Ratnayake	Cuttack	1986-87
350th Wkt (in 100th Test)	Javed Miandad	Karachi	1989-90
400th Wkt (in 115th Test)	M.A. Taylor	Perth	1991-92

FIELDERS WHO HELPED MOST

Sunil Gavaskar	18 Catches
Krish Srikkanth	12 Catches
Dilip Vengsarkar	11 Catches
Mohinder Amarnath	8 Catches

COMBINATION WITH WICKETKEEPERS

Syed Kirmani	52 Catches
Kiran More	19 Catches

BATSMEN MOST DISMISSED

Mudassar Nazar	12 Times
Allan Border	10 Times
David Gower	10 Times
Malcolm Marshall	10 Times
Graham Gooch	9 Times
Javed Miandad	8 Times
Zaheer Abbas	8 Times
Gordon Greenidge	8 Times

SUMMARY OF BOWLING DISMISSALS

		Percentage
Bowled	86	21.50
Caught	214	53.50
Hit wkt	3	0.75
LBW	97	24.25
	400	100.00

QUALITY OF BATSMEN DISMISSED

In batting order	Total	Percentage
From 1 to 6	261	65.25
From 7 to 11	139	34.75
	400	100.00

ence has been rewarded," it said Go for 432"

But wouldn't Hadlee feel sad that his name would be removed from the record books?

He s got some time and he ll hang in there till he gets to be number One Hadlee told *ABC Radio* from his Christchurch home even while Kapil had his hands raised in a victory salute Records are meant to be broken he said But Hadlee s parting shot was a poor one Kapil is obviously a very

"I want to get to 432 before Allan Border or anyone else can reach Sunny's record. Then we will have two Indians at the top of the records. We have to have both of us as Number One"-Kapil Dev

tired man he s played more Tests and bowled more balls than I did

But for the Indians it was no time for jealous ies or controversies

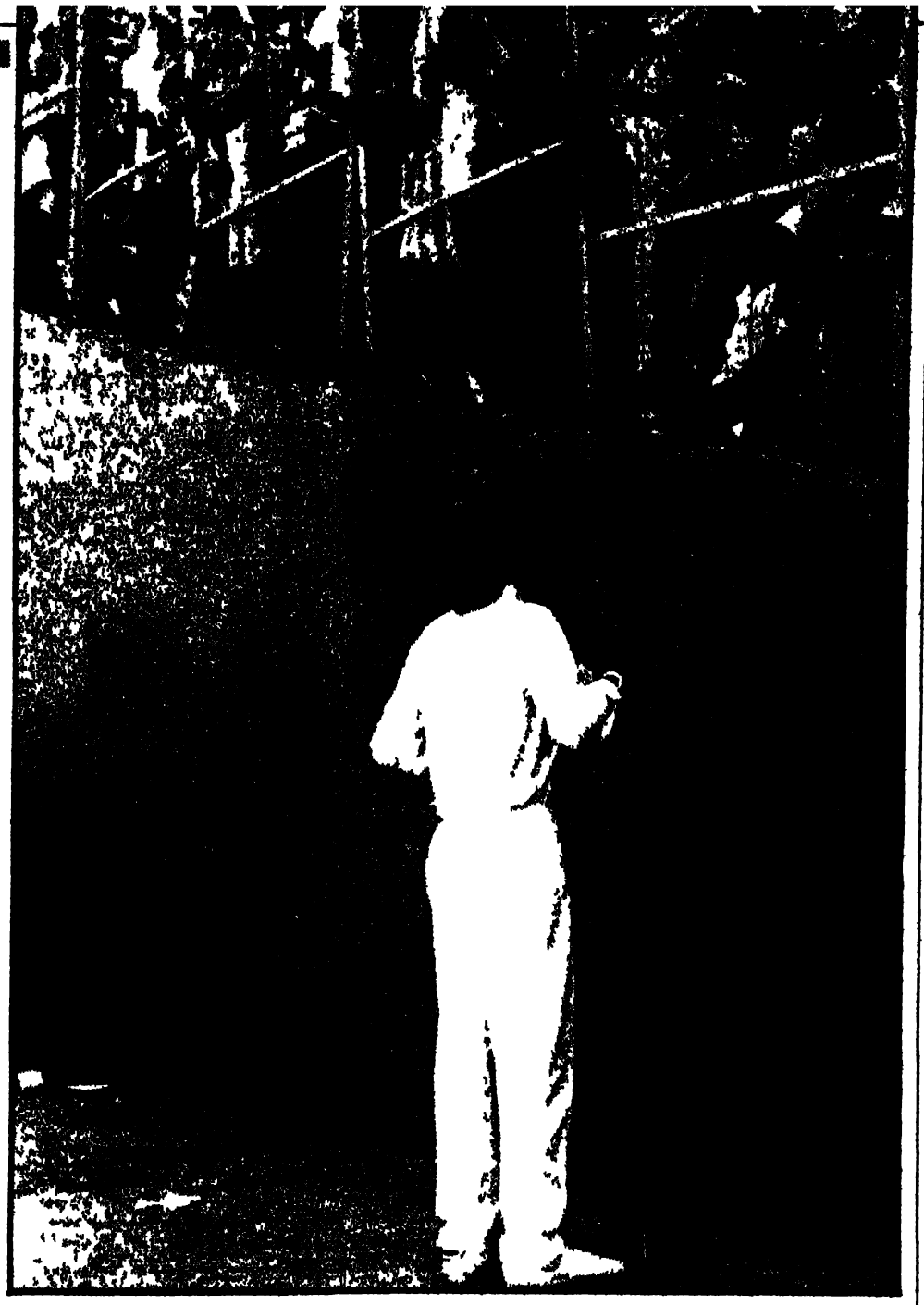
It was a time to feel pro ud that you are from India' was how Gavaskar put it

However many had doubted Kapil s ability to take the 24 wickets required on this tour which would give him his 400th wicket To be honest," Kapil admitted after the feat, In my heart I had told myself that I would be happy with 20 wickets in this series Halfway through when I saw that I was bowling well I raised that to 25 "

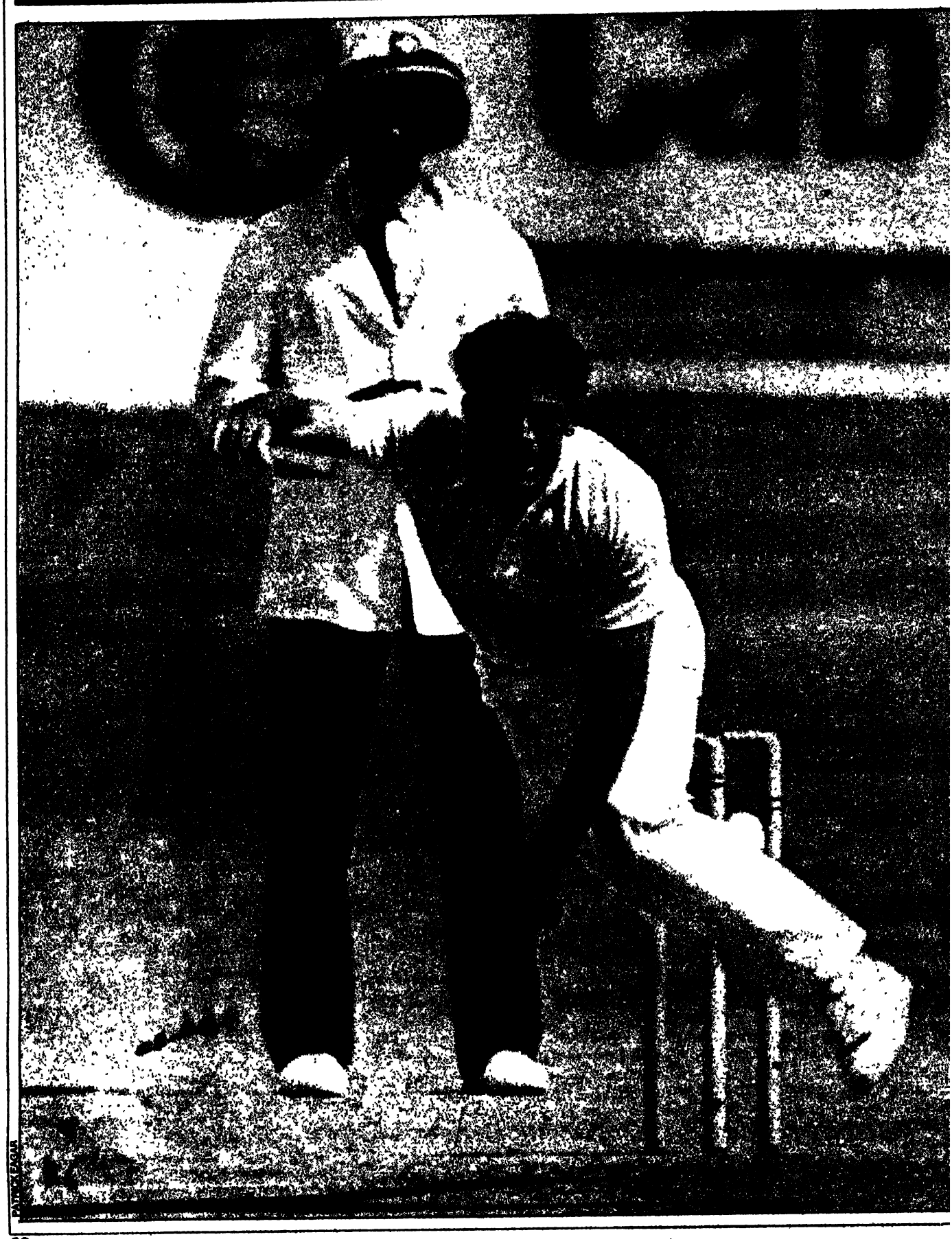
For it seems what Kapil Dev says he does When asked how he would cele brate he said he would go to the casino and try his hand at black jack Wasn't he stretching his luck too far? With Kapil Dev that never seems to happen In the midst of signing autographs for employees of the casino Kapil picked up enough winnings to have another champagne party

But amidst all the champagne and partying, there was one moment which summed up the feeling of the entire Indian contingent It was spontaneous, just as it was emotional While Kapil acknowledged the applause of the crowd and while Taylor walked up the pavilion stairs a figure in white flannels appeared It was not the next Australian batsman Instead it was Indian substitute Subroto Banerjee room mate and great Kapil admirer The occasion had obviously got the better of him He ran on onto the field and hugged his guru At that moment Subroto Banerjee represented an entire nation

Even the man who had scored 10 000 runs with the glassy eyes behind his Nick Bollettieri sun glasses ●



Kapil Dev: always at the centre of adulation



PATRICIA FAGAN

INDIA—AUSTRALIA SERIES

"CRAP!"

That's how the Indian skipper described his team's performance on the last day of the Perth Test. And there aren't too many people who will disagree. ANDY O'BRIEN sums up the Indian performance in a series best forgotten soon

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN couldn't recall the last time an Indian cricket team was so humiliated as his team was this summer. Naturally, since,in the spring of 1962, Azharuddin was still a few months short of making his own entry into—what must now be—this cruel world.

Not since the days of the 'retreating backfoot,' when Indian batsmen played fast bowling while backing off to square leg, has India lost a Test series 4-0 to any opposition. And if anybody still possessed some optimism regards the Indian cricket team—as manager Abbas Ali Baig seems to—and claims that the scoreline was not a true indication of the team's potential, then he is talking crap. One is allowed to use such slang because that was precisely how the Indian captain described his team's performance after the fifth and final Test at Perth.

Whitney had all his engines going full-blast to demolish India in the Perth Test

By ending the tour just as disastrously as they had begun it in the first innings of the first Test at Brisbane, India swept the little good they had done in between under the proverbial carpet.

Manager Abbas Ali Baig claimed the score could have been 3-2 "and when you consider the limitations of our players, the umpiring decisions and the fact that the opposition was close to brilliant, that's not too bad," he said.

Skipper Azaharuddin, being more practical than diplomatic, was not too content with moral victories. "We've got to do better than that," he said while on the flight to Melbourne the day after the Perth Test. "It's all about going out there and winning in the middle That's what the Aussies did. And that's what we didn't. It's as simple as that '

Yes, in modern sport there are no moral victories; there is only winning...and losing. Period.

And if Allan Border had insisted after the Perth Test in clinging to his post-Adelaide Test claim that the scoreline "was too flattering" then the would be lying through his stubby white teeth. No doubt the Australians were superiorly motivated side,who were—to use Border's favourite phrase—"hitting their straps" "It was like almost playing a different game," admits Sanjay Manjrekar, perhaps the biggest disappointment of the tour.

The Indians, according to their skipper, had "lost the battle in their mind and in the dressing room"

But more than that, the Indians, according to their skipper, had "lost the battle in their mind and in the dressing room." Manager Baig translated that into "an attitude problem" and "partly motivation."

"A whole lot of changes in attitude need to be made," he says referring probably to the couldn't-care-less-attitude of some of the players. This was most apparent on the last day of the series when the Indian batting, after getting the best launching pad they had got in the series (an 82 run opening partnership between Sidhu and Srikkanth), failed to take off and lay in a heap on the ground.

How a batting side, fancied to be one of the strongest in the world, can—apart from failing in almost every innings—fold up in less than 22 overs while attempting to save a Test match, is incomprehensible.

With the World Cup squad already announced and with the Test series irretrievably lost, the already deflated balloon of enthusiasm and motivation went pop.

What reason was there to play well enough to save the match? None at all it seemed. Those who had made the World Cup squad had another two months to prove their worth and those who hadn't,didn't have anything to play for. "What about personal pride," asked Sunil Gavaskar, 'doesn't anyone play for personal pride anymore?"

No, Mr Gavaskar, it doesn't seem like it. At least, not in this present Indian team. That's if one may even call it a team, for in reality, it is a collection of eleven players, some who should never have been anywhere but at home in the first place; some who were so woefully out of form that you actually begin to question their presence in international cricket and one or two individuals whose brilliance threw a

Scorecard for the Fifth Test played at Perth

AUSTRALIA (first innings):		Second Innings:	
M. Taylor c Srikkanth b Kapil	2	lbw Kapil	16
W. Phillips c More b Prabhakar	8	c Kapil b Srinath	14
D. Boon c Sidhu b Prabhakar	107	c Kapil b Prabhakar	38
A. Border c Srikkanth b Kapil	59	not out	20
D Jones c Srikkanth b Raju	7	not out	150
T. Moody c Vengsarkar b Prabhakar	50	c More b Kapil	101
I Healy c More b Srinath	28	c More b Raju	7
M Hughes c Srikkanth b Srinath	24	c Tendulkar b Srinath	11
P. Reiffel c More b Prabhakar	9		
C McDermott c Srikkanth b Prabhakar	31		
M Whitney not out	1		
Extras (b-1, lb-7, nb-12)	20	Extras (b-4, nb-6)	10
TOTAL	346	TOTAL (for 6 wickets decl.)	367

Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-21, 3-138, 4-145, 5-232, 6-259, 7-290, 8-303, 9-339

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-31, 3-113, 4-286, 5-298, 6-315.

Bowling: Kapil 40-12-103-2; Prabhakar 32 5-5-9-101-5; J Srinath 25-5-69-2; Tendulkar 5-2-9-0; Raju 23-6-56-1.

Bowling: Kapil 28-8-48-2; Prabhakar 32-4-116-1; Srinath 29.3-4-121-2; Raju 24-5-78-1

garb over this group of men to disguise them as a team

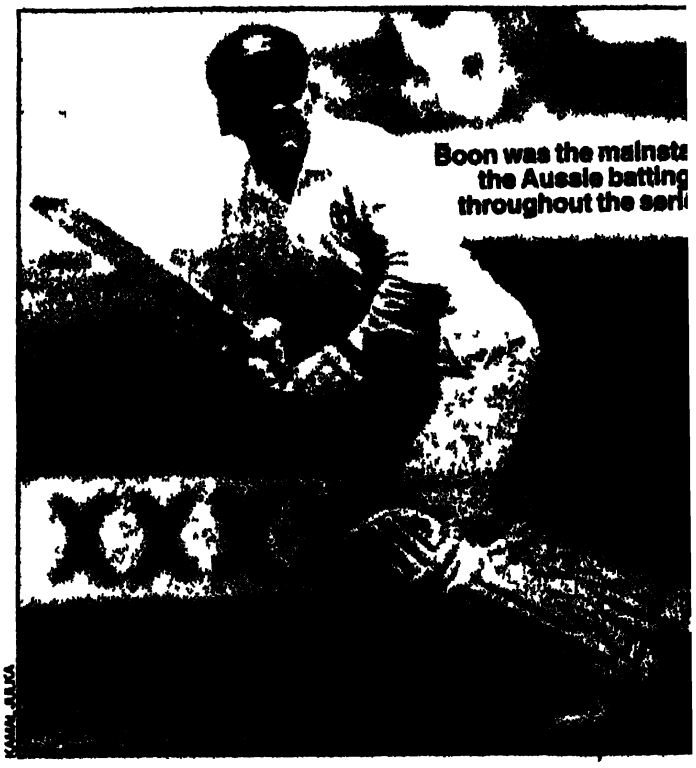
In fact there seemed to be only one part of the team that performed, the bowling end Even Allan Border admitted after the series that they had grossly underestimated the Indian bowling After we had seen what happened in England in 1990, we thought we would just keep piling up the runs and then put the pressure on with our fast bowlers But obviously we were not able to do that because their bowlers, especially Kapil, had us on a tight leash In fact it was a series dominated by both sides' bowling Ours was expected, their s wasn t '

Moreover the bowling went beyond the call of duty, by propping up the ever-failing batting. There was only one instance in the entire series (the one innings in the Sydney Test) where the first half of the batting outscored the latter half So much so that many had suggested that the Indians would have done well to turn their batting order upside down

Why Sachin Tendulkar, the mainstay of the batting lingered down at number six throughout the series until the second innings of the fourth Test is inexplicable Rather than attempting to avoid a crisis by sending him higher up the order, the Indian management preferred to create a crisis and then send the 18-year-old in to solve it. Centuries in Sydney and Perth—the two most demanding, contrasting pitches in Australia—sealed Sachin's early claims to be what Rod Marsh called "Test cricket's batsman of the 1990s."

"I don't think anyone playing the game today can play the game any better," commented John Woodcock, veteran cricket writer who has seen more Test matches than you would even care to remember. "The game comes so easily to him There is no pressure on nerves, just pure genius "

But Gavaskar warns



Boon was the mainst the Aussie batting throughout the seri

KAMAL KALKA

	34	c Jones b Whitney	38
	8	c Jones b Reiffel	38
	31	c Healy b Whitney	8
	114	c Moody b Reiffel	5
	1	c Moody c Whitney	4
	11	low Whitney	24
	1	c Healy b Whitney	8
	4	b Whitney	0
	0	c Healy b McDermott	3
	43	c Taylor b Whitney	1
J. Srinath not out	5	not out	1
Extras (14 lb, 9 nb)	23	Extras (11 lb, 3nb)	14
TOTAL	272	TOTAL	141

Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-59, 3-100, 4-109, 5-130, 6-165, 7-159, 8-159, 9-240.

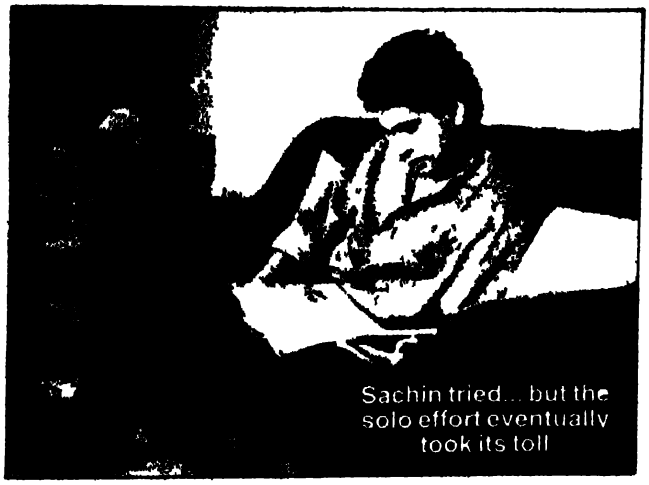
Bowling: McDermott 21-8-47-2; Hughes 26.5-5-82-4; Reiffel 17-5-46-0; Whitney 23.4-68-4; Moody 2-0-15-0.

Fall of Wickets: 1-82, 2-90, 3-97, 4-103, 5-111, 6-111, 7-126, 8-130, 9-134, 10-141

Bowling: McDermott 20-8-44-1; Hughes 12-2-25-0; Reiffel 11-2-34-2; Whitney 12 1-3-27-7

that this easy come, easy go won't last very long for Sachin "When the burden of the Indian batting falls squarely on his shoulders, that would be the test He will find out then, how difficult this game can be."

One wonders if that time hasn't already come, because more often than not Tendulkar was sent in with the hope that he would set things right for India. And sometimes the inexperience told Coming in at the fall of two quick wickets in the disastrous second innings of the Perth Test, he seemed to play as if he was beginning where he had left off after his century in the first innings "His speedometer was still on 114 when he came in," said Sunil Gavaskar. "Then he's only 18." Sachin has a very mature head on those young shoulders, but he will have to be given more time if he can take the full burden of the Indian batting on them



Sachin tried... but the solo effort eventually took its toll

NO one can vouch for the importance of maturity as can Kapil Dev—the other success of the tour. In his case, it might have been the very absence of pressure which was instrumental for the rebirth of India's greatest bowler "I decided to try things, to experiment Not to worry about giving away wides etc Also I knew that we had other bowlers so I knew exactly what was expected of me," is how Kapil explains his success.

Even Kapil had doubted the possibility of him getting in this series the 24 wickets required for his 400. That he went one wicket beyond, is only statistical That he frustrated the Australian batting and maintained some semblance between the two sides is surely a fact That he has regained the form which now makes him one of the most feared bowlers in cricket is merely the truth That he will continue performing at this level for the next few years is purely hope

Such was the reputation he earned in Australia during this tour that when one young Aussie saw Wasim Akram rip through the Victorians in a World Cup warm up match the young Aussie turned to his friend and not knowing the difference between Indians and Pakistanis said, and that must be Kapil Dev

Reputations are like sand castles, made and broken very easily And just as Kapil and

Tendulkar enhanced their reputations there were many whose were washed away in the Tasman sea the South sea and the Indian Ocean that surround this massive island continent

Heading the list must be Sanjay Manjrekar How could you make anyone here believe that he is in fact India s best batsman Oh yes he might be technically right and all that said Ian Chappell of India s number three bat but where are the runs? He doesn t have the improvisation to score runs when he is not in form

Manjrekar says he s determined to set the record straight during the World Cup In fact the entire Indian team echoes similar sentiments when you talk to them about their failure during the tour so far World Cup *mein dekh lungay* they say And we wait with bated breath

But things are not going to be as easy as that We have got into a dangerous groove which we have to come out of says Baig It is in fact a pit And Baig and Azhar as manager and captain hold the key to the door over the pit Only they can raise the level of motivation in the team Only they can improve the attitude of the players And unfortunately only they will be held responsible if they fail to do so

One of the few drawbacks on this tour apart from poor selection of the team unreasonable schedules and itineries and downright bad play, have been the ability of the manager and the captain to bring out the best in the team That they have similar natures has not helped either Baig is an honourable gentleman who prefers to be diplomatic rather than be ruthless He prefers to let his boys realise their mistakes on their own rather than be harsh to them and pull them up And that is precisely the problem Baig's preoccupation in the power struggle with the other manager Ranbir Singh and Azhar s almost pathetic lack of form only helped to make matters worse then they would have already been Baig failed to assert his authority allowing Ranbir Singh not the most knowledgeable cricket person, to take control Azhar failed to provide the example a captain should by not doing what he wanted the rest of his team to do Had Azhar provided a few examples with a few more good innings things would have been different, claimed Baig And when asked how he would sort out his problems his usual reply is wait till Ranbir Singh goes, then we will sit and sort everything out Ranbir Singh and his wife are now holidaying in

SERIES AVERAGES: 1991-9

AUSTRALIA (BATTING)

	T	INNS	NO	RUN	AVGE	HS	100	50	CWKT
DAVID BOON	5	9	2	556	79 42	135	3	1	6
TOM MOODY	1	2	0	151	75 50	101	1	1	3
ALLAN BORDER	5	9	4	275	55 00	91*	0	3	5
MARK TAYLOR	5	10	1	422	46 88	100	1	3	7
DEAN JONES	5	8	1	310	44 28	150*	1	15	5
GEOFF MARSH	4	8	1	185	26 42	86	0	1	2
PETER TAYLOR	2	2	0	42	21 00	31	0	0	0
MIKE WHITNEY	3	4	3	20	20 00	12	0	0	2
IAN HEALY	5	8	0	157	10 62	60	0	1	19
MERV HUGHES	5	8	0	154	19 25	36	0	0	4
MARK WAUGH	4	6	0	83	13 83	34	0	0	10
CRAIG McDERMOTT	5	7	1	77	12 83	31	0	0	1
WAYNE PHILLIPS	1	2	0	22	11 00	14	0	0	0
SHANE WARNE	2	4	1	28	9 33	20	0	0	1
PAUL REIFFEL	1	1	0	9	9 00	9	0	0	1
BRUCE REID	2	2	0	3	1 50	3	0	0	0

AUSTRALIA (BOWLING)

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVGE	BB	10W	5W
BRUCE REID	59 2	16	136	12	11 33	6/60	1	2
MIKE WHITNEY	116 5	21	359	17	21 11	7/27	1	1
CRAIG McDERMOTT	264.2	68	670	31	21 61	5/54	1	3
MERV HUGHES	199 3	46	511	22	23 22	4/50	0	0
PAUL REIFFEL	28	7	80	2	40 00	2/34	0	0
MARK WAUGH	37	9	89	1	89 00	1/36	0	0
PETER TAYLOR	35	6	116	1	116 00	1/40	0	0
SHANE WARNE	68	9	228	1	228 00	1/150	0	0
ALLAN BORDER	16	3	47	0				
TOM MOODY	2	0	15	0				

AUSTRALIA—INDIA FIVE-TESTS

INDIA (BATTING)

	T	INNS	NO	RUN	AVGE	HS	100	50	CHSE
RAVI SHASTRI	5	8	0	300	50.00	206	1	0	3
SACHIN TENDULKAR	5	9	1	368	46.00	148*	2	0	6
KIRAN MORE	3	6	1	143	28.60	67*	0	1	10/1
MANOJ PRABHAKAR	5	9	1	224	28.00	64	0	2	3
SANJAY MANJREKAR	5	9	0	197	21.89	45	0	0	1
MOHD. AZHARUDDIN	5	9	0	192	21.33	105	1	0	3
NAVJYOT SIDHU	3	5	0	102	20.40	35	0	0	1
KAPIL DEV	5	9	0	185	18.33	58	0	1	4
DILIP VENGSARKAR	5	9	0	158	17.55	94	0	2	4
KRIS SRIKKANTH	4	8	0	135	16.87	38	0	0	8
JAWAGAL SRINATH	5	9	4	76	15.00	21	0	0	1
VENKATA RAJU	4	6	2	62	13.66	31	0	0	2
CHANDRAKANT PANDIT	2	3	0	31	10.33	16	0	0	10/1
SUBRATA BANERJEE	1	1	0	3	3.00	3	0	0	0

INDIA (BOWLING)

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVGE	BB	10W	5W
SUBRATA BANERJEE	18	4	47	3	15.66	3/47	0	0
RAVI SHASTRI	48	11	114	5	22.80	4/45	0	0
KAPIL DEV	284	76	645	25	25.80	5/97	0	2
SACHIN TENDULKAR	36	10	94	3	31.33	2/10	0	0
MANOJ PRABHAKAR	251.5	61	690	19	35.78	5/101	0	1
VENKATAPATHY RAJU	171.4	42	438	9	48.66	3/11	0	0
JAWAGAL SRINATH	201.1	41	553	10	55.30	2/59	0	0
KRIS SRIKKANTH	1	0	5	0				
SANJAY MANJREKAR	0.5	0	4	0				

Compiled by Hari Prasad Chattopadhyay

Australia and will return before the World Cup, leaving Baig to "sort everything out".

"We are getting a whole lot of new faces for the World Cup, so that should make a difference," hopes Baig. And both the captain and the manager feel that there should be a very new look to the Indian batting line-up when the tour to South Africa takes place later this year. Whether they themselves will be able to hold onto their positions even they don't know... or wish to speculate on.

This has not been the easiest of tours. The team arrived with no preparation whatsoever to speak of, and went headlong into an itinerary which didn't allow either the regulars to settle down or the new additions to prove that they could challenge for a place in the side. In fact, Baig feels that "the lack of bench strength greatly handicapped us. There was hardly anyone in the reserves we could choose from", he says. Which is just another way of saying that the selection committee had made a few wrong choices. "Some desperately wrong ones," says one frustrated team member who broke his silence.

In spite of the ruling that only the captain speaks to the press.

And desperate situations call for desperate measures. No wonder Sunil Gavaskar feels that as long as the Board selects the selection committee there will be no solution to the problem. He suggests that the Board recommend a few names to the President of India, who will then select whoever he wants, no matter which region the person belongs to. It may sound bizarre but in a bizarre situation, where one young batsman is sacrificed because the regional 'slot' has gone to a fading veteran, anything sounds sensible.

The regional bias of selection and the politics that go with it are not only ruining Indian cricket but have also encouraged complacency among the players themselves. "An Indian cap is so easily available these days that there seems to be no pride in wearing one," says Sunil Gavaskar who throughout the trip seemed to be the major guiding force for the Indian teams in times of trouble. And there was plenty of that. Gavaskar is right about things coming too easy to the players. No wonder the replicas of the Indian cap are being sold on the pavements alongside the various cricket grounds here for a mere nine dollars. Even some of the players took to wearing this version. That Sachin Tendulkar was the only one to stick to wearing a genuine Indian cap is perhaps a true indication of the future of Indian cricket. ●

INDIAN WORLD CUP SQUAD

A New Look, A New Beginning?

Having been humiliated in the series against Australia, will the new faces in the team help India do better in the World Cup?

IT all seemed so strange. The champagne was flowing in the Indian dressing room because Kapil Dev had just become only the second cricketer to take 400 Test wickets. And yet surprisingly there were quite a few long faces in the dressing room. Why was it that while Kapil spoke to the Press between sips of champagne many of his colleagues seemed to be sulking in one corner of the room?

It was only later in the evening that someone realised the explanation for the contrasting moods in the Indian dressing room. The Indian squad for the World Cup was to be announced the same evening. Sourav Ganguly, Dilip Vengsakar, one wicketkeeper and one bowler were already up there on the hit list. That it was Hirwani and Pandit was only a matter of tossing up.

To be fair to everyone on this tour, especially the younger players, Sourav and Pandit, the schedule did not allow them many opportunities to prove their potential. But even in the limited opportunities they had, they failed to impress.

Ganguly played in one one-day international and though he looked like he can be an exciting stylist at his best, on that occasion he seemed to be shying away from the West Indies bowling. He sometimes even refused to run to the other end during his brief partnership with Sachin Tendulkar.

In fact the biggest criticism against most of the youngsters was not lack of performance—that was commonplace in the team—but more lack of application and attitude. Subroto Banerjee's attitude towards his injury made many people alter their opinion of him from a 'trier' to a 'shirker'. On the flip side it was Praveen Amre's attitude more than his performance that has kept him in the World Cup squad. Amre's do-or-die fielding and unselfish batting earned him a good report.



Kambli's selection was imminent, now will he perform?

On Tendulkar's shoulders lie a nation's dreams

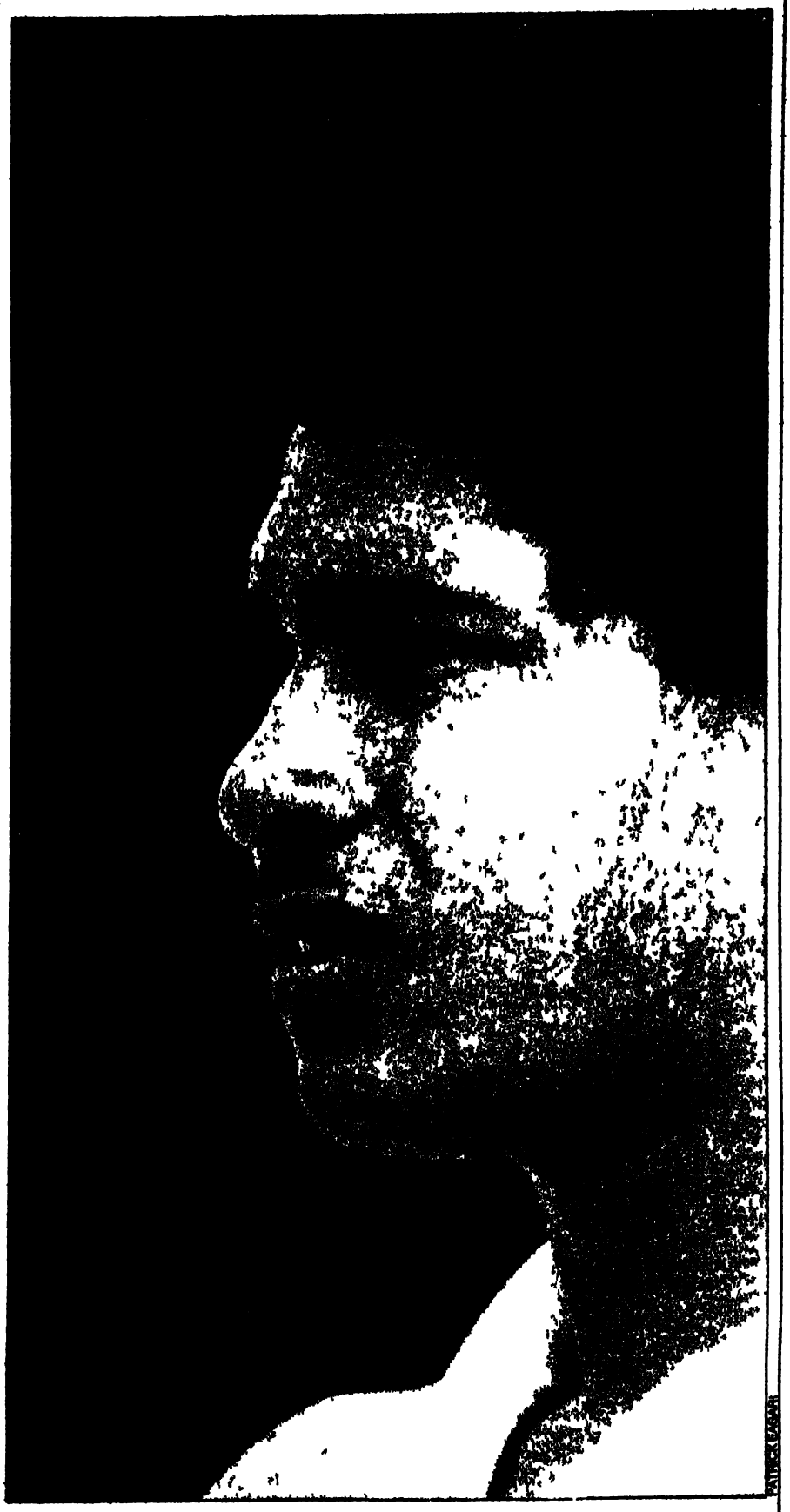
from the tour management and general Press all around It would be a pity if the only genuine trier in the team goes back home," said Gavaskar Fortunately that hasn't happened and Amre remains in Australia as an example of what effort and guts can achieve

Vengsarkar s returning home was never in doubt and the veteran batsman must have had his bags packed before the team was announced The team management had made it clear that they didn't think him to be of much value in the instant game, and he returns as the only member of the touring squad not to have played a single one-day international in the entire two month trip

Hirwani was exposed to only two one-dayers, and in the game in which India beat the West Indies to reach the WSC final,the leg spinner showed how vulnerable they are against his type of bowling That India will be meeting the West Indies only once in the World Cup and the fact that most of the cricket grounds in which India will play are small, must have weighed heavily against Hirwani

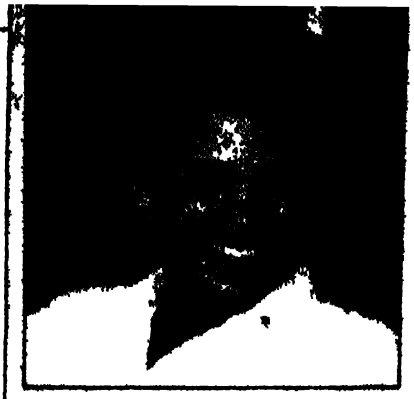
Chandrakant Pandit did have, by a stroke of fate, an opportunity to bag a place and ease Kiran More out of the Indian team Ironically it was Pandit's work in front of the stumps rather than behind it that let him down Known as a batsman who could also keep wickets—and having played his first Test match as a specialist batsman—Pandit was as quick as Flash Gordon behind the stumps when he replaced the injured More. But when the opportunities arose for him to produce an innings that would bail the Indian batting out, Pandit could provide no heroics More was lucky that Pandit did not come good with the bat and when his hamstring mended, the wicketkeeper produced a remarkable performance in the first innings of the Perth Test, the day before the World Cup selection

Navjyot Sidhu didn't have the kind of luck More encountered.



Compiled by
Ravi Kant Srivatsava

MEET INDIA



SACHIN TENDULKAR

One-dayers	:	31
Runs	:	884
Wickets	:	9



AJAY JADEJA
Has yet to play for India



KRIS SRIKKANTH

One-dayers	:	137
Runs	:	3971
Wickets	:	25



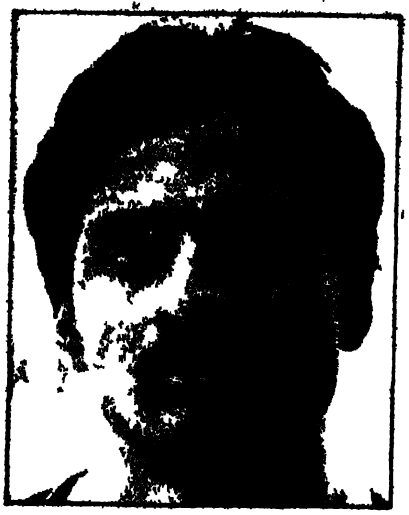
V. RAJU

One-dayers	:	16
Runs	:	23
Wickets	:	16



RAVI SHASTRI

One-dayers	:	144
Runs	:	2969
Wickets	:	129



JAWAGAL SRINATH

One-dayers	:	16
Runs	:	29
Wickets	:	18



PRAVEEN AMRE

One-dayers	:	17
Runs	:	198
Wickets	:	[illegible]

Flown in as a saviour for the failing Indian batting Sidhu must consider himself a trifle unlucky at the turn of events that now see him lose his place in the side Had Sidhu not made the trip in the first place he probably would have been in the World Cup squad

In all fairness to the Punjab opener, he was only just coming to terms with the conditions here and his two innings in the Adelaide Test showed precisely that Unfortunately he has to use his return ticket before he could actually settle down Hopefully the same fate of acclimatisation will not befall Ajay Jadeja who replaces him Australia is a great place for a summer holiday but not the best of places for a young batsman to make his international debut.

Of course, Jadeja's place in the final eleven will depend on whether Ravi Shastri comes through his knee injury before February 19, the last date for all teams to announce their final fourteen Shastri's absence will provide the balance to the side just as Vinod Kambli's presence is expected to provide great spectator interest in the Indian batting order. Kambli is already an oft repeated name in Australia because of his world record partnership with Sachin

WORLD CUP SQUAD



MANOJ PRABHAKAR

One-dayers	:	87
Runs	:	612
Wickets	:	91



KAPIL DEV

One-dayers	:	161
Runs	:	3595
Wickets	:	217



SANJAY MANJREKAR

One-dayers	:	37
Runs	:	1106
Wickets	:	2



VINOD KAMBLI

One-dayers	:	1
Runs	:	25
Wickets	:	



CHRIS MORE

One-dayers	:	77
Runs	:	1[illegible]
Wickets	:	2[illegible]
Catches	:	1[illegible]
Stumpings	:	1[illegible]



SUBRATO BANERJEE

One-dayers	:	1
Runs	:	10
Wickets	:	0



MOHD. AZHARUDDIN

One-dayers	:	130
Runs	:	3[illegible]
Wickets	:	12

Tendulkar. Even Don Bradman enquired about Kambli asking Gavaskar at a dinner, "What's that little fellows name, who partnered Sachin? He must be quite a player." Bradman also enquired whether Kambli was making the World Cup trip. Now that it is confirmed that he is, Bradman might just make another trip to the Adelaide Oval when India play South Africa there on March, 14.

The prospect of both Kambli and Tendulkar in the Indian batting line up will make India one of the more popular teams during the World Cup, and the two good buddies will also transform the mood in the Indian dressing room feels Gavaskar. "In normal circumstances you won't hear a wimper out of Sachin," says Gavaskar, "but with Kambli around, the entire dressing room is a buzz of activity."

Hopefully the new entrants into the Indian dressing room will be able to lift the spirit—and with it the performance—of the team during the World Cup. And hopefully they will provide the team a break from the immediate past so littered with mediocrity and plagued by lack of application.

Andy O'Brien, Perth

THE DEATH OF DHRUV PANDOVE

Darkness At Noon

"As flies to the wanton boys are we to the Gods, they kill us for their sport."

This poignant line from *King Lear* is an apt epitaph for promising southpaw 18-year-old Dhruv Pandove killed in a car-truck accident on the Sher Shah Suri Marg (G.T. Road) on Jan. 31, whilst returning home to Patiala after a Deodhar Trophy match.

Those that the Gods cherish they call away soon. It was not Dhruv's destiny to live. Vinay Lamba the North Zone manager advised him not to travel by night in a taxi. Lamba said, "The North Zone team returned from Sambalpur in the afternoon of 30-1-92. The last bus to Patiala had left Delhi and I suggested that he stay at my place for the night and leave next morning. However, Dhruv away from home for a fortnight was eager to get back to his family." He took a night train to Ambala Cantt.from where he hired a taxi to Patiala.

This was the fatal ride together with friend Bittu. They hired a taxi. Sadly for them, the taxi driver who died in the accident was a novice. He had obtained his licence just a month ago. The driver made the fatal error. Near the King Fisher Tourist Complex, located between Ambala Cantt and Ambala City, the driver tried to overtake a truck. It was an error of judgement as he collided with a speeding truck coming in the opposite direction. That was the end. The driver and Dhruv died instantaneously and friend Bittu was seriously injured.

Did Dhruv have a premonition of danger? He used to joke with his buddy in the North Zone team Ajay Jadeja that the Lifeline on the palm of his hand was broken but he was unconcerned as he was not fatalistic. However, the fates were unkind to Punjab's promising left handed opener.

Born on January 9, 1974 at Patiala, Dhruv was a child prodigy. He played in the Punjab Under-12 school tournament and represented Punjab in the Under-15 years. He also played in the C.K. Nayudu and Cooch Behar Trophies. Making his Ranji debut at 13 years and 310 days, Dhruv played 21 matches in the tournament. He had two centuries and six fifties in the 1,048 Ranji runs he accumulated at an average of 36.13. At the age of 17 years and 341 days he became the youngest batsman to score 1,000 runs in Ranji Trophy.

The eldest son of Patiala businessman and Punjab Cricket Association secretary M.P. Pandove, the talented Dhruv scored 73 runs in his last-ever cricket match for North Zone vs South Zone in the Deodhar Trophy. He played a Test match against the West Indies schoolboys in 1989 and was a certainty for the Indian team versus the Kiwi juniors in February.



In his brief but illustrious career, Dhruv has left many fond memories. His friend Ajay Jadeja remembers him as soft-spoken, dedicated and a close admirer of Allan Border. He said that Dhruv practised for four-five hours daily with emphasis on physical conditioning, weight-training twice a week.

Vinay Lamba says, "I can't believe it. He was such a sweet and jovial fellow. We have lost a very promising cricketer. He was a splendid team-man and a very competitive cricketer. We will miss him." M.L. Jaisimha also



considered him a talented batsman, willing to grind and learn and with the ability to have reached Test status.

A discovery of Bishen Bedi, young Dhruv was always respectful to his elders. He referred to Bedi as *Paaji*" and former Delhi skipper K.P. Bhaskar as *'Bhassi bhaiyya*." Bishen rated Dhruv very highly. ' He was one of our brightest hopes, a gentle and disciplined person who was shaping up well for the higher grade and could have gone a long way."

Bhaskar recalls his jovial temperament He said that Dhruv danced all the way from Valsad to Bombay after we won the Duleep Trophy. 'He had grit and determination and could have gone a long way " His death shocked the cricketing world. It got a mention in the Sports Round Up of BBC World Service and was referred to by the Aussie commentators during the 5th Test at Perth The three North Zone cricketers in the Indian team, Kapil Dev, Sidhu and Manoj maintained two minutes silence in his memory.

January seems to be an unlucky month for Punjab batsmen. Three years ago in the same month, Navjot Singh Sidhu was involved in a fracas which led to a murder case. Now stumps have been drawn most cruelly for the gritty teenaged Punjab opener, Dhruv Pandove When he was around, "we had joy, we had fun in seasons in the sun but now we bid a tearful and sad adieu.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

DOWN MEMORY LANE

THE MIDAS TOUCH



Australian cricket needed W.G. Grace's touch to make it the most popular game in the country

IT was the spring of 1873. A handsome, albeit hefty, young cricketer of England received an invitation from the Melbourne Club—the M.C.C. of Australia. 'Can you, will you, bring a team at the end of the year?,' ran the cable. Dr. William Gilbert Grace, the cricketer, consented. He engaged himself in collecting a representative side even though sometime before he had entered into another endearing and enduring engagement. Grace was to be married in the autumn of 1873, a few weeks before his departure for Australia, and the future Mrs. Grace did not mind. The tour was regarded by the couple as the extension of their honeymoon.

It was quite a problem those days to get a full team, prepared for a prolonged absence away from England. This was the reason why he could not rope in the talents of W. Yardley and A.N. Hornby, as well the services of already accomplished players like Tom Emmet and Alfred Shaw. Finally, after a long and arduous search, a team of 12 left Southampton on October, 23, 1873, in the P and O steamer Mirzapore.

The team consisted of W. G. Grace (captain), his brother George Fredrick Grace, James Arthur 'Frizzy' (one of the best wicketkeepers of his day), Farrington Holker Boult, Walter Raleigh Gilbert (a cousin of the Graces), Andrew Greenwood (opening batsman), Richard Humphrey (another opening batsman), Henry Jupp "Young Stonewall," James Lillywhite (who three years later was to captain England in their first – ever Test match), Martin McIntyre, William

Oscroft (one of England's leading openers in the 1860's and '70's, and James Southerton) the slow bowler, who at the age of 46 was the 'papa' of the side.

Choosing the team was just part of the problem that he had to encounter. Sailing to Australia 120 years ago, was an ordeal in every sense of the term. The team had to spend 52 days on the ship before shores finally were sighted. On the way they encountered a very bad storm on the Mediterranean, but after that came the spectacle that W. G. Grace would remember for the rest of his life, "The brilliant rays of the sun fell on the foam which was flying before the wind and produced one of the most lovely sights I ever remember in the form of hundreds of miniature rainbows", he wrote later. One presumes that there was a poet lurking in him, wanting to come out, or, was it the presence of Mrs. Grace that did the trick?

It was finally on December 8 that Grace and his party arrived at King George's, where the team went on shore and practised some cricket. Some of the aborigines present gave a display of the art of throwing the boomerang, and this so appealed to W. G. that he could not resist trying his hand at the trick. After repeated failures, his boomerang suddenly took flight, landed a few yards before one of the players on the ground, and again took flight with tremendous speed nearly decapitating one of his team members!

Umpiring even in those days were not without controversy. On his very first visit to the Antipodes, Grace did not spare the Australian umpires, "...Australia has always been deficient in the matter of good umpires, and though we in England are no means perfect in this respect, the Australians are a long way behind us...Anyone who took an intelligent interest in cricket was thought of as good enough to umpire. Consequently inexperienced men had the delicate and onerous duty thrust upon them... I attribute the friction which has frequently arisen during the visits of the English teams to Australia to the fact that even at the present time Australia is not well provided by good umpires." And this is one statement that most members of the touring Indian team would gladly attest to, 119 years later.



Australia has always been deficient in the matter of good umpires, and though we in England are by no means perfect in this respect, the Australians are a long way behind us.... even at the present time Australia is not well provided by good umpires

It is not surprising that Grace's views on umpiring hold good even today: "The duties of an umpire call for uncommon intelligence, decisive judgement, and intimate acquaintance with the laws and customs of the game. It is too often assumed that because a man has been a good cricketer he is sure to make a good umpire, but I contend that this is no criterion, and that a more necessary qualification for an umpire is that he should have a good head on his shoulders..."

Like umpiring, preparing the pitches was another aspect of the game that the Australians were not too good at, as Grace found out once when he was practising on the Melbourne Cricket Club ground, and an enquiry regarding the preparation of the pitch drew a rather cavalier reply from the groundsman, "Oh, we'll select a pitch and put the roller on it on the morning of the match and that will be alright." Little did the groundsman realise that Grace was not a person who liked things



W.G (extreme right) clowns with J. Mason while Lord Hawke (left) looks unperturbed.

done half-heartedly. He prevailed upon the authorities of the club to have rolling taken up two days prior to the match. In his firm opinion, "A bad wicket brings all players down to a certain level. I take it upon myself the credit of having shown the Australians how to prepare a wicket, and of disabusing their minds of the idea that a good wicket can be prepared without special care and preparation."

Apart from these technical problems the tour provided them with experiences galore, that varied from the sometimes pleasant to the painful, which incidentally was more common. At Ballarat, 100 miles away from Melbourne, they had their first taste of an Australian sand-storm which engulfed the entire town in darkness at noon.

At Stawell, it looked like the entire population of the town had come to welcome the visitors. The brass bands of the natives panicked a horse drawing the waggonette of Grace, and it overturned. Luckily there was no casualties. From Stawell, the Englishmen drove through the bushes to Warrnambool. Torrential showers made the ground so slushy that carriages sank till the axles. After 19 hours of this journey, Grace had finally dropped off to sleep in front of the fireplace when a sudden bang on the door announced a reporter from a local newspaper. The reporter was told in no uncertain terms midnight was not the time that Grace considered appropriate for a dialogue. The expletives that must have been issued by him find no place in his memoirs though.

The cricket matches—if they could be called so—that they played in between the hazardous journeys swung in temperament from serious and sublime to the ludicrously farcical and the brazenly burlesque. Eleven Englishmen had to contend with 18 or 22 of their opponents. The rules then were yet to be standardised, and card-sharps and gamblers freely plied their trade on the Australian grounds with scant regard to the law.

Sydney offered the visitors a



Style and finesse were the hallmarks of Grace's game

rousing welcome, with lots of steamers and fans on the harbour. At Tattersall's Hotel later, there was the unending toasts, which was a testing experience even for the formidable W.G. It was in the match at Sydney the Grace came across a youngster called Spofforth, who, in the years to come, was to grow into a 'demon' of a fast bowler.

From Sydney they went to Bathurst and on their way they had to cross the blue Mountains—the Australian Alps. The railway ride gave the Englishmen a few nightmares and even Grace had his quota of trepidations. "The gradients were in places very steep, and at times our sensations were curious as we were painfully conscious that the snapping of a coupling would send us careering down the precipitous slope to certain death..."

It was a large and unkempt ground at Bathurst where they played. It was here that an Australian gentleman made a wager with Mrs. Grace that her husband would not be able to hit the ball outside the wide ground. W.G. rose to the occasion, (for a pair of gloves) and sent a ball right over the scoring box, but only to see it land just inside the ground. Mrs. Grace lost.

On their return to Sydney, the Englishmen played against a combined 15 of Victoria and New South Wales and won handsomely by a margin of 218 runs. An unseemingly incident almost marred the match. "Some of the spectators raised noisy objections to a decision given by one of the umpires. The batsman who had been given out left the wicket and the next batsman came in."

The first batsman, then on second thoughts, returned to the wicket, and claimed the right to continue his innings. "The curious sight was witnessed of three batsmen being at the wicket at the same time," was what Grace wrote about the incident later. Grace was about to lead his team off the field when better sense prevailed, and the erring batsman left the wicket.

The rest of the tour was uneventful save one incident. Grace and his team played a match at Castlemaine where a fielder in an attempt to catch W.G. fell over the ropes. The umpire gave him 'not out' but allowed only the single he had run instead of the customary '5' allotted those days for a hit over the boundary!

It was in Hobart, Tasmania, during the series that cricket news was sent for the first time by telegraph to England and the Englishmen returned to their country on the 18th of May, 1874. Meanwhile Australian cricket had received a magic touch that ultimately made cricket their national game. That was the touch of W.G. Grace... the effect of which can be felt even today.

Surapriya Mookherjee

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Which sport was formerly known as 'Criss-Cross'?

2 In the 1990 World Cup football, which Buddhist player represented the host country, Italy?

3 What is common to Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, Rene Lacoste, Clive Lloyd and Ian Botham?

4 In which book is a cricket match between 'Dingley Dell' and All Muggleton described?

5 I have to challenge it for the sake of the human race. Who said this about what?

6 Which cricketer got the nickname 'Jack, The Ripper' because of his attacking style of batting during the 1975 Prudential World Cup?

7 What are 'Header', 'Jack Knife' and 'Swallow'?

8 I would have won the gold if my finger nails would have been a little longer. Which swimmer made this remark and when?

9 Whose autobiography is titled '*The Greatest Game Of All*'?

10 I never liked team sport because if you do your job you may still end up on the losing side. 'Who said this?

11 About whom did Mike Tyson say, 'They are very dedicated, like being a Shaolin monk'?

12 What did Muhammad Ali describe as, 'The next thing to death'?

13 What is 'drag' in cricket?

14 To be stumped by three yards is better than to be stumped by three inches. Who said this?

15 In which unusual sport did Ian Botham challenge Dennis Lillee at Adelaide in January 1983?

ANSWERS

1. Scrabble
2. Roberto Baggio
3. They all have nicknames based on animals.
4. *Pickwick Papers* by Charles Dickens.
5. Gary Kasparov on the chess playing computer.
6. Alvin Kallicharan
7. Different forms of diving.
8. Matt Biondi (USA), 1988 Olympics, when he lost to Anthony Nesty by just 0.01 sec in the 100m butterfly.
9. Jack Nicklaus.
10. Nick Faldo.
11. Sumo wrestlers.
12. The third of three fights between him and Joe Frazier in Manila on October 1, 1975.
13. To impart back spin to the ball.
14. Don Bradman.
15. Trotting or harness racing.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

SARWET PERVEEN & SHAHNAZ ALAM,
LF/16, BLOCK-3, ROAD NO. 10E,
RAJENDRA NAGAR,
PATNA-800016.

All answers sent in by contributors

EXTRAS

Cricketing news that is both interesting and funny....

• Kent's former England allrounder Richard Ellison has been awarded a benefit in 1993. Australian Daryl Foster, Kent's coach last year, is returning to Canterbury for another season.

• *England have named four standby players, in addition to the 16 currently touring New Zealand, to make up a preliminary World Cup squad of 20 (the final 14 need not be named until Feb. 19). The four additional players are Yorkshire captain Martyn Moxon, Martin Bicknell (Surrey), Nasser Hussain (Essex) and Worcestershire wicketkeeper Steven Rhodes. One man ruled out of contention was Michael Atherton, whose recovery from a back operation is going well, but slowly. Atherton withdrew from the England 'A' team, captained by Moxon and including Bicknell and Hussain, whose tour of West Indies starts on Feb. 18.*



Neale Andrew, son of former England wicketkeeper Keith, has produced this 14-inch-high bronze figure of Allan Border to commemorate the Australian's record 126 Test appearances

• South Africa will play six warm-up games in Australia before the World Cup: Feb 9 v Western Australia (Perth, day/night), 12 v Australian Cricket Academy (Adelaide), 15 v Pakistan (Canberra), 17 v Tasmania (Hobart), 21 v Queensland (Brisbane), 23 v Bradman XI (Bowral).

• *The former England allrounder Peter Willey will play Minor Counties cricket for Northumberland next season, and has also been accepted as a reserve on the first-class umpires' list. Willey, 42, scored 1184 runs (26.90) in his 26 Tests, scoring two centuries, both against West Indies. He first played for Northants as a 16-year-old in 1966, and moved to Leicestershire in 1984.*

• Graeme Fowler's 1991 benefit realised £152,000, a new record for Lancashire, eclipsing the £128,000 raised for allrounder Jack Simmons.

• *David Gower was one of several cricket personalities present at the launch of Cricket for You in '92, a £250,000 scheme to save schools' cricket, run jointly by the Lord's Taverners and the English Schools Cricket Association.*

• Former Pakistan Test allrounder Salahuddin was sacked as a national selector after claiming that his country's Board merely wanted the selectors to rubber-stamp decisions taken by others. Salahuddin was replaced by the former Test wicketkeeper and captain Wasim Bari.

• *Dean Waugh, the younger brother of Test twins Steve and Mark, scored 227 for Bankstown in their Sydney grade match against Hawkesbury. In the same round of*

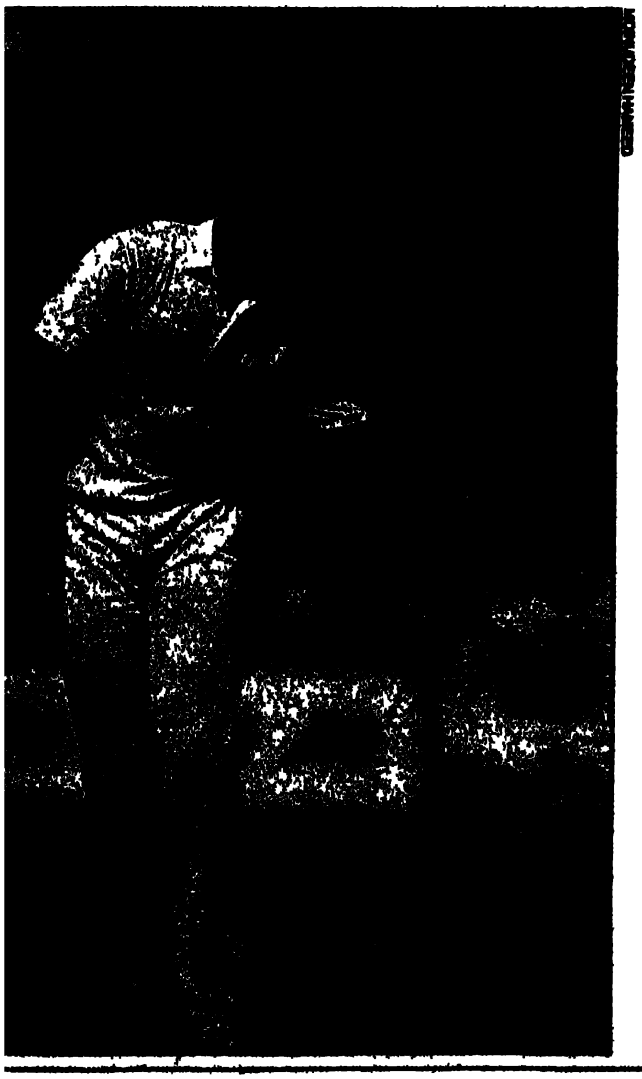
EXTRA SELECTOR

AT THE winter meeting of the TCCB, held at Lord's on Dec. 11-12, it was decided to increase the size of the England committee to four, by the appointment of an extra selector, who will be named at the Board's spring meeting. The selection committee currently comprises chairman Ted Dexter, manager Mickey Stewart and captain Graham Gooch.

Other decisions taken at the meeting included the following:

- **Coloured clothing, white balls and black sightscreens will not, after all, be used in the 1992 Sunday League, a competition which looks likely to be financed by the TCCB as no new sponsor has yet been found.**
- **The experimental law restricting bowlers to one bouncer per over per batsman, currently undergoing a three-year trial at international level, will be implemented in county cricket in 1992.**
- **Sliding scale of fines for counties failing to bowl 16 overs an hour will be finalised at the next meeting. Fines for counties failing to bowl their overs in the stipulated time in one-day matches will be "significantly increased".**
- **Players will not be allowed to dispose of a helmet except at scheduled intervals or the fall of a wicket.**
- **County delegates reminded of officials concern about players' behaviour, and asked to eradicate the increasingly common practice of scraping one side of the ball.**

Back trouble forces Ian Bishop to return home, jeopardising his future in the West Indies team



matches Greg Matthews took 13 wickets (4 for 16 and 9 for 84) for Waverley against Sydney University.

• India have been invited to play three matches in Zimbabwe either before or after their tour of South Africa next winter. The first-ever match between Zimbabwe and South Africa takes place in Harare on Feb 4, while a Zimbabwe Under-23 side took part in a youth competition in Pretoria during January.

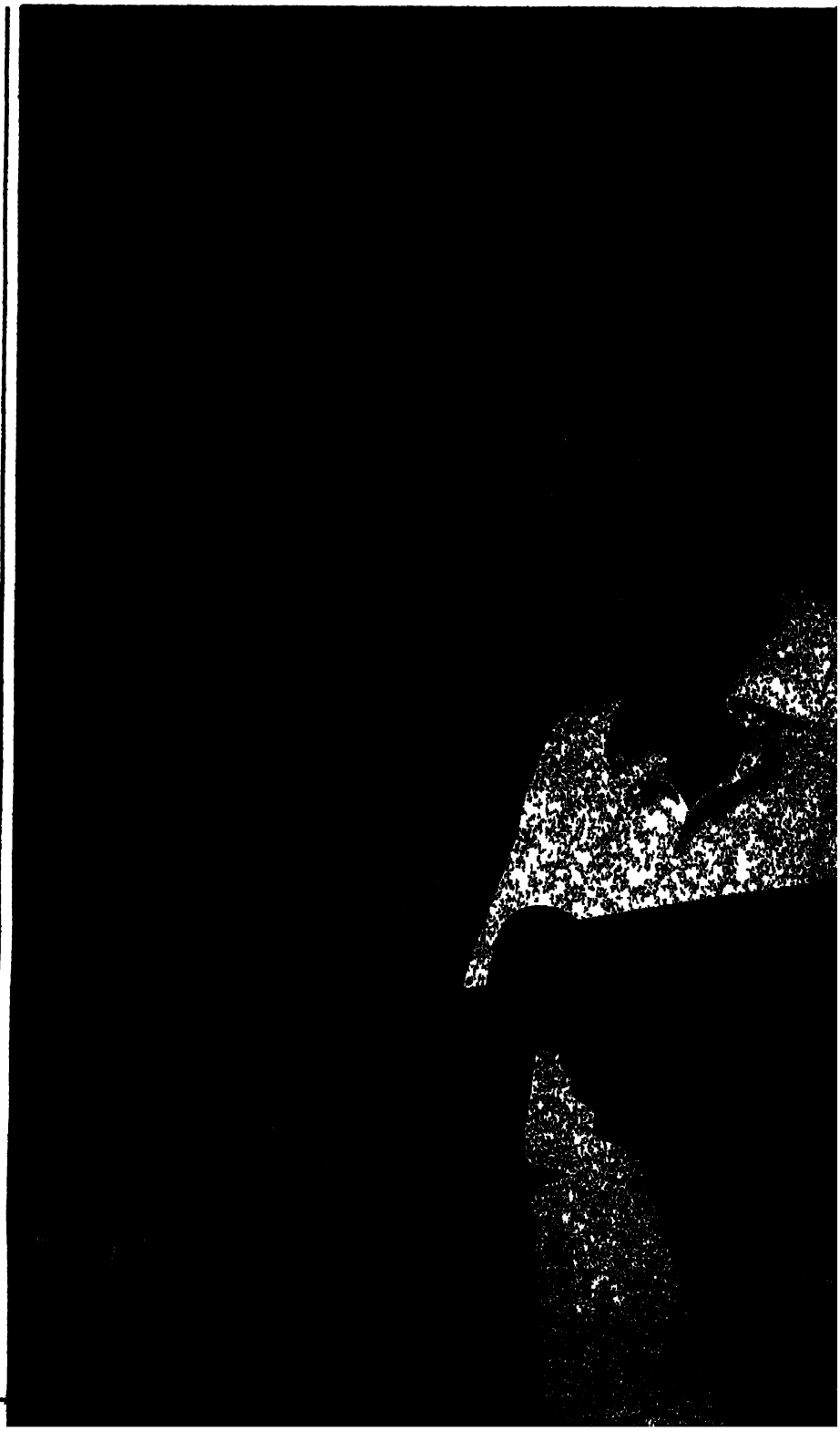
• *The career of Trinidadian fast bowler Ian Bishop is in jeopardy after the 24-year-old was forced to return home when back trouble flared up again during the West Indies' tour of Australia. Tour manager Deryck Murray said Bishop needed a spell at home, where he can concentrate on changing his action so that it imposes less stress on his back. Bishop had been expected to return to county cricket in 1992 as Derbyshire's overseas player, but in the light of his possible absence the county reportedly have had preliminary discussions with Mohammad Azharuddin (who scored over 2000 runs for them last year) and South African allrounder Brian McMillan, who played for Warwickshire in 1986.*

• David Gower has continued his preparations for life after cricket by joining Head PR Ltd, a Reading-based firm which provides 'public relations by solicitors, for solicitors'.

• *Scotland are to make a two-week pre-season tour of South Africa during March, playing three two-day and four one-day fixtures. South African allrounder Omar Henry, who captained Scotland last year, will join the tour if he is not required for World Cup duty.*

THE DEVIL GOES

Demonic spin bowler, Phil Tufnell is ready to hit a wicket or two for England in the forthcoming World Cup



PROBABLY in all its long history English cricket has never before produced a star quite like Philip Tufnell. Even high up on the players' balcony and across Lord's great prairie of green turf you can pick him out at a glance. He's been called the Artful Dodger by cricket writers but they're not alluding only to the devilish leftarm spin which has skittled out the batting might of Australia and the West Indies in the last two Test series: much more his manner and his unmistakable stance.

He's not very tall and he's thin and whippy, a physique for wriggling through skylights rather than sporting endeavour. His shoulders slump and he tips his head forward so that his forelock flops It's a pose at once idle and aggressive, violently relaxed-a street-corner loll in a dodgy district. His hands are deep in his trouser pockets and yes, of course, that's a fag in the corner of his mouth.

It's the last home match of the'91 season, Middlesex v Surrey, a suitably restrained clash of the Home Counties, and Lord's is dotted with elderly disciplinarians, bus passes in the breast pockets of their hacking jackets, sandwiches and tea flasks in plastic bags, binoculars round necks.

They keep training these on the

DOWN UNDER



balcony as if mesmerised. Is Tufnell up there by right, at this, the cathedral of cricket—a player for Middlesex, a club positively gnarled by tradition—or is he merely resting en route to nick the lead off the grandstand roof?

As it happens, on this very day the back page of the evening paper is given over to news of the squads for England's tour of New Zealand and World Cup in Australia and, with his six for 25 wipe-out of the West Indies in the final Test of the summer still shining in the selectors' minds, he's picked as the number one spinner. *Wisden*, the cricket fan's holy writ, records his relentless progress through the last couple of seasons and when this match is finished yet another five-wicket haul will give him top place among English spin bowlers in the 1991 County Championship

But Philip Tufnell is remarkable for rather more than his bowling figures. In all other departments of the game he's the type of youngster who'd drive the sports master potty: a fielder inclinded to profound reverie and a reluctance to rush about too much, a tail-end batsman with a deep longing for the safety of the pavilion; and standards of onfield courtesy and old-fashioned sportsmanship that even Gazza might consider out dated.

For all the wickets he's knocked over with the ball, he's endangered as many with his boot when umpires' decisions have caused him offence. When successful he dispenses with such conventional phrases as 'Bad luck, old son,' and a cheery wave to the departing batsman. In their place he gives a savage push to his forelock, a ferocious snarl and a wave of his forearm with a bunched fist on the end of it, activated in a sawing motion. In terms of an aggressive attitude problem nothing quite like it has been seen at Lord's since it was bombed by the Luftwaffe in the war.

Tufnell, when he turns up, is surprisingly mild, if wary, and wonders where his visitor might wish to conduct a conversation. There's a bar close by, which the visitor feels might do at a pinch, and Tufnell leads the way, but all doors at Lord's are guarded by fierce, blazered veterans, one of whom once prevented Sunil Gavaskar, the world's most prolific batsman, from even getting into the ground This one throws up the arm with which he probably stopped enemy tanks at Tobruk.

'Phil Tufnell,' explains the cricketer, who's dressed from top to toe in whites, 'and this bloke's from the newspapers.'

> Tufnell's ability to land the ball more or less where he chooses, which in the right pitch conditions makes him virtually unplayable, was sufficient to win him a place in England's touring side to Australia last year in only his second season in first-class cricket

'Members only'ere,' the doorman responds.

'I know,' Tufnell says, 'I'm playing for Middlesex.' He draws the front of his cricket sweater forward to display the county crest: 'Cricket, see?' The game is visible through the bar's big windows and he points to it and plays shots with an imaginary bat. The doorman still isn't happy. He suck his teeth. 'You'll have to sit outside,' he says.

Tufnell merely elevates his eyebrows towards his forelock for a moment and proceeds politely. You judge at once that for all his

bad-boy image he's not a megalomaniac and certainly not a publicity hound. 'Will this take long?' he asks. He's got his ciggies and lighter held in the drowning grip of the serious smoker.

There are plenty of thoroughly promising avenues to explore in conversation with what promises to be a world-class spin-bowling talent—a spinner especially since slow bowling is a genuine art, usually painfully acquired over many years, like the violin: a matter of heartbreaking, dogged practice, with the finger that imparts the spin callused to the size of a big toe, and the local lampposts, used as a target, worn pencil-slim.

Had he been through anything like that to achieve his precocious mastery? 'Nah,' he says, 'I found I could do it so I just sort of, you know...[his voice trails off altogether as he takes a passing interest in the fate of one of his team-mates batting out in the middle] did it.'

Probably in all its long history, English cricket has never produced a star quite like Phil Tufnell. Even high up on the players balcony and across Lord's great prairie of green turf, you can pick him out at a glance

Out on the pitch Surrey have brought back the furiously fast Waqar Younis, a bowler with the additional ability to hit batsmen unerringly and agonisingly on the foot. Tufnell watches him through narrowed eyes. 'That's what I miss,' he says, 'bangin' it in, though I liked to aim at their bleedin' heads. With my type of bowlin', if you're gettin' stick you have to bowl even slower. It's gall, mate. Gall!'

It will turn out to be his only display of passion but his own ability to land the ball more or less where he chooses, which in the right pitch conditions makes him virtually unplayable, was sufficient to win him a place in England's touring side to Australia last year in only his second season in first-class cricket.

His tour, on one level, was a disaster On his Test debut he rollicked the umpire for decisions of which he disapproved and snarled at the Australian batsmen for playing lucky strokes to the further detriment of his bowling analysis. At the same time he fielded like a schoolboy and batted abysmally. The rowdy Aussie crowds, sensing the arrival of a remarkable new personality, took him to their hearts, abusing him relentlessly in every match As the whole England side formed a panicky semi-circle behind the wicketkeeper to reduce the damage done by his out-fielding, a banner appeared over the balcony at Melbourne: 'Up here, Tufnell, we'll chuck it in for you.'

It was an experience that might have sent an old-fashioned youngster into a monastery but he merely gives it his little grin. 'Bastards,' he says, half admiringly. 'Hadn't really got the hang of it then, had I? Thought you just had to turn up and bowl.' And this he did with great effect at Sydney, another five-wicket innings and a place against the West Indies last summer.

Was it a source of deep satisfaction that he couldn't be ignored? 'Oh yeah, lovely.' A thrill to play for his country? 'Oh, course.' His Porsche was in the Lord's car park. Nice to be in the money? 'Well, more the lifestyle really.' The evening paper has used a picture of Botham in a crown, playing Old King Cole or somebody. He nods at it. 'He's done all right but it's a batsman's game, really. Can't see meself advertising Hamlet cigars.'

He doesn't sound the slightest bit resentful or envious and it's hard to believe that the old chaps,



PATRICK EAGAR

Phil Tufnell (second from left) after his brilliant six wickets in the fifth Test against the West Indies last year



Phil Tufnell on his favourite bike

who've been gazing at him all along from the corners of their eyes with a still boyish wonderment, would find a single attitude that they'd recognise from a lifetime of adulation of cricketing achievement; that at the end of the century of Hammond and Hutton and Verity and Bedser the new blokes would be so...*different*.

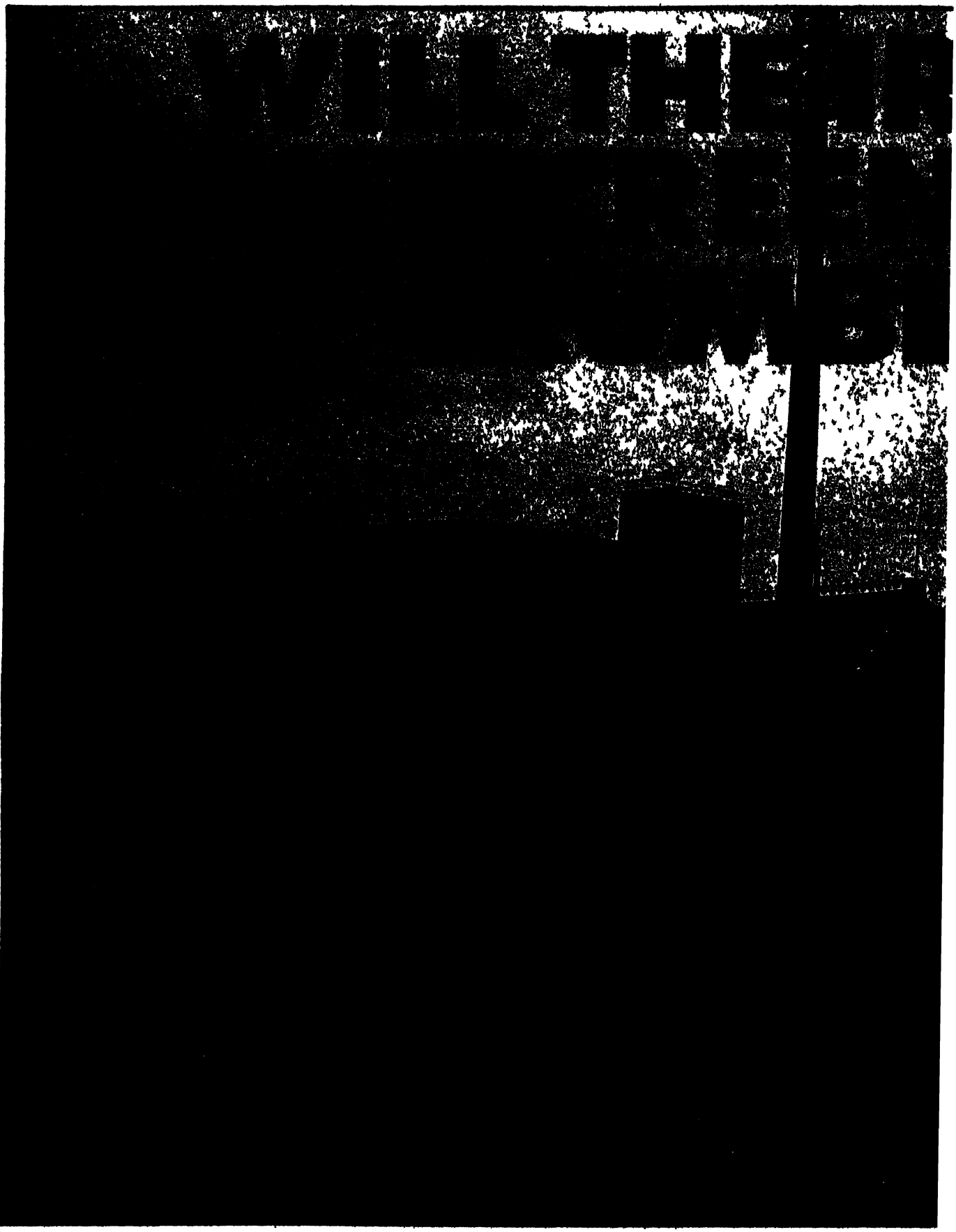
It's something it would probably be fascinating to talk over with Philip Tufnell, hearing him going on at length about the modern game, but his fags are finished and so is his patience. Only five wickets are down and he goes in last, but he mutters, "Ave to get me pads on,' and he's gone.

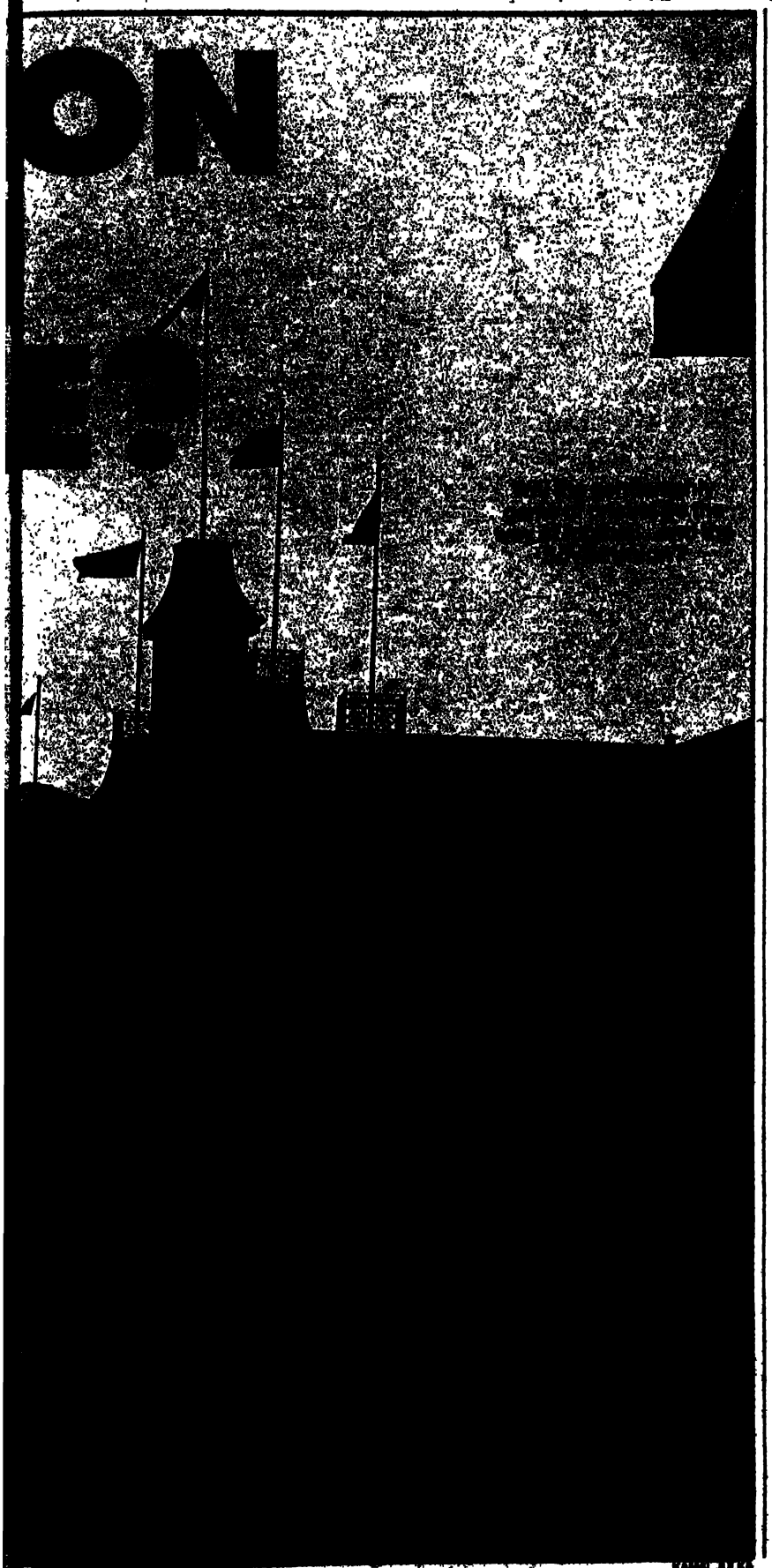
Shortly after his departure Waqar Younis hits a batsman on the foot with a hollow thud that echoes round Lord's like an incoming mortar round. Tufnell's back on the balcony now in his Artful Dodger posture but at the sound his head comes up like a gazelle scenting lion and he takes a deep, reflective drag. Well, nobody's life is that uncomplicated, is it?

When he gets a wicket, Phil Tufnell gives a savage push to his forelock, a ferocious snarl and a wave of his forearm with a bunched fist at the end of it activated in a sawing motion

Jon Sandiford

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS ASIA FEATURES



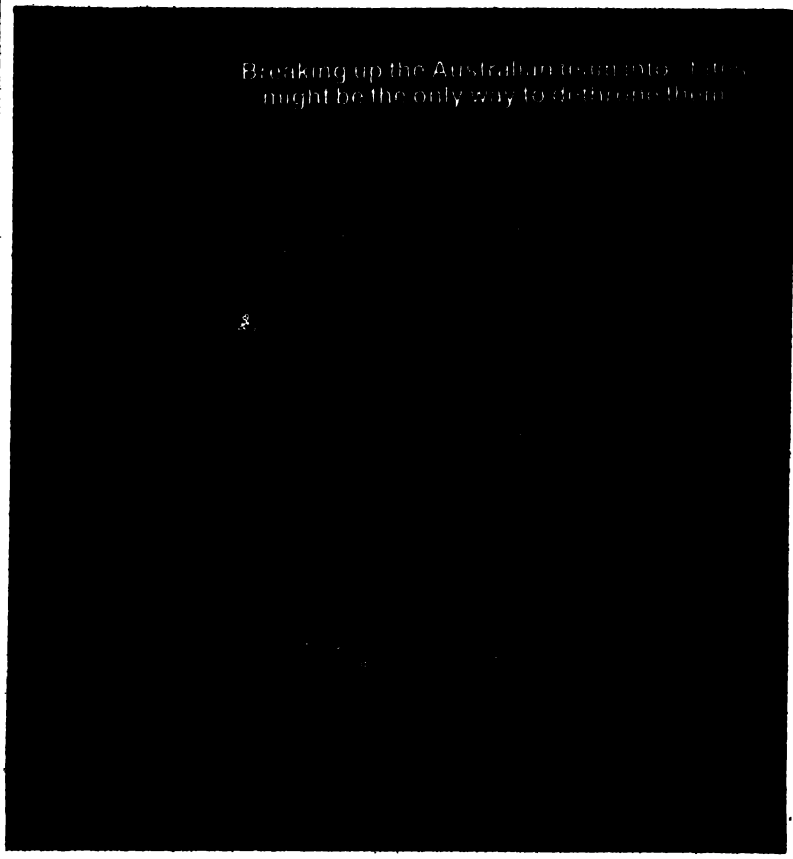


THE world, as Her Majesty the Queen noted in her Christmas broadcast at the end of last year, has begun to change, and the changes have happened with bewildering speed. Even those of us for whom the words 'bewildering speed' more usually apply to Curtly Ambrose than to anti-Communist revolutions cannot fail to have noticed the turmoil all around the world. It would take a major political commentator like Matthew Engel or Mike Gatting to explain fully the significance of all these events politically and economically, but there are many aspects of the downfall of the Soviet Union and the establishment of a new Commonwealth which bear directly on the average reader's life, and I am sure I am qualified to clarify the cricketing significance of these momentous events.

Basically, it is all very simple. Half the world is breaking up into smaller parts, and the other half is building itself together into larger bits. Everybody involved opposes either the building or the falling apart, except Jacques Delors and Boris Yeltsin. The Soviet Union is now Russia, except for Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, which aren't, and neither is Georgia, whose president and capital city are both completely unpronounceable. The Ukraine is a separate country, as are Azerbaijan and Byelorussia and probably Uzbekhistan, so Parke G. Thompson of Akron, Ohio and Giorgio Ricatto of Turin, the men who the *Guinness Book of Records* lists as the people who have visited the most sovereign states in the world, now have a few more air tickets to buy.

And while all this is going on, 12 European nations meeting in Maastricht have agreed to become one nation (or maybe one and a half if Britain cannot quite make up its mind), so that as the world gains several new nations from behind the rusted Iron Curtain, it loses a few this side of the Oder-Neisse line.

What has all this got to do with cricket, I hear you cry. Well, the draw for the football World Cup, which took place a month or two ago in the United States, features Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia as separate states for the first time. The Soviet Union is in there too, so I suppose that by the time the 1994 finals come round, we could see a non-existent country take the trophy, which would be apt seeing that a non-existent country (West Germany) are the current holders. And what happens in football generally happens in cricket



before too long.

Australia, as I write the holders of the World Cup and odds-on favourites to retain the trophy, is in fact officially known as the Commonwealth of Australia, rather like the new Commonwealth that has taken over from the Soviet Union. Like the Soviet Union, their leader has also made a hasty and unplanned exit from the political stage, so if Moldavia, Turkmenistan and Kirghizia are to be recognised internationally as sovereign states, then it is only fair that we (or at least the ICC) recognise individually the different states of Australia, and insist they play as separate countries. This will give Queensland another trophy never to win.

West Indies are anyway a team made up of people from several sovereign states, and this nonsense has clearly got to stop. Jamaica, Guyana, Barbados, Antigua and the rest will all have to field their own international sides, just as they do in the football World Cup. India, which is made up of 25 self-governing states, ought to think long and hard about fielding 25 international cricket teams, and New Zealand could well be split into North and South Islands at least.

KAMIL JR.KA





Gooch and his band of merry men come from all corners of the globe

ATRI KEACH

That this international reorganisation would have the coincidental effect of making the England team more likely to win something is neither here nor there Our international cricket team many years ago made the sensible move of calling itself England rather than Great Britain even though it has quite unashamedly fielded players from all corners of the globe or they would have done had a globe had corners England is more difficult to subdivide than Britain is

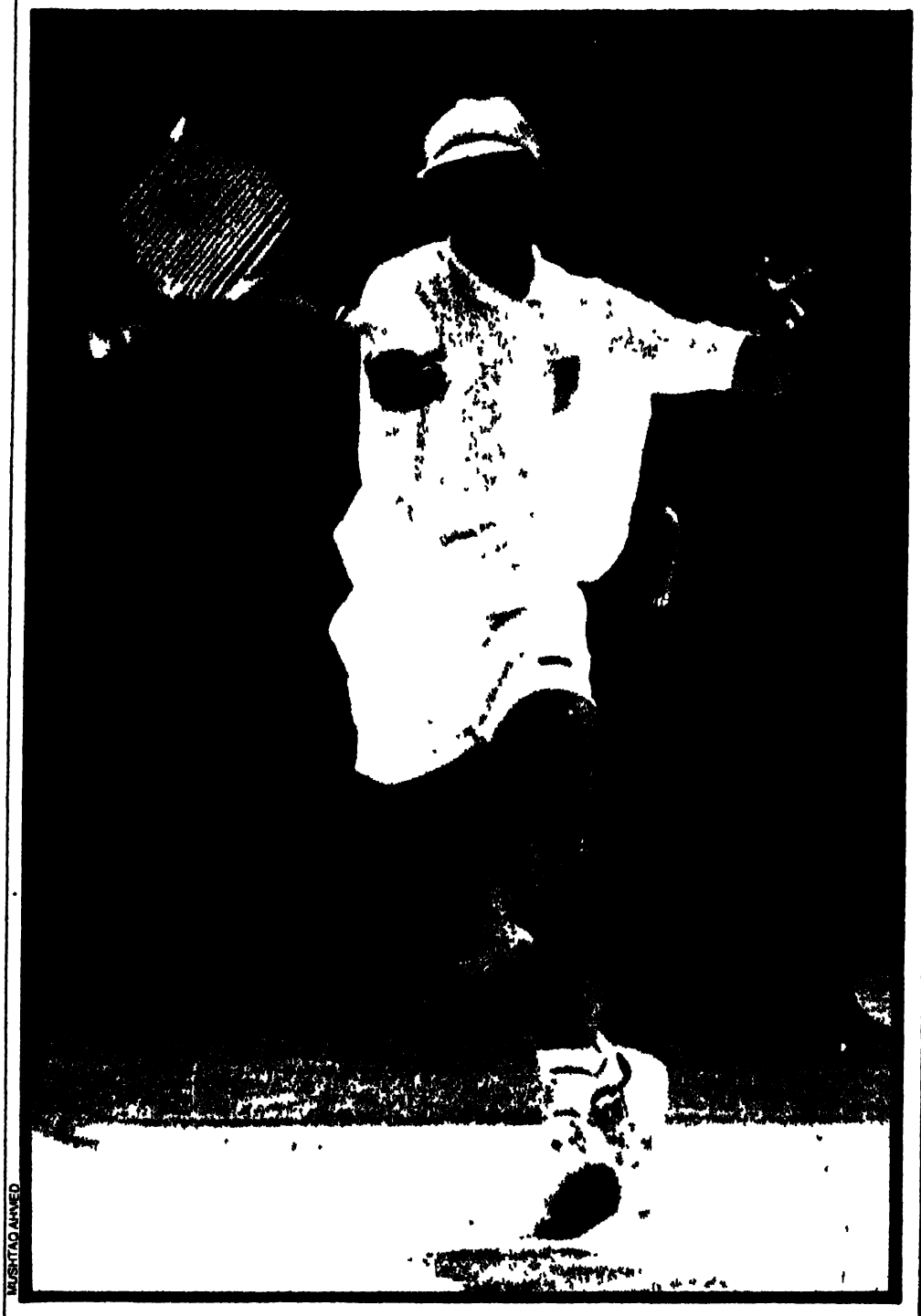
If Europe can play as a team in the Ryder Cup so as to be strong enough to beat the Americans, then why not in cricket too? We'd call them England of course to avoid confusion but that would give the likes of Roland Lefebvre and Ole Mortensen a crack at international stardom, as well as making sure that England B teams no longer suffer embarrassing defeats at the hands of the Dutch or the French There has to be something to be gained out of all this European Community nonsense apart from a new coin to toss with

But what if things went the other way? What if the break up of the Soviet Union cast a baleful shadow over our County Championship for example? What if international recognition of East and West Sussex forced them to compete separately? What about West South and Mid Glamorgan? Yorkshire too would subdivide like bacteria multiplying but they already have about 26 committees too many so there would be no problem in administering the newly formed mini counties as efficiently as the current county club runs itself

Yorkshire CCC is of course living proof that sport and politics should not be allowed to mix There has never been an Iron Sightscreen nor a Marylebone Wall to crumble and leave cricket in disarray so with any luck we can forget world events and get on with enjoying the cricket Cricket's neutral observers have yet to be issued with helmets unlike their United nations counterparts around the world

Jonathan Rice
WISDEN CRICKET MONTHLY

If Europe can play as a team in the Ryder Cup so as to be strong enough to beat the Americans, then why not in cricket too?



MUSHTAQ AHMED

$25,000 ITAL

THEY all came from different parts of the globe for the $ 25,000 Bangalore Challenger—Georgia, Latvia, Russia, the U.S , Brazil, The Netherlands, Spain, Germany, Denmark and Britain.

But none of the players relished the KSLTA Stadium hard courts as much as the Italians did. It was quite in the fitness of things that two of them—Mario Visconti and Ettore Rossetti—contested the final, and the better player held his nerve to emerge triumphant. Yes indeed, Visconti richly deserved the $ 3600 pay-cheque as well as the valuable 50 ATP points.

Visconti: as tough as nails

But the talking point of the tourney was Rossetti's fairytale success, one which almost gave him the unique honour of winning the championship as a qualifier. Having made his mark in the Satellite circuit by making the final in Cochin and the last eight at Pune and Indore, Rossetti was still well short of direct qualification standards for the Challenger. At 588,ranked lower than even India's K.G Ramesh, Rossetti showed he was only starting to realise his immense potential. Even as others strugled to win matches in what was definitely a stronger field than the Satellite, Rossetti made smooth progress leaving in his wake third seed Xavier Daufresne (world No 194), fifth seed Andrew Sznajder (No. 231 who played for Canada in World Group Davis Cup competition last year), Brian Devening, an up-and-coming American, and Andrej Merinov, an elegant left-hander from Russia. Indeed, it needed all of Visconti's skill and temperament to thwart a nervous and luckless Rossetti in the final.

If the Indians' showing was not as spectacular as the Italians' it was not

ATP CHALLENGER, BANGALORE

IAN STALLIONS

too disheartening either. Zeeshan Ali and Leander Paes won a couple of rounds each and were only beaten, not disgraced, in the quarter finals. Srinivasan Vasudevan followed up his creditable three-set win over Gasbarri with another thoroughly typical and efficient baseline-oriented display against Sznajder. The 24-year-old Sznajder, was staring at defeat down 3-6, 2-4. As one last desperate effort, Sznajder changed tactics and turned aggressive. Vasu, serving big down the middle (he had eight aces), was caught napping by the change of pace Sznajder adopted with his net-play and mid-court forays. This was a sure way of pushing Vasu into a corner, as he never ventures to the net,come what may. Anyone trying to beat Vasu at his own game is bound to get into trouble.

Just like Vasu, Zeeshan had a point to prove, and the Challenger for him was to be a voyage of rediscovery. He certainly could not have chosen a better occasion to regain touch and confidence than his match with much-fancied German Udo Riglewski. Playing his strokes with the flair and abandon of a man who once threatened to break into the world's top 100, Zeeshan rolled past Michael Stich's Davis Cup doubles partner (in the semis against the U S. last year) with a fair degree of ease and authority.

Zeeshan maintained that silken fluency in the encounter against Dutchman Jovst Winnink and for a set against Merinov in the quarters before falling prey to an injury sustained the previous day The muscle pull on the left leg did not look like bothering him as he sailed through the first set 6-4. But as Merinov realised the Indian's genuine handicap, he got clever and engaged Zeeshan in longer rallies. Unable to put too much pressure on that left foot, Zeeshan had no option but to try for one-stroke rallies, "That was the only way I could hang on there," said Zeeshan after the match, the disappointment,too real and heartbreaking. "Just when I was playing well, this had to happen! I could have won this match had I been fully fit, and then, who knows what would have happened?"

Forced to use a wicketkeeper's inner glove, Paes adjusted well enough to brush aside David Kacharava, the least impressive of the three Georgians. But having recovered from the right-palm blister problem, Paes ran into a determined Soresini Rushing too much rather than letting the ball come onto the racket, Paes was fortunate to get past Soresini. It was quite obvious that he would have to pull up his socks if he wished to beat Visconti in the next round. Unfortunately, it turned out to be one of those days when the serves just would not land. Missing about 90% of his first deliveries was as good as committing *harakiri* against somebody serving hard and fast, and possessing a sound allround game. That Paes could still stretch Visconti— the scoreline read 7-5, 7-6 (7-4)—was a tribute to the youngster's grittiness and fighting spirit. While these have always been his strong points, along with his serve-and-volley game, Paes has still to develop a sound all-court game. With time being on his side— he will be 19 in June—there is no cause for alarm vis-a-vis India's best tennis talent right now.

A word on the organisation. No one could have done a better job than the Tennis Players' Association of Karnataka (Tenpak), who worked in harmony with the Karnataka State Tennis Association to make the second Challenger just as memorable as the one last year. The facilities at the KSLTA Stadium complex are excellent, and meet the high standards of the ATP perfectly. And, as tournament director P.L. Reddy rightly pointed out, barring Calcutta there is no better centre for hosting an international tourney of this nature. South Club surely can stage a Challenger or a high-profile Satellite. But will the Bengal Lawn Tennis Association bid and honestly look for a wealthy sponsor?

TheIndians performed well but it was the Italians who dominated with their fluent tennis

Amitava Das Gupta, Bangalore

Partab Ramchand recalls the first Test match that India won at Chepauk, Madras, on February 10, 1952

AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIS

CHEPAUK A hallowed ground rich in cricketing tradition A Test centre which has not only produced more decisive results than any other in the country but is also one that has witnessed more historic occasions than any other venue Like Sunil Gavaskar's 30th Test hundred in 1983 which took him past Don Bradman's long standing mark of 29 Like Hirwani's world record haul of 16 wickets on debut in 1988 And probably most historic of all the tied Test in 1986

But our story dates back to February 10 1952 It did seem that destiny had willed that the most important landmark in the history of Indian cricket be sculpted at Chepauk Like India's first ever Test victory

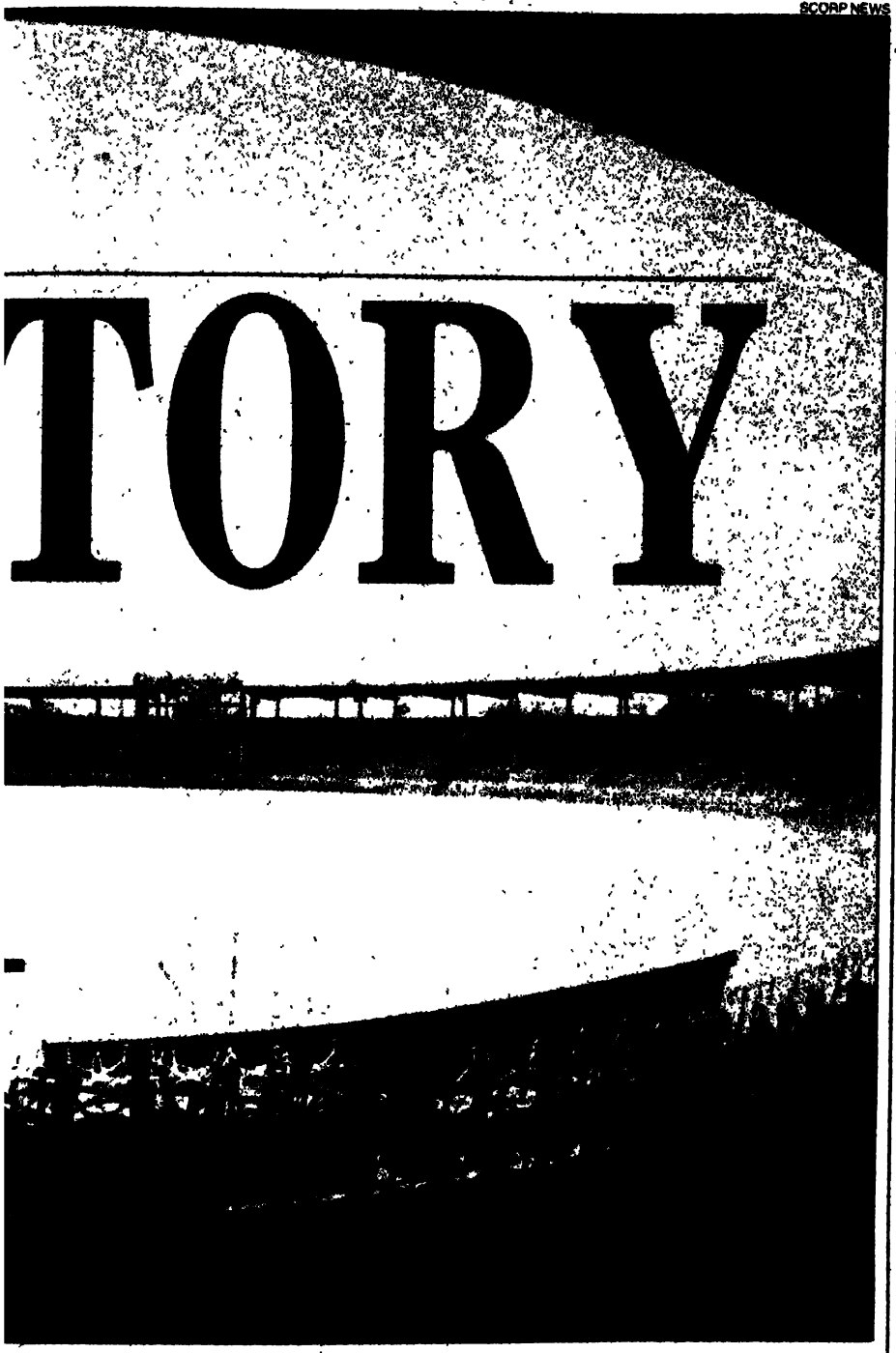
By 1952 less than five years after independence Indian sport had already started making a mark Only a few months before during the first Asian Games at New Delhi India had unexpectedly won the football gold medal In hockey we were still the dominant nation in the world But in the other major team game cricket we had still to break the duck

Sure we did have our moments like Vijay Hazare scoring a century in each innings of a Test against Australia at Adelaide And like India coming tantalisingly close to victory over West Indies at Bombay in February 1949 But the fact was that 24 Tests had been played by India before February 1952 Half of them had been lost and the other half drawn And with India due to tour England in 1952—always a tough assignment—the final Test against England at Chepauk presented us with our best chance



Chepauk stadium, Madras was the historic site of the first Indian Test victory against England; (inset) Polly Umrigar, who was included in the last minute, hammered his first century of his career during that Test

SCORP NEWS



Actually it was thought that India would register a victory earlier in the series. India was actually the favourites to win the series for the England team which was hardly a representative of the country.

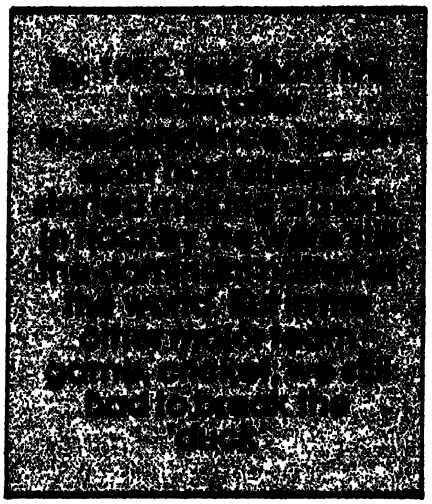
With players like Hutton, Compton, May, Bedser, Evans and Laker not coming, the squad could hardly have been England at their strongest. And yet, the first three Tests had been drawn and then surprisingly England won the fourth at Kanpur in three days.

Still there was something fragile about this England team. The question was whether India's batsmen and bowlers had the ability to exploit their weaknesses. It was answered in the affirmative, in the most emphatic manner during four memorable days at Chepauk.

These days it is the imposing M.A. Chidambaram stadium that dominates Chepauk. Not so 40 years ago. Those were the days when large trees all around the ground gave it an old English air, and the wicket, true to reputation, was always sporting. Fortunately that has remained so.

England were without their captain N.D. Howard and vice captain D.B. Carr led the side. Winning the toss and electing to bat, Carr was off to a good start, but England were dismissed for 266 on the opening day. Vinoo Mankad—then the commanding figure of Indian cricket—took eight wickets for 55, the first time an Indian bowler had taken as many wickets.

The highlight of the first day was an engrossing duel between him and Graveney. Time and again



Mankad drew Graveney out of the crease with his tantalising flight. And the elegant England batsman, then just starting out on a Test career that lasted till 1969, met the challenge head-on by boldly driving him. But then along came a ball from Mankad that lured Graveney out of the crease to bring off a smart stumping. It was the first of four stumpings during the day.

There was no play on February 7, as a mark of respect to King George VI who had passed away in London the previous day. Hostilities resumed on February 8 and India, batting almost two full days for a total of 457 for nine, declared to put the match in the correct perspective. Pankaj Roy, then the 'wonder boy' of Indian cricket scored his second hundred of the



(Left) Pankaj Roy scored his second century of the series setting India off to a good start; (right) Vinoo Mankad took eight wickets for 55 which sounded the death knell for the England team

series the first to get two hundreds in his debut series until someone called Sunil Gavaskar improved this to four hundreds almost 20 years later

Polly Umrigar coming in at no 7 hammered an unbeaten 130 to help consolidate the good start that Roy had given India But there is a story book incident about how Umrigar got his hundred Umrigar should not have been in the team at all after failing in four Tests he had been replaced by Adhikari for the Madras Test He only scrambled back on the morning of the match as Adhikari was injured And as the cliche goes the rest was history It was the first of Umrigar s 12 hundreds for India

With two more days left and India 191 runs ahead a victory was well on the cards But there were the disbelievers who pointed out to what happened at New Delhi in the first Test when India were in a similar position On that occasion England were bowled out for 203 and India replied with 418 for six declared But a great fightback spread over two days had seen England close the game with an honourable draw

However the Chepauk wicket was very different from the Kotla s As any true sporting wicket it helped the bowlers on the last two days of the match And on a responsive pitch Mankad and Ghulam Ahmed destroyed England on the fourth day February 10 by taking four wickets each The visitors were dismissed for 183 runs leaving India winners by an innings and eight runs And as Gopinath held last man Statham off the bowling of Mankad the clock atop the pavilion showed 2 54 pm

What an emphatic manner to register the first victory! As one wag put it, We could have won earlier, but wanted to win by an innings so we decided to wait And another wag chimed in We could have won earlier, but wanted to wait till the 25th silver jubilee Test before winning

Messages poured in from all over the country—including President Rajendra Prasad and Prime Minister Nehru—and the world And while they were worded differently the theme was that it was the greatest day in Indian cricket So Chepauk kept its tryst with destiny and history And has been maintaining such trysts, for the last 40 years

These then were the men who made up that Indian team V S Hazare (captain) S Mushtaq Ali, P Roy, L Amarnath, V M. Mankad, D G. Phadkar, P R. Umrigar, C D Gopinath, R V. Divecha, P Sen and Ghulam Ahmed ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



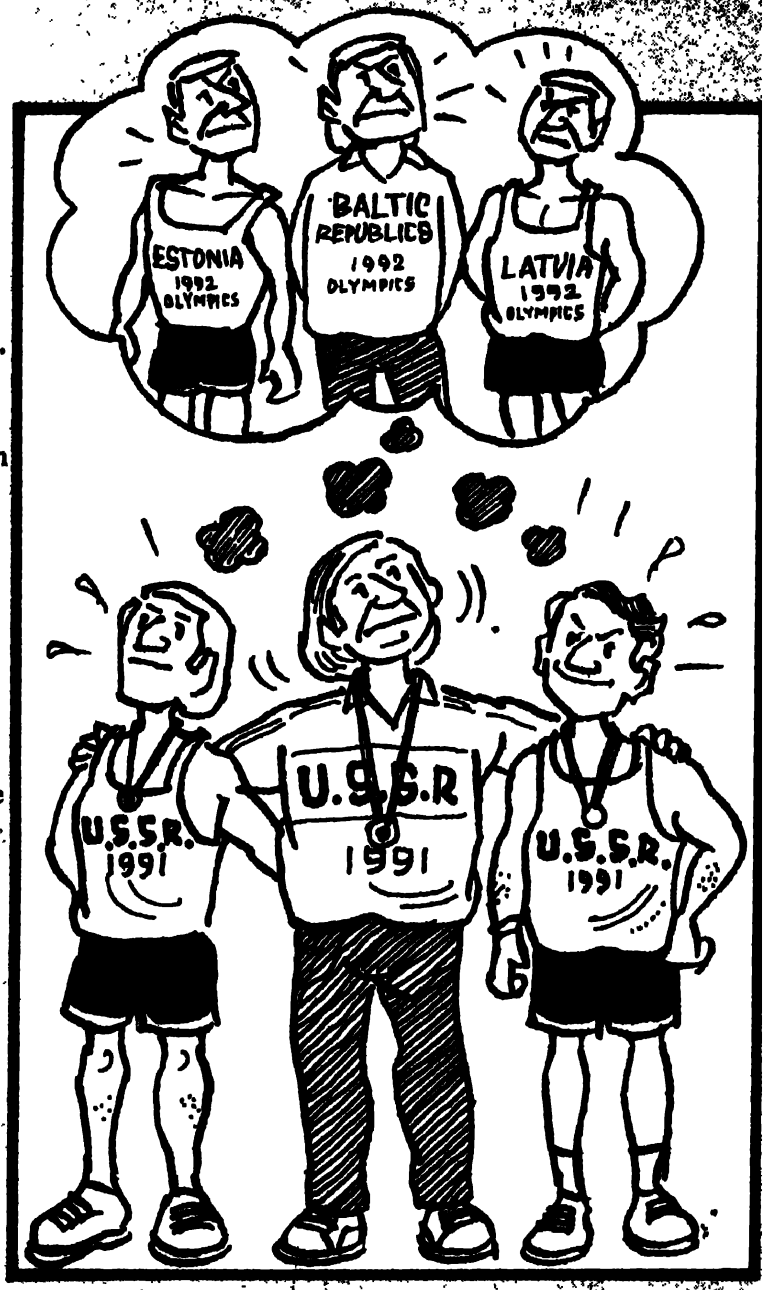
THIS week we are again stressing the importance of perfecting the stance. As we move towards the advanced stages it is vital that your stance—in this case *kiba dachi*—be strong enough to withstand all attacks. If not even a weaker, less skilled opponent will be able to beat you in combat.

Kiba dachi is good for strengthening the knee joints and thigh muscles so vital for strong kicks.

By Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushinkaikan karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



Kids, girls, boys...they're all deadly serious when practicing their stance—kiba-dachi (as shown in inset)—at Ganguly's class at Safari Park



QUO VADIS?

Sport in the crumbling Soviet Union...

As a superpower crumbles politically, so does its once feare

WHEN an empire crumbles, its aftershocks travels far beyond its expected realm of devastation, affecting life and history in myriad different ways, in great many quarters other than politics and geography.

When the Soviet Union collapsed as the last unsuccessful experiment of united nationhood brought about through imperialistic might, it was not only the world's cartographers, and politicians who were plunged into confusion, but sport too encountered the menace of new, unfamiliar equations, which would make their far-reaching impact on sporting history in the days to come.

The most haunting question at the moment is, who is going to represent the erstwhile Soviet Union in the Barcelona Olympics? And since no single nation now exists as Soviet Union, how will the void be filled by the others—the small

republics who till a few months back had been totally unheard of—unknown, non-entities.

More technically speaking, will they take part in the Games as separate nations or as part of a commonwealth or confederation, worked out by their emergent leader Boris Yeltsin.

And the more pressing question is: even if they decide to form a group of nations for the Olympics, how will they select their teams?

According to reports received so far a move is afoot to raise a common fund, financed by most of the republics, to send a full contingent of athletes to the Winter Games, February 8-23, in Albertville, France, on an experimental basis. And if the mission proves successful, an additional $1 million will be raised to cover the expenses for sending a team to the Summer Olympics, July 25—Aug. 9 in Barcelona.

But how will they select their teams?

The problem is that in a broken up Soviet Union the picture of sport is far less clear than ever before. Even if a confederation of independent Olympic committees from the different republics agree to sit down and thrash-out a list of sport personnel, representing the cream of the sporting talent available as a whole, there are bound to be differences among the delegates about the selection of some players. It can be easily foreseen that each republic will try to push in as many of her sportspersons into the squad as possible; it can also be predicted that the resultant controversies will constantly threaten to wreck the confederation's existence and push the republics into greater chaos.

Surprisingly, however, experts say that even if the Soviets are reduced to a group of feuding republics, they are still expected to maintain their position on top of the medal standings at both Albertville and Barcelona. If they can really do that, that will be a mind-blowing achievement, indeed.

But the problem is that beyond 1992 the future of Soviet sport really looks rather bleak, giving little indications that the pundits' forecasts would even come true.

It is a fact that the governments of the republics will certainly find it next to impossible to fund the sporting infra structure that they have now—like, for instance, the special schools and clubs that train the elite coaches and athletes—forcing sport to become self-financing.

Of course, most of the popular sports such as football, basketball, athletics, gymnastics and figure skating probably will have continued success, but many other sports will be hard-pressed to survive.

Moreover, the present talent pool will almost certainly be shrinking, and if the former Baltic republics, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia really decide to compete in Barcelona as separate nations, the crisis will deepen further.

Some sports officials from the newly-independent Ukraine said recently that they hoped to have their own team in time for the 1994 Winter Games. And don't forget, although a large percentage of Soviet athletes are Russian, some of the most celebrated ones, including gymnast Olga Korbut, sprinter Valeri Borzov and pole vaulter Sergei Bubka, are from the Ukraine.

And, more distressingly, as latest reports come in, there seems to be no guarantee that the republics will get along well enough to make a joint Olympic effort. While the 12 republics are likely to march behind the Soviet hammer-and-sickle and stand at attention to the Soviet anthem in Albertville, officials from 11 of the republics, excluding Russia, have already requested to use the Olympic flag and anthem at Barcelona.

William Rhodes

sporting infrastructure. Where will Soviet sport go from here?

PILGRIMS' PRO

FOR SOCCER'S HO

HEY man, wanna get a World Cup '94 T-shirt for $5? Or get yourself photographed with the glittering FA World Cup in a computer-generated plastic frame for $15? Or just want to come face to face with the Silvio Gazzangia-designed trophy, and be in close proximity to sport's most glorious heritage?

This is your chance of a lifetime

If you want your dreams to come true, just grab your chance now For, while non-sporting *yatras* are making news in India, a footballing long march of unique character in the faraway United States is now arousing curiosity and interest in a game the vast country has never been familiar with And how

A 60 feet, giant, blue white and red truck packed with various World Cup memorabilia, including the Cup itself is now traversing the length and breadth of the huge continent to make soccer, and the forthcoming World Cup, more acceptable and adorable to a nation so much given to athletics, tennis and baseball. A nation that has never shown the slightest interest in a game the whole world has followed so passionately through the ages.



Chuck Cale, the key man behind the tour, poses with the trophy along with colleagues and the FIFA chief Joao Havelange (middle, foreground)

yatra, known as the World Cup Trophy Tour, is one of the biggest and most unique campaigns ever launched by a World Cup host, and will come to an end only in June 1994 when the big show actually starts.

"Our goal is to bring the trophy to the little kids so that they can see the trophy face to face and realise the true significance of the World Cup. It will give them a sense of history, they will also be able to feel the emotion that is so inseparably attached to the Cup," said Don Schulte, Director of Marketing of the World Cup USA '94 committee, explaining the aim of the project.

The *yatras*, known as the World Cup Trophy Tour, is one of the biggest campaigns ever launched by a World Cup host...

This four-year-long

And the method is simple. The huge van stopped at various points en route to New York for the World Cup draw on December 8. At

GRESS LY GRAIL

A unique World Cup *yatra* aimed at popularising soccer in the land of baseball, is now traversing the whole of the US, and the response it has been receiving provided a good omen for the Cup's success on an alien soil...

every point, the trophy was displayed to the public under heavy security cover, while other World Cup merchandise were put on sale.

The proceeds from the sales are supposed to partly sponsor the tour, though big-time sponsors like Coca Cola, Philips, Mars, Cannon, JVC, Master card and Fuji film have also come forward to help

Initially, the organisers had plans to start with two or three locations and tour the country through the major soccer territories But later, they decided to include the baseball country too, especially those in the mid western regions.

It was only by coincidence, however, that the organisers stumbled upon the concept of the tour. As Chuck Cale, the Chief Executive Officer of the organising committee, revealed, the trophy was once left out of its vault by mistake, and Cale, realising that the world's most coveted sporting object was in danger of being stolen, took it to his car and drove off to watch his daughter's soccer practice session.

If you want your dreams to come true, just grab your chance now. For, while non sporting *Yatras* are making news in India, a footballing long march in the US is now arousing curiosity in a game the vast country has never been familiar with...

And that's when Cale came across the first reactions that eventually gave him the idea of the tour. The kids were simply thrilled to see the historic trophy, much to Cale's pleasant surprise.

A bigger surprise, however, awaited Cale at home. As soon as he returned, Cale received a phone call and the mother of one of the kids said that her daughter cried after kissing the cup. Now she wanted to know if it was actually the World Cup. And when Cale convinced her that it really was, she too broke down sobbing, struggling to continue the conversation.

"Immediately the lights were on in my head," said Cale, "If that was the reaction of a 10-year-old here, what about the rest of the country"? And the *yatra* began.

Predictably enough, all along the tour the public response has swung between two extremes A Russian immigrant in Dallas wept in ecstasy, seeing the trophy right in front of him, while a man in Chicago asked what the fuss was all about. After being told, he naively, "Is that World Cup some kind of a boat race?"

Others think the tour was premature. Yet others suggest that the organisers should have postponed the tour till after the Barcelona Olympics, since the Americans will be dreaming of other things and sports in that period.

The tour's climax, however, came when it reached New York in December last. A big crowd greeted the Cup at the Paramount Theatre in Madison Square, and according to Keir Radnedge of *World Soccer*, the first World Cup traffic jam in the US threw the whole of New York out of gear.

It certainly is a good omen, and if all goes well, the American World Cup, belying all fears and pessimism, may eventually prove a grand success.

Pallab Mukerji



One of the posters publicising the tour

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about...

SPORTING TRIVIA

SELES' EXAMPLE

THE Women's International Pro Tennis council is sick and tired of big names regularly dropping out of tournaments to play more profitable exhibition matches. The biggest culprit obviously being Monica Seles.

And it is mainly because of her that the council have adopted a policy where fines will be five times more expensive. The increased rate is—those ranked No. 1 to No. 4, $ 100,000; No. 5 to No.8 $ 50,000; No. 9 to No. 20, $ 25 000 and No. 21 to No. 50, $ 12,500.

While Seles made the mistakes the rest of the players have to pay for it

This new decision is called "Monica Seles fines" and rightly so!

HOTEL ROOMS TO LET

AFTER months of talk about a severe housing shortage for the Summer Olympics at Barcelona, it now appears that there could be a housing surplus as organisers have cancelled 400 first-class hotel reservations, many of which were set aside for use by corporate sponsors.

Pedro Fontana, director general of the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee, blamed high prices and a worldwide recession for these cancellations. Fontana said further cuts in room reservation may be forthcoming if sponsors continue to scale back their Olympic plans.

"The World economic situation has influenced these people who don't feel the need to be at the Olympic Games," he said.



IN THE TRAP

THIS is a spy story with no end. A 26-year-old professional golfer from Ghana, Martin Amadume,



Martin Amadume, spy or golfer?

arrived in Canada purportedly to play in the Canadian Open. The truth behind his sudden decision to land up at Toronto was that he was on the run.

He had learnt that according to the Ghanaian government he stood accused of transmitting information between dissidents in Ghana and exiles abroad.

Afraid that Ghanaian officials would track him down he landed up in Canada. He eventually applied to the Canadian immigration office for status as a refugee, but his request was denied.

Roman Melnyk, an immigration consultant who pleaded Amadume's case last saw him in a holding cell at Pearson International Airport. "He was sitting alone", Melnyk said. "He sat there with a little bag and his coat, and he was weeping."

That was the last anyone ever saw him, his fate is unknown.

FROM HIKING TO GOLF

IT is common for hikers to carry their gear in knapsacks that hang by two shoulder straps across their back. Now the Wilson Sporting Goods Company has introduced a golf bag with two shoulder straps, modelled after the backpack. The new bag is designed to balance the weight of the clubs more evenly across the back.

"Once you see it, it kind of hits you in the head," said Jim Grundberg, Wilson's business manager. "You can't believe the idea has been around for so long and yet nobody has caught on to it."

Called the Levitator, it is more comfortable to carry and reduces the strain of shouldering around a heavy bag loaded down with golf clubs.

BACKTRACKING

DIDN'T International Olympic Committee president, Juan Antonio Samaranch slam the door on any more new Olympic countries for 1992?

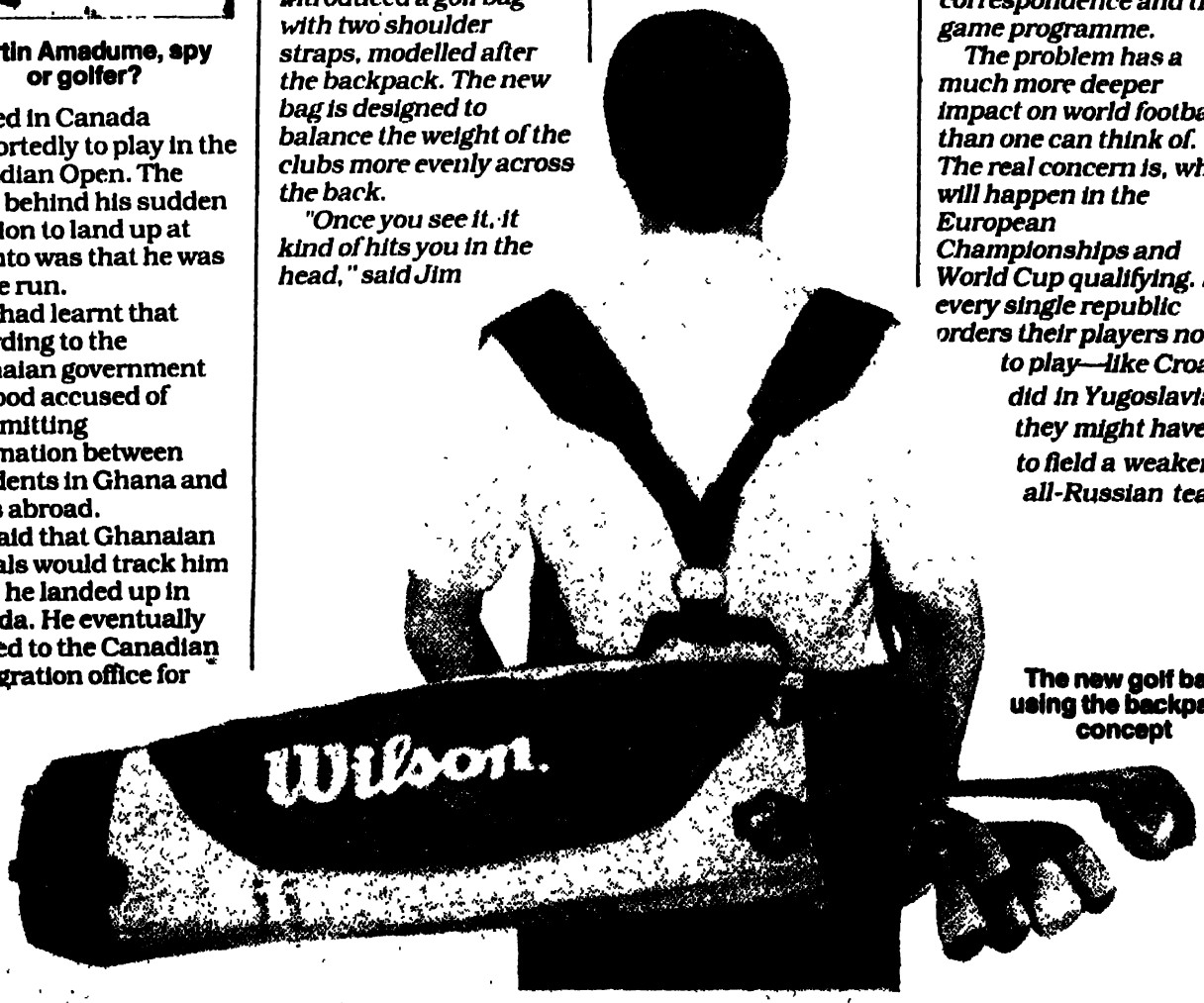
According to him, not entirely. "We open the door to national Olympic committees that split in two or three," Samaranch said. This means that breakway Yugoslav republics. Slovenia and Croatia can compete in the Winter Olympics at Albertville and the Summer Olympics at Barcelona ...if the United Nations or some European country recognises them first.

Heard of backtracking?

THE MYSTERY GUESTS

THE US Soccer Federation recently scheduled two matches with the 'Soviet Union', though it is difficult to determine what team will oppose the United States. In any case, it is now being called 'Russia' in official correspondence and the game programme.

The problem has a much more deeper impact on world football than one can think of. The real concern is, what will happen in the European Championships and World Cup qualifying. If every single republic orders their players not to play—like Croatia did in Yugoslavia—they might have to field a weakened all-Russian team.



The new golf bag using the backpack concept

A Tamil Triumph

Tamil Nadu and Railways lifted the men's and women's titles in this year's Senior National Volleyball championships. But the standard was abysmal as usual, and the future looks none too bright. As usual

TAMIL NADU men and Railways women retained their titles in the 40th Senior National Volleyball Championship held at Mananchira Maidan, Kozhikode (Kerala). This is the second consecutive year, Tamil Nadu emerged victorious and Indian Railways won for the sixth consecutive time.

The eight-day national championship attracted entries from 23 men teams and 18 women teams divided in four groups. In the men's groupings three teams each from Group A and B and one team each from groups C and D qualified for the knock-out quarter-finals and as expected Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Services qualified from Group A while Kerala, Railways and Delhi from Group B, and Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh from group C and D respectively.

Andhra Pradesh, yet to recover from the sudden death of their international Abdul Basith, in fact, started promisingly in their group engagements and had even defeated Tamil Nadu in a five-set thriller. The well-knit side with dimunitive international Venkatanarayana in command,displaced Delhi to meet Indian Railways in the semi-finals.

Indian Railways led by International Jyotish who captained India in the SAF Games to victory were hardly allowed to function by the young Andhra team. The semi-final between Railways and Andhra Pradesh was an insipid affair and Andhra were right on command from the beginning itself.

Tamil Nadu men improved from game to game, and they were definitely a superior side in the finals. They brushed aside Madhya Pradesh in the quarter finals before taking a star-studded Kerala in the semi-finals. However, contrary to expectations, Kerala succumbed in straight games to Tamil Nadu who have five internationals in their ranks.

In the finals, Andhra failed to strike their earlier form and with Tamil Nadu getting the required form in the



P VENUGOPALAKRISHNAN

The Tamil Nadu men were the winners of the M.M. Joseph Memorial Trophy

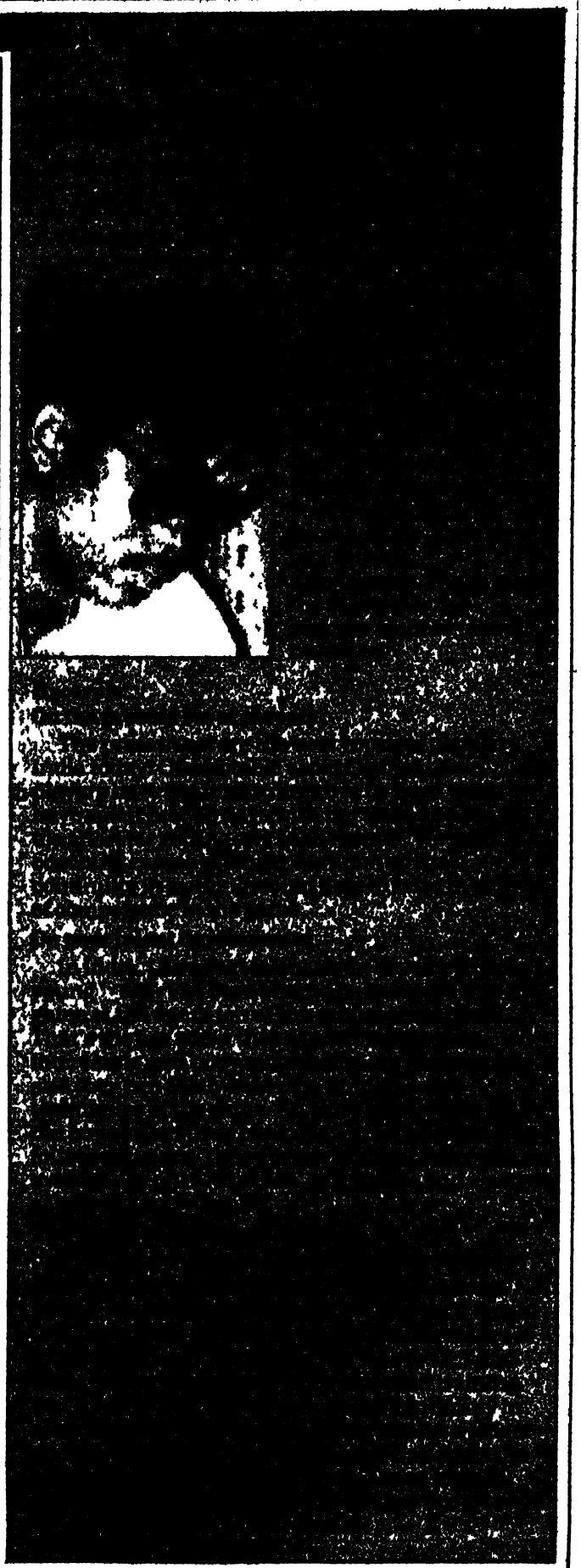
finals, they were far superior. However, the encounter lacked the intensity of the first encounter in the league phase which went to five sets in favour of Andhra. It was a smooth start for Tamil Nadu, when they surged ahead at 9-6 with Madhu and Sivaraman changing the very complexion of the game Thereafter, Tamil Nadu never looked back and the errors committed by Andhra also proved a blessing to the opponents to wrap the first set easily The second and third games were as easy as the first, and they posted an easy 15-8, 15-2, 15-5 victory to bag the M.M.Joseph Memorial Trophy for the third time

The women's finals between Railways and Tamil Nadu was a low key one except in the first set when Tamil Nadu put up a spirited display to corner the set, 15-6, in just 15 minutes. The setback spurred Railways to counter attack with better co-ordination and confidence, Salomi Xavier was ably supported by Sheeba and Daisy and slowly the pressure saw cracks in the Tamil Nadu defence The Railways finally won at 6-15, 15-7; 15-5, 15-7

The Kerala men defeated Indian Railways and Maharashtra women overcame Punjab in a five-set dual to finish third The standards at this year's championship has disappointing and the future does not look bright at all.

M.P. Suresh







OH, MY ACHING

OH my aching head! Did we hear someone say that? Headaches remain one of the most common ailments to befall the man of today and even though we have taken giant strides in the field of medicine we have yet to come up with a totally successful cure for headaches. In fact there is very little definite information that we have about headaches. It remains one of the mysteries of science. Most of you can relate to headaches and everyone has had a big (nay, splitting) one at one time or other.

Perhaps it was when you were a kid and you bumped your head against something hard and your head started paining. Or it could have hit you the day after you stayed up the whole night when you were in college studying for the exam the next day. (It's worse if you still failed to get through the paper.) Or maybe it struck you the day you closed a business deal, or the day you are to start on your vacation. And remember the killer headache that you had the day after you drank all those beers at the party.

Massaging the head and shoulders should give you some relief from headaches

Unpredictability and suddenness are two factors that go down very well with headaches.

In today's world, filled



HEAD

with stress, headaches are more common, but one thing that has been noticed is that people who are into fitness, very seldom complain about headaches. Though there is no direct relation (or at least nothing has been proved as yet) between exercise and headaches, fitness enthusiasts suffer less from headaches. Maybe because they exercise more care when it comes to their food habits

Headaches have been linked to cheese, chocolate, liquor (especially red wine) and some kinds of meat.

Headaches produced by food and drinks can be prevented as soon as you stop eating those foodstuffs. Even low blood-pressure can give you headaches,but serious bodybuilders avoid this because they eat to keep their blood sugar stable so that they have more energy to train.

In a very small minority of people, headaches happen as a result of physical exertion. An exertional headache happens when the exertion has been so high that there are minute tears in the muscles of the neck, trapezius or shoulder muscles, or when some sort of vascular change occurs in a vessel affected by exertion. It can also be caused by the oxygen debt which comes after strenuous exercise.

The most common headaches, however, do not come from food or low blood sugar or exertion, but from muscle tension. These types of aches start as a dull ache with a tight feeling in the head, resulting from chronic tension. Muscle contraction headaches may result from muscle strain in the deltoids, neck extensors, face or scalp muscles. That is why a massage of these affected parts may relieve you of the headache. This muscle tension is usually the result of a mechanically poor posture, such as the secretary who spends her day at the phone, holding the receiver with her neck and shoulder while she types. Or it can be the case of a designer who stands hunched over his drawing board for long hours at a stretch.

Headache comes from the nerves and muscle vessels of the head, not the nerve receptors of the brain (as is commonly misconceived) because the brain has no nerves. Pain comes from the dilation of blood vessels. Thus the throbbing sensation happens when the vessels dilate the systole of the heart.

Interestingly, stress headaches often hit after the stress period is over. Mental stress can tighten and constrict your muscles. When the stress ends the vessels dilate and that's when the headaches hit. The same is true with coffee headaches. Caffeine in the blood constricts the blood vessels. An addicted coffee drinker who goes without coffee for sometime may get a withdrawal headache because of the rebound vessel dilation.

The good thing about these headaches—from coffee, food, stress or muscle contraction—is that they can be prevented and they are ameanable to treatment. Massage, relaxation, aspirin or analgesics, postural modifications, sleep and the avoidance of the symptoms will cure these headaches.

These prevention methods are for the normal headaches. What about migraines? Well, one cannot explain the pain of a migraine headache unless one has experienced it himself. This is the most common form of chronic headache. They are typically strongest on the one side of the head and can be so severe that it may cause nausea, body weakness, speech problems, numbness or tingling on one side of the body and a complete loss of appetite,and worse still, they can last for days.

Even more severe than migraines are the cluster headaches, so called because they occur in episodes where a person can get upto four headaches a day. This pattern continues for days, or weeks and in some extreme cases even months.

Then, surprisingly, they vanish for a very long period only to appear again at a time when the person is least expecting it. But, unfortunately, there's very little that medical science knows about these headaches, and hence it is very difficult to invent the right antidotes.

But there are some methods by which you can find out the cause of your headaches. Try keeping track of when you get headaches. If every time you eat chocolate or drink alcohol, and you get a headache then you can identify the cause and change your behaviour. It might just be a case of excesses: too much sugar, caffeine or alcohol could be your problem. All you need to do to escape it is to limit consumption.

But in case the headaches don't get better then it's time to head for the doctor's chamber because there's nothing more that you can do, and worse still you might be suffering from something more than just a 'headache'. But a healthy lifestyle coupled with regular exercises could keep these aches at bay. ●

This week in the history of sport

THE round-the-world automobile race, from New York City to Paris via Alaska and Siberia, with six cars from four nations, began on **Feb 12, 1908,** and was won by the American team six months later.

A CABLE chess (telegraph chess) match played between 10 English and 10 American players was won by the English team on **Feb 13, 1897.**

PRAKASH PADUKONE won the Dutch Open Badminton Championship men's singles title at Nieuwegein on **Feb 14, 1982.**

V. JAYARAMAN of Tamil Nadu completed his continuous clapping session of 67 hrs 5 min on **Feb 15, 1988** and thereby set a world record.

BATTING for England vs New Zealand at Christchurch, on **Feb 16, 1935,** Elizabeth Alexandra Betty Snowball made 188 runs — the highest batting score for a woman in a three-day cricket Test.

AT the Olympic 15-km cross country ski race held in New York on **Feb 17, 1980,** Thomas Wassberg of Sweden won over his rival by the narrow margin of one hundredth of a second.

H.A. PARKYN organised a university (of Minnesota) hockey team which played a hockey match against the Winnipeg Victorias of Canada in Minnesota on **Feb 18, 1895.**

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

RECORD SET: By Andre Cason of the U.S.A in the 60m (indoor) race. His timing of 6.45 secs was 3/100th of a second faster than the existing time posted by compatriot Leroy Burrell. The reigning indoor world champion set the record at the Coke Light Indoor Meet at Ghent, Belgium.

RECORD SET: In the 400m (indoor) by Danny Everett of the U.S.A in the Stuttgart Indoor Sports Festival. His timing was 45.02 secs.

RECORD SET: By Steve Backley of England in the javelin. He threw 91.46 m for this new record.

WON: By Malaysia, the Asian Women's Squash title. They defeated Sri Lanka 5-0 to clinch the title. India came third.

DEBARRED: By the Wrestling Federation of India, Jagjit Singh of Punjab, for two years. This was done because he has represented Railways in the National Championships when he should have represented Services.

RESIGNED: Madhav Mantri as the Treasurer of the BCCI following his defeat in the Bombay Cricket Association election for President.

TO LEAVE: Bobby Robson as coach of PSV Eindhoven when his two year contract expires at the end of the season.



Not a sequel to 'Over the top'. This is Graham Gooch (left) and Martin Crowe flexing some muscle, in an arm wrestling bout at Auckland. Do we need to say who won?

Give the guy a break

EVEN great captains like Clive Lloyd, Sunil Gavaskar and Greg Chappell have had to cope with defeats and inspite of that were retained in the team. And it is no great news when a player loses his form for some time. So why all this anti-Azhar campaign being taken up by everyone? He is one player who surely has a lot of class and that was never in doubt Now that he is going through a rough phase everyone is against him, coming up with ideas like giving up the captaincy and in some cases even relinquishing his place in the team

Frequent changes in the Indian captaincy have many a times been the cause of our downfall, and it looks like we have learnt nothing from those incidents. As for the bad performances by the Indian team in Australia, Azhar should not be the only one to be blamed. The other members of the team also have a great responsibility and most of the other 'great' players have not lived up to expectations either

Azhar still has age on his side and he is one person who can really take Indian cricket to great heights. In the past also he had lost his form but then regained it eventually. A class player like him cannot be out of touch with his game for long. So just give him a chance fellas.

KUMAR DHANANJAY

Azhar's performance can only look up from here



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

ONCE a team goes through a bad phase in their matches then it's time for everyone to pick on them and then everyone has their own opinion on the dismal performance of the team The same is the case with the Indian team in Australia Every aspect and every act of theirs is coming under the microscope and this is surely putting a lot of unwanted pressure on them

One aspect of the Indian team that has been criticised is the failure of the opening pair to build up a good score in the beginning. But if one reviews the other matches then surprisingly the opening stands of our opponents were not much higher than ours.

Our failure is because of the lack of athleticism in the field, read bad fielding, collapse of the middle order batting and of course none of the batsmen playing well in the slog overs Maybe if we change our batting line-up, so that there is a good batsman in the end, then we will be in a much more comfortable position And of course the standard of our fielding has to improve considerably if we are to make an impression on the world.

M. PALANI,
Ramnad .

Disgusting

IT was indeed sad for the Indian supporters to hear about the dismal performances of their cricket team in Australia. When the team left India, people had high hopes from the team. Weren't we the team with the best batting lineup and with some formidable bowlers? Maybe the reason behind the bad performances is the captain himself. An uninspired captain cannot steer his team to victory and that is what happened to the Indian team. Even when we were close to winning a match we squandered our chances away and as a result lost the game.

Some questions immediately spring to mind if one talks about missed chances. Questions like why did India opt to bat in the morning session of the Sydney Test, on the last day, when they had a winning chance? If Saurav Ganguly was taken to Australia instead of Vinod Kambli on the pretext that he could bowl a bit, then how come his bowling was not tested even once?

These questions could best be answered by the captain himself and one wonders if he has any convincing answers for the same Whether the Indian selectors learnt anything from this tour, and their selection of the team, remains to be seen

SAIDAS KHER,
Calcutta

Progammed to Win

IF one was to go by the reports from Australia then the hosts surely stand the best chance to win the World Cup, and they certainly deserve to win too. No other country has worked half-as-hard to shape up as a well-knit team, and that too a team good in all aspects of the game. A lot of credit at this juncture should be given to their skipper Allan Border who without doubt is the motivating factor of the team—a captain who believes in leading from the front.

For years to come he will be remembered as a great captain, a great sportsman and he also will be looked upon as a role model for the youngsters who are taking up the game.

RONNIE GUHA,
Calcutta.

The cover photograph of Imran Khan in this issue is by Bindu Arora and that of Vinod Kambli is by Harshman Rai.

TRIVANDRUM

National Basketball

THE 42nd National Basketball Championships for men and women played at the Jimmy George Indoor Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram Kerala ended as was to be expected in a somewhat tame finals with holders in both sections men's and women's registering easy victories over the Services and Punjab respectively But there were many exciting matches the Punjab women being involved in no less than three of them and many a match (involving on two occasions the hosts Kerala) which ended in protests that had to be decided by the tournament committee

In the men's final the Indian Railways starring the tall duo of Ajmer Singh (26 points) and Sanjay Goel (8 points) who nonchalantly collected rebounds the dynamic ballhandlers and three point shooters Abdul Babu Hamid and Satprakash and the cool and deadly cager Ram Kumar (25 points with 2 three pointers) outplayed the Services by 90 points to 75 in spite of 24 points for the losers by Om Prakash and 31 (with four three pointers) by the volatile S C Mali Services skipper Darsan Singh who made the plays and scored 11 left the court on the five foul rule midway in the second session

In the women's final the star studded Indian Railways had Linda D'Souza making the plays and scoring 11 with a three pointer the dynamic Aparna Ghosh collecting rebounds and jump shooting 16 points the tall Prasanna Kumari scoring 22 points while Meena Waiha and Manisha Navare appearing in brief spells disposed off Punjab 78 47 For Punjab Prabhjot Kaur Gill shot 3 three pointers in 18 while Kulwinderjit Kaur scored a brace of three pointers

In the women's semi final against Kerala Punjab trailed 11 19 at one stage and 23 35 at the breather but Prabhjot Kaur Gill (26 points with a three pointer) Parneet Kaur (rebounds and 11 with a three pointer) skipper Parminderjit Kaur and Kulwinderjit Kaur (3 successive three pointers) led a fightback taking Punjab to a 54 53 victory over the hosts and into the final

The men's semi final between the Services and Kerala was another thriller The Services trailed 10 32 then 19 40 but hit back repeatedly through Om Prakash (Junior) (19 points with a three pointer) skipper Darsan Singh (20 points) and S C Mali (3 three pointers) to win 90 84 despite 23 points by Kerala skipper C V Sunny (with 2 three pointers) 18 by Sigimon George K 15 by Unwin J Antony and 13 by Suresh

The men's match between hosts Kerala and Delhi for third place ended in acrimony as Kerala led 63 61 with time running out when one of their players caged while committing a foul Rightly the basket was counted but wrongly one free throw was granted to Delhi (Kerala had 8 fouls) The Delhi team lodged a protest which was upheld by the tournament committee who ordered a replay but Delhi and Kerala then agreed

The Indian Railways were the winners of the National basketball championships



P VENI, GOVINDA KUMAR

to jointly share third spot

The men s match between Kerala and Tamil Nadu ended in a narrow victory for the hosts, but Tamil Nadu protested that the 30 second clock, showing 3 seconds left, had been reset to 30 seconds to the hosts advantage The tournament committee however decided in favour of Kerala

The Bengal women lost all three of their Pool matches and thus were demoted to the lower Pool while the men won two and lost three remaining in the lower Pool

John D'Abrew

NEW DELHI

National Fencing

DELHI and Manipur won the men s and women s titles respectively in the 5th National Fencing Championship hosted by Delhi Fencing Association at the University of Delhi stadium



SURESH KUMAR LALI

N. Usha: winner in the women's section

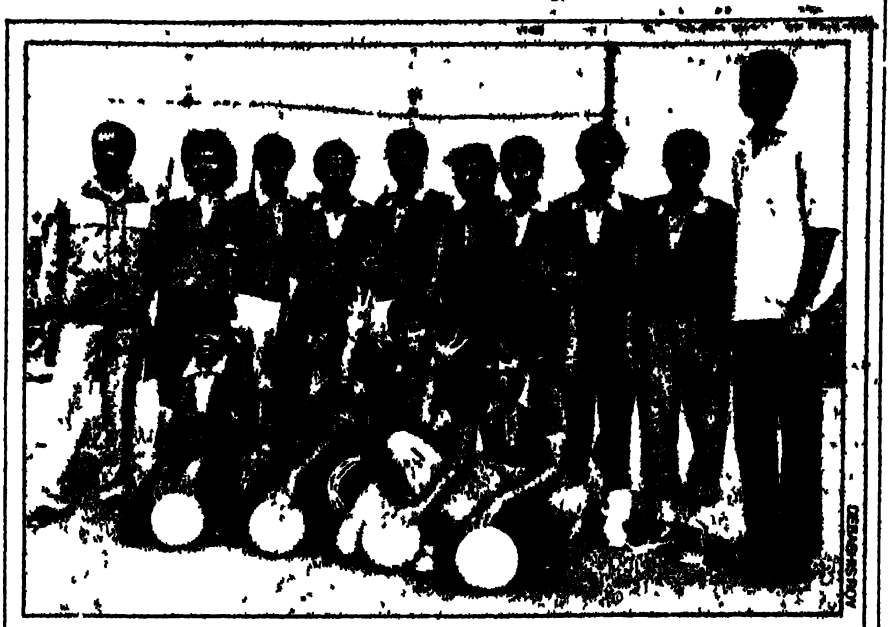
recently

There are three fencing weapons—foil, epee, and sabre They each have different target areas. To score a hit, a fencer must touch his opponent's target area with the tip or edge of his blade

Delhi won the foil, epee and sabre titles in the men' section Mohd. Shahid, Mohd. Azil and Waziruddin participated in the epee section while Mohd Shahid Mohd. Azil and Khaluluddin in the sabre section Ten states participated for the top honours in this fencing meet.

In the women's section, N Usha Rani of Manipur putting on an impressive performance won the epee and foil titles

Markandey Singh, Lt Governor, Delhi distributed the Prizes



ARCHIVE

BARASAT

Junior Volleyball

The Kerala girls were the winners of the Junior volleyball championships

CALCUTTA

Women's Cricket

INDIAN RAILWAYS women proved best in the country as a Rest of India side went down to them by 134 runs in the first ever women's tournament devised after the Irani Trophy championship

Indian Railways, which came out tops in the national championship in Delhi recently, overwhelmed the Rest of India side in the three-day match held at the Eden Gardens.

In the 90 overs-a-side first innings, Railway batting first, hoisted an enormous 300 for nine wickets. This was possible mainly due to Sashi Gupta's 51 and an unbeaten 53 by Mamta Maben. Rest of India made a poor start and by draw of stumps on the opening day, were one down for 13 off 8.4 overs.

Rest were all out for 224 in 89 overs and Railways built on their 76-run first innings lead slowly The second innings was restricted to 45-overs-a-side and Railways scored 181 for nine in them after Sashi Gupta yet again came good with the bat with polished knock of 57 Sandhya Agarwal contributed 43 For Rest of India, the most successful bowler was Aarti Vaidya (4/45)

Rest needed all of 258 runs in 45 overs for victory, but their hopes were dashed as Sashi (3/35 off ten overs) and Purnima Janardhan (2/5 in three overs) skittled Rest out for a paltry 123 in 37 overs soon after tea on the final day. Sangita Dabir waged a lone battle for Rest as she top-scored with an unbeaten 41.

Sashi Gupta, who finished with four wickets and 108 runs in the match, was adjudged the Woman of the Match.

Soumitra Bose

SPORT SHORTS

By Fred Hull

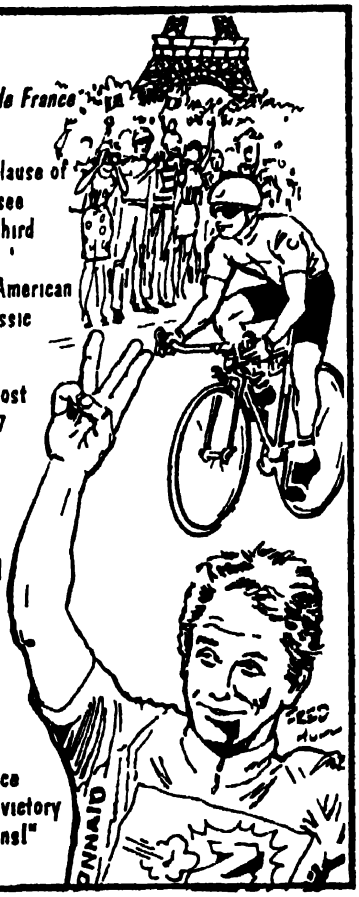
GREG LEMOND

Cyclist Wins Third Tour de France

Spurred on by thunderous applause of crowds lining the Champs Elysee Greg Lemond sprinted to his third victory in the "Tour de France ' 29 year old Greg is the only American to ever win the 2 112 mile classic

His first win in 1986 was almost his last He missed the 87 and 88 races because he was critically injured in a hunting accident The injuries could have ended the career of most athletes But, Lemond has the heart of a champion After painfully retraining, he returned to win the '89 Tour on the last day in a dramatic final surge

Cyclists say the "Tour de France never cheats anybody out of a victory It is always the BEST who wins!"



"JUST FOR KICKS"

The "American Youth Soccer Organization" is the largest youth soccer organization in the United States Founded in 1964, it deserves much of the credit for the growth of participation in soccer

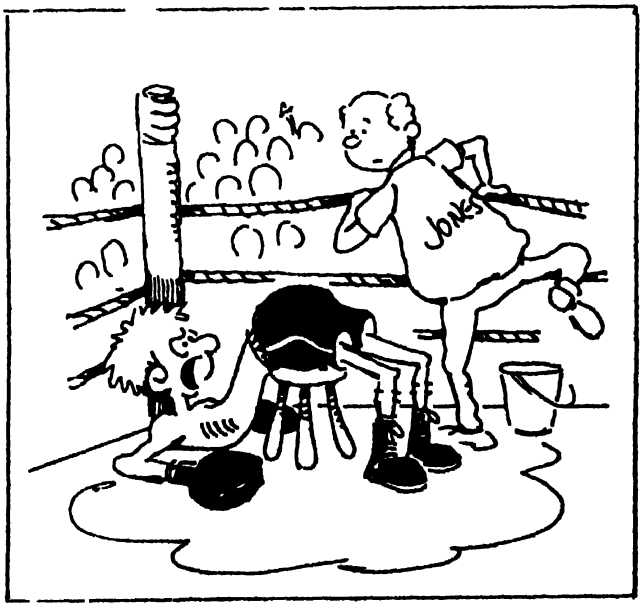
The organization has training programs in 28 states for boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 18 The program has been so successful that, in many cities, soccer participants outnumber Little League players



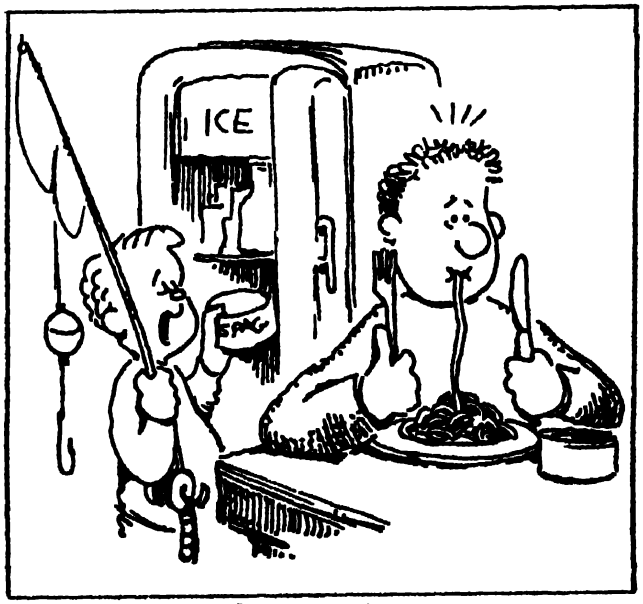
To balance competition, "AYSO" rules require that every player on a team must play at least one half of each game

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"Mind placing the stool a little closer to the corner?"

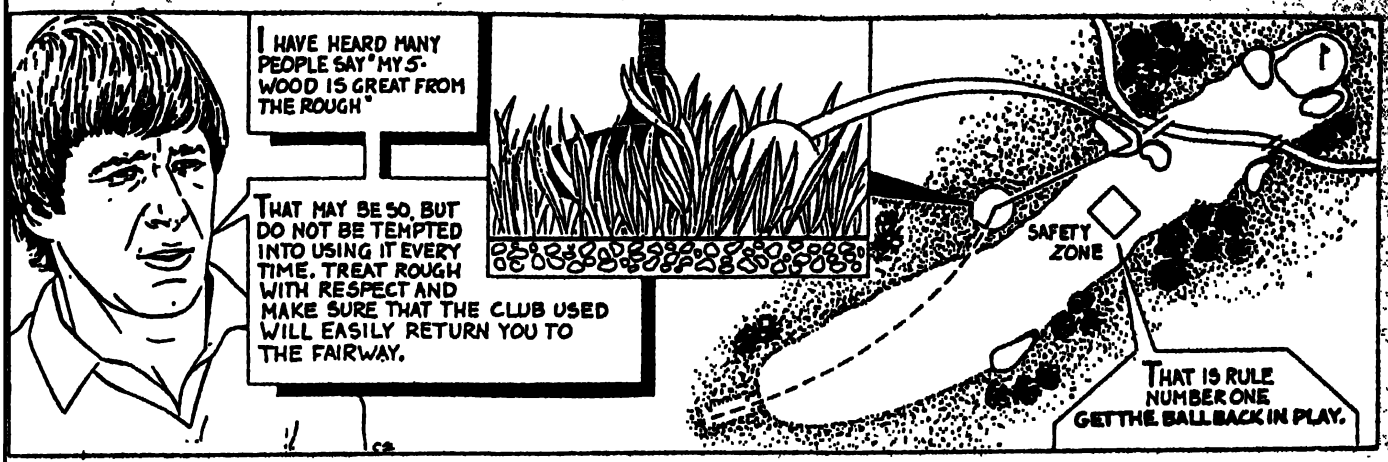


"Mom must have thrown out my worms dad...Will spaghetti work?"

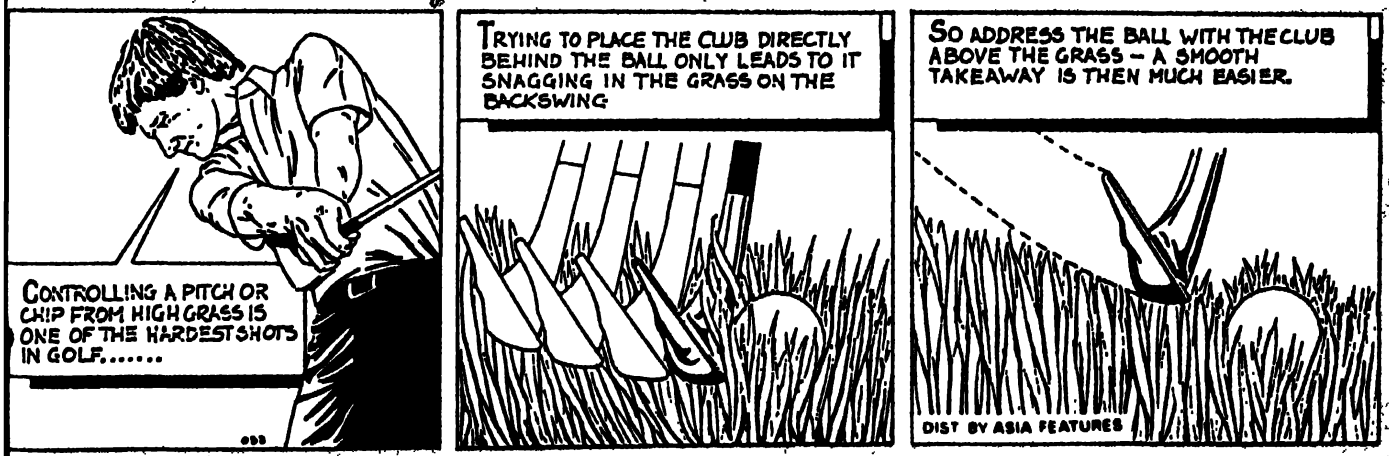
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

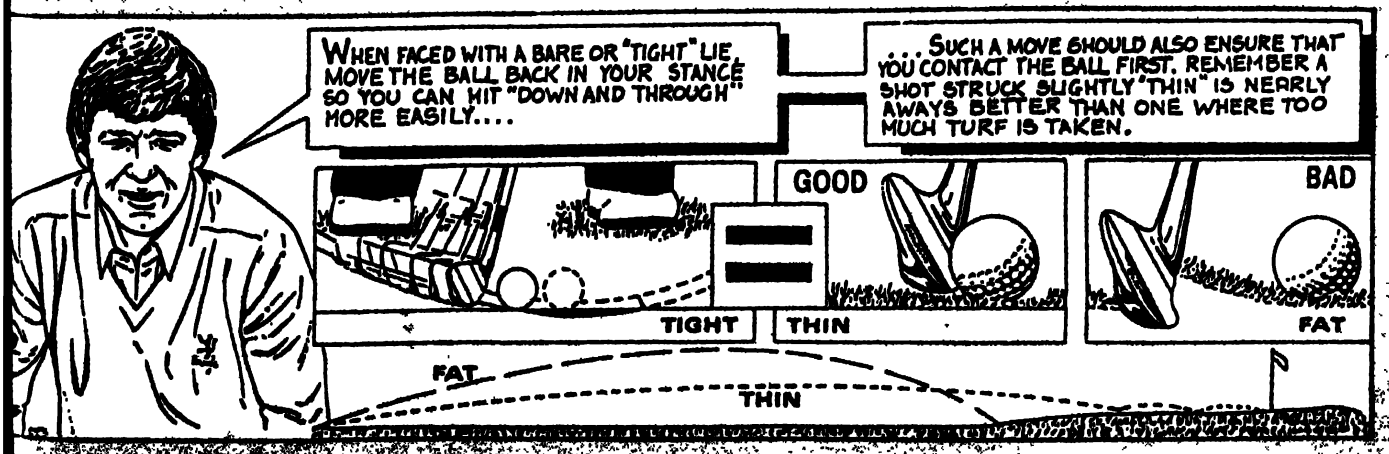
Show Your Respect



Taller Means Tighter



Tight Lies



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What is common to Len Hutton, Vinoo Mankad and George Headley?
2. What is "backcheck" in ice hockey?
3. Who worked out the system of evaluating the strength of a chess player?
4. With what sport is "roundhouse spike" associated?
5. Why was India awarded a penalty stroke in the hockey final of the Tokyo Olympics?
6. For which sport is Ray Reardon famous?
7. What is the "Pinhole" in archery?
8. "You've won it once. Now go out and win it again." Who said this to whom and when?
9. Which is the native country of tennis star Betty Stove?

ANSWERS

1. Each of them, a Test cricketer himself, was the father of a Test cricketer.
2. Skating back towards the goal to defend against opposition attack.
3. A. Elo, an American professor.
4. Volleyball.
5. Pakistan's back Munir Dar stopped the ball with his foot.
6. Snooker.
7. The centre of the gold, usually marked on the target face.
8. Alf Ramsey, manager of England football team, to his players before the start of the extra time in the 1966 World Cup final.
9. The Netherlands (Rotterdam).

CHESS

THIS game was nicknamed the "Mona Lisa" because of the enigmatic quality of black's counter-attack. Actually it features several problem themes including the switchback and line-blocking and clearance. It could serve as a text book example of how to play the Kings Indian Defence.

White: Bagirov Vs Black: Gufeld, USSR Championships, '73.

1d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg 7 4 e4 d6 f3 0-0 6 Be3 Nc6 7 Nge2 Rb8 8 Qd2 a6. The most violent method of seeking counter-play against the Saemisch Variation. **9 Bh6 b5 10 h4 e5 11 Bg7 Kg7 12 h5 Kh8!** Black did not fancy 12-Nh5 13 g4 Nf4 14 Nf4 ef4 15 cb5 ab5 16 Bb5 Ne7 17 Qf4 18 0-0-0-Ngs with a white attack.

13 Nd5 bc4 14 hg6 fg6 15 Qh6 Nh5! Otherwise 15-Rf7 16 Qg6 Qg8 17 Qf6! would be disastrous.

16 g4 Rb2! 17 gh5 g5 18 Rg1 g4! 19 0-0-0 Ra2 20 Nef4. A turning point. 20 Bh3! Re2 21 Bg4 Rf7 22 Bc8 Qc8 23 Nf6 Qb8 24 Rg8 Qg8 25 Ng8 Nb4! 26 Rd2 Re1 27 Rd1 Re2. is a forced draw.

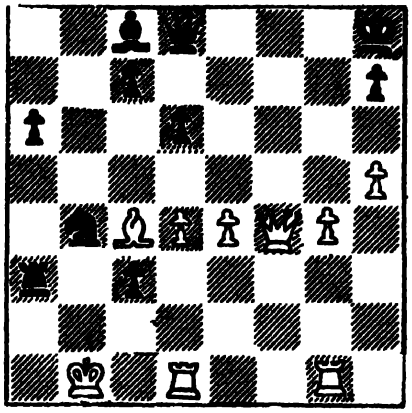
20-ef4 21 Nf4 Rf4! 22 Qf4 c3! 23 Bc4 Ra3! 24 fg4 Nb4 25 Kb1!? (See diagram) White is looking for 25-c2 26 Kb2 cd1-Q 27 Rd1 Ra5 28 Rf1 with a bind. But now black finds a sequence that lifts an already exciting game into the realms of pure fantasy.

25-Be6! 26 Be6 Nd3!! 27 Qf7. White sees 27 Rd3 Qd3 Qb8 28 Kc22 Qb2 29 Kd1 Ra1 is checkmate.

27-Qb8 28 Bb3 Rb3 29 Kc2 Nb4!! Again a problem theme and this time mate is forced.

30 Kb3 Nd5 31 Kc2 Qb2 32 Kd3 Qb5 33 Kc2 Qe2 34 Kb3 Qb2 35 Kc4 Qb5

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

CONTINUING last week's theme of brilliant plays often being tainted by an opponent's misplay, I present a hand from closer quarters. Today's hand from a Bengal state championship in the late seventies has a humorous touch:-

At one table, North-South were very adventurous, getting to a *game* in notrumps. West led a spade to declarer's ace. South unblocked his club winners and

NORTH (dummy)
♠ K74
♥ 94
♦ 8765
♣ Q754

WEST
♠ QJ832
♥ QJ7
♦
♣ 109832

EAST
♠ 1095
♥ K8532
♦ AK32
♣ 6

SOUTH
♠ A6
♥ A106
♦ QJ1094
♣ AKJ

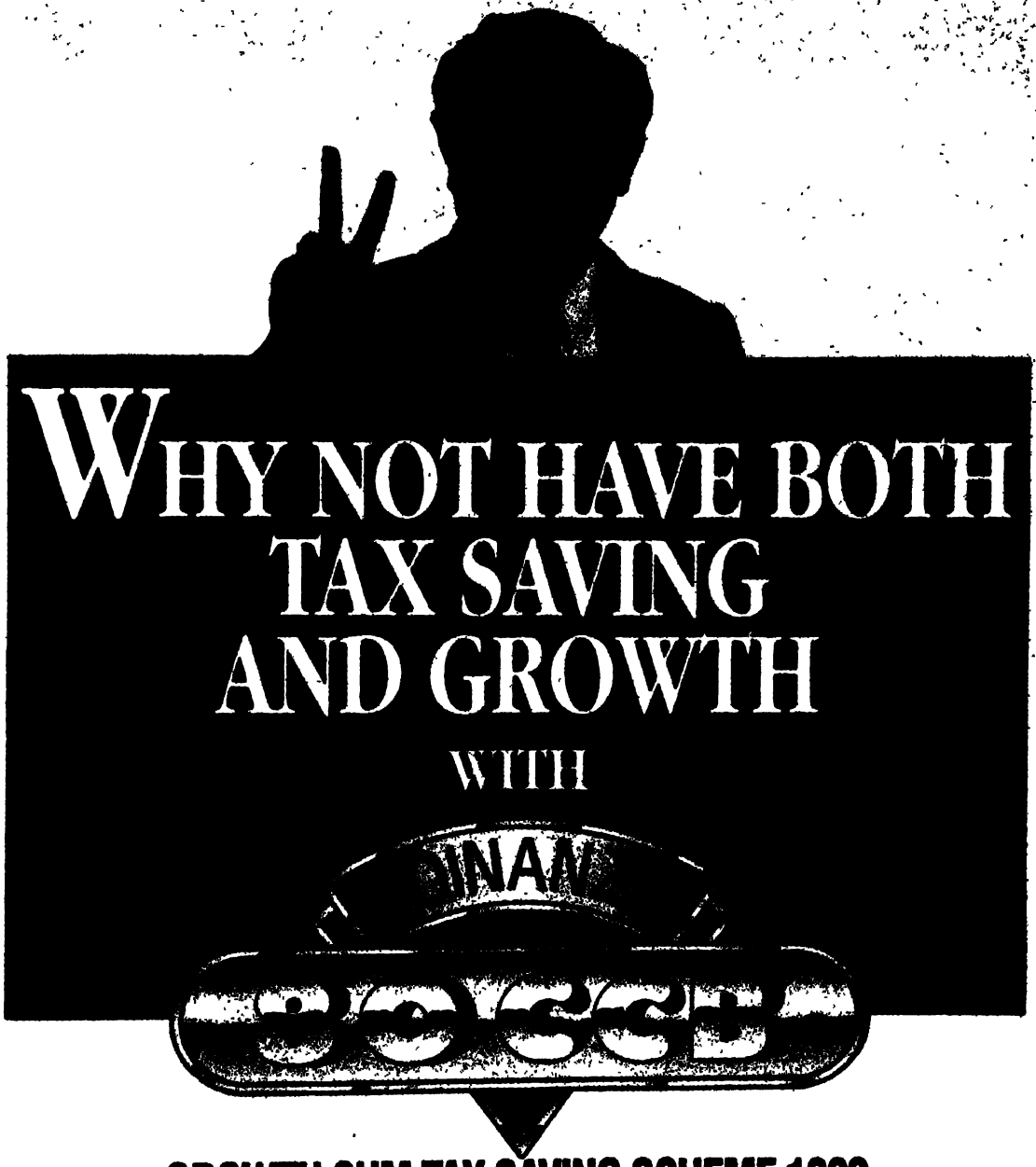
tried the queen of diamonds. East ducked for no apparent reason except force of habit, enabling South to escape for only one down. As North later remarked, "The game was cold if only East had learnt enough to duck one more round of diamonds".

At the other table, South opened a rather heavy-weight 1 NT which became the final contract. In 1 NT there was no apparent danger as South had seven top tricks. However, declarer found a way of entangling himself to convert seven top winners into six.

The lead was a spade to declarer's ace and again the AKJ of clubs were cashed. Here, though, East, Ajoy Brahmachari, who won the Far East championship for India at Manila in 1978, discarded two diamonds on the clubs and so had to win the first round of the suit. Instead of woodenly returning partner's suit, he switched to a heart, the jack winning as South ducked. West continued with the queen of hearts and all that declarer needed to do was to win his ace and cash out for seven tricks. Not sensing any danger, South ducked the second heart also and now the defence caught him in a vice!

When the second heart was ducked, West switched to the queen of spades. At last declarer realised what he had done—if he won, he had no quick entry to cash his heart ace and the defence could cash their spade winners when East came in with the second diamond. He was forced to duck the spade but now, with dummy's black suit winners out of declarer's reach, West switched back to hearts to establish East's winners. Down one and a flat board!

Santanu Ghose



WHY NOT HAVE BOTH TAX SAVING AND GROWTH

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GROWTH CUM TAX SAVING SCHEME 1992

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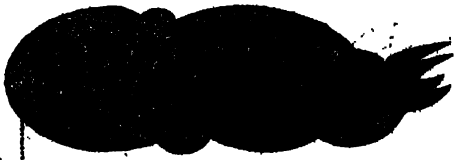
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Cumulative growth with Capital gains benefits under Sec. 48(2)

PLAN B

Annual income distribution-benefit under Sec. 80L + Capital Appreciation.



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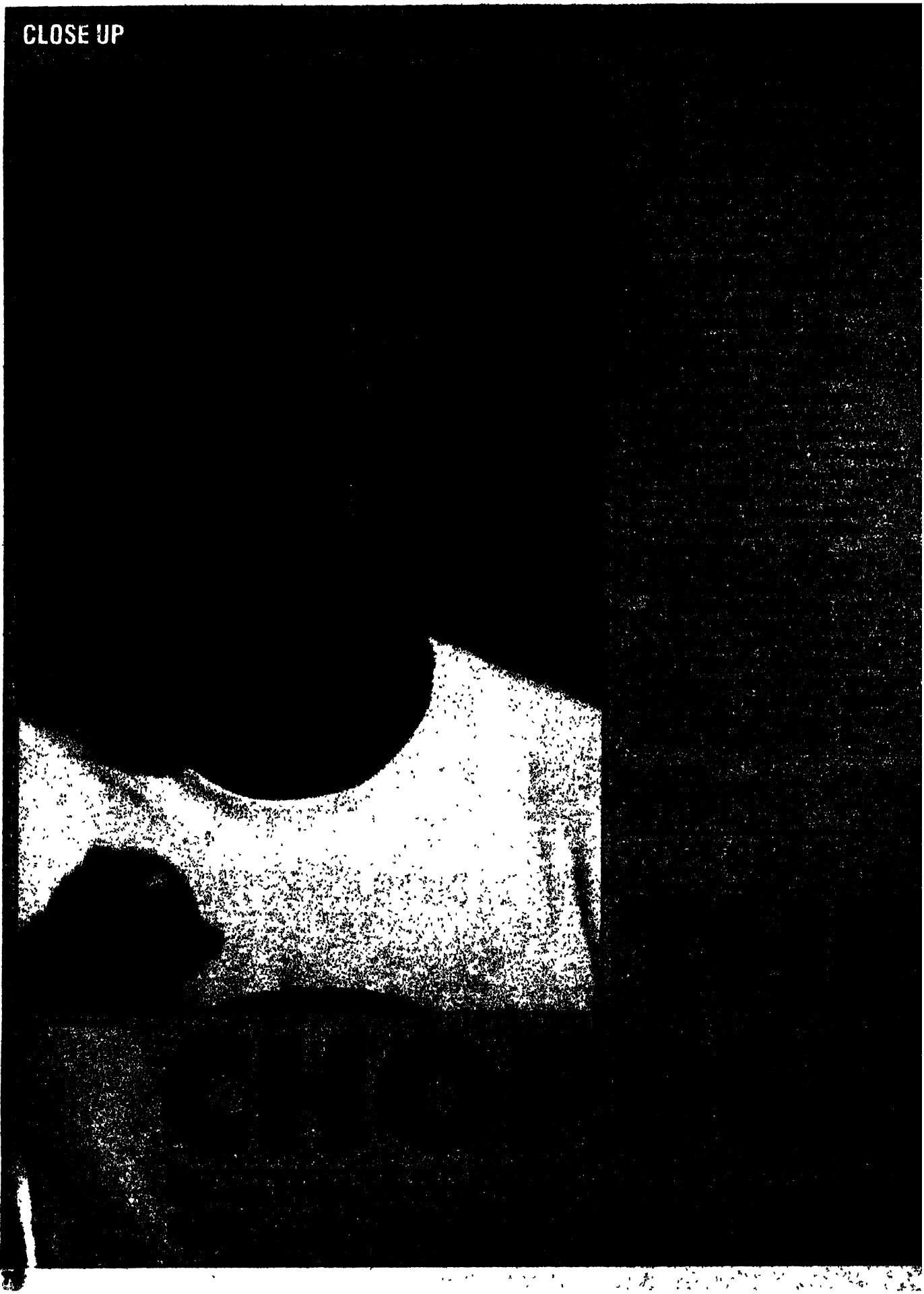
• No Upper limit on investment • Investment in instalments permitted • Assured allotment ✔ Repurchase option after 3 years • 20% deduction at source, of the principal, on encashment

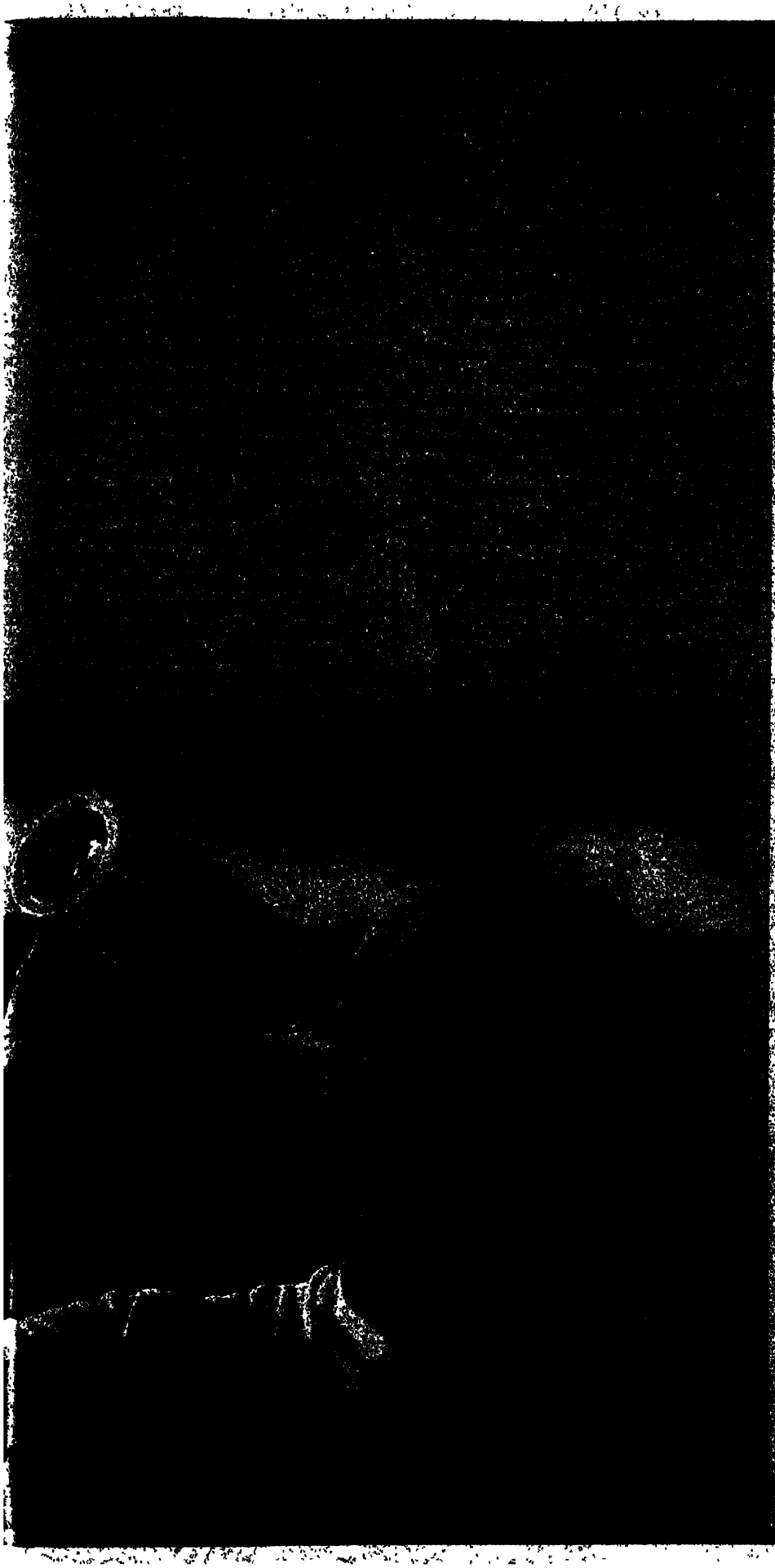
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Mercantile


CLOSE UP

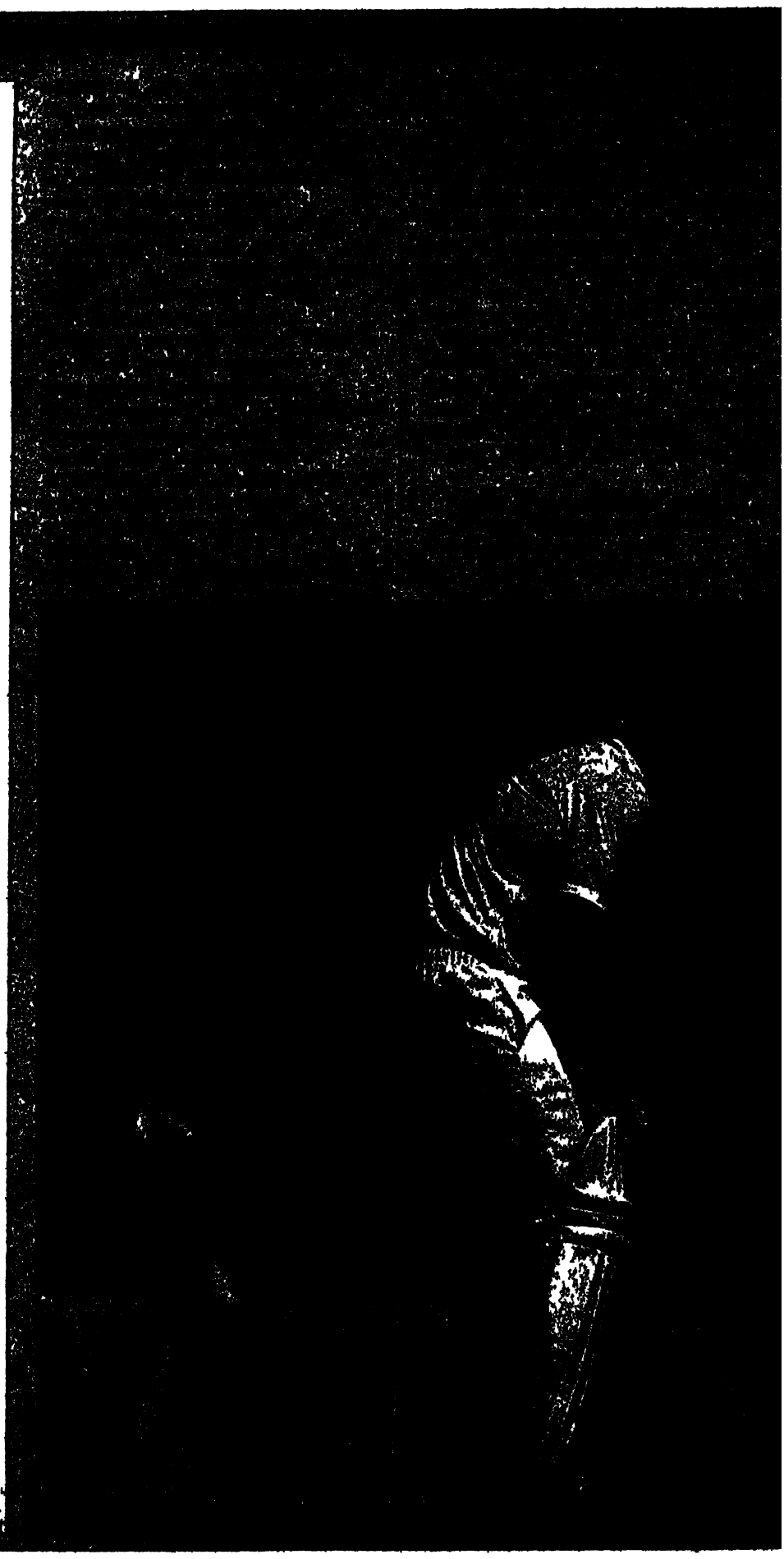


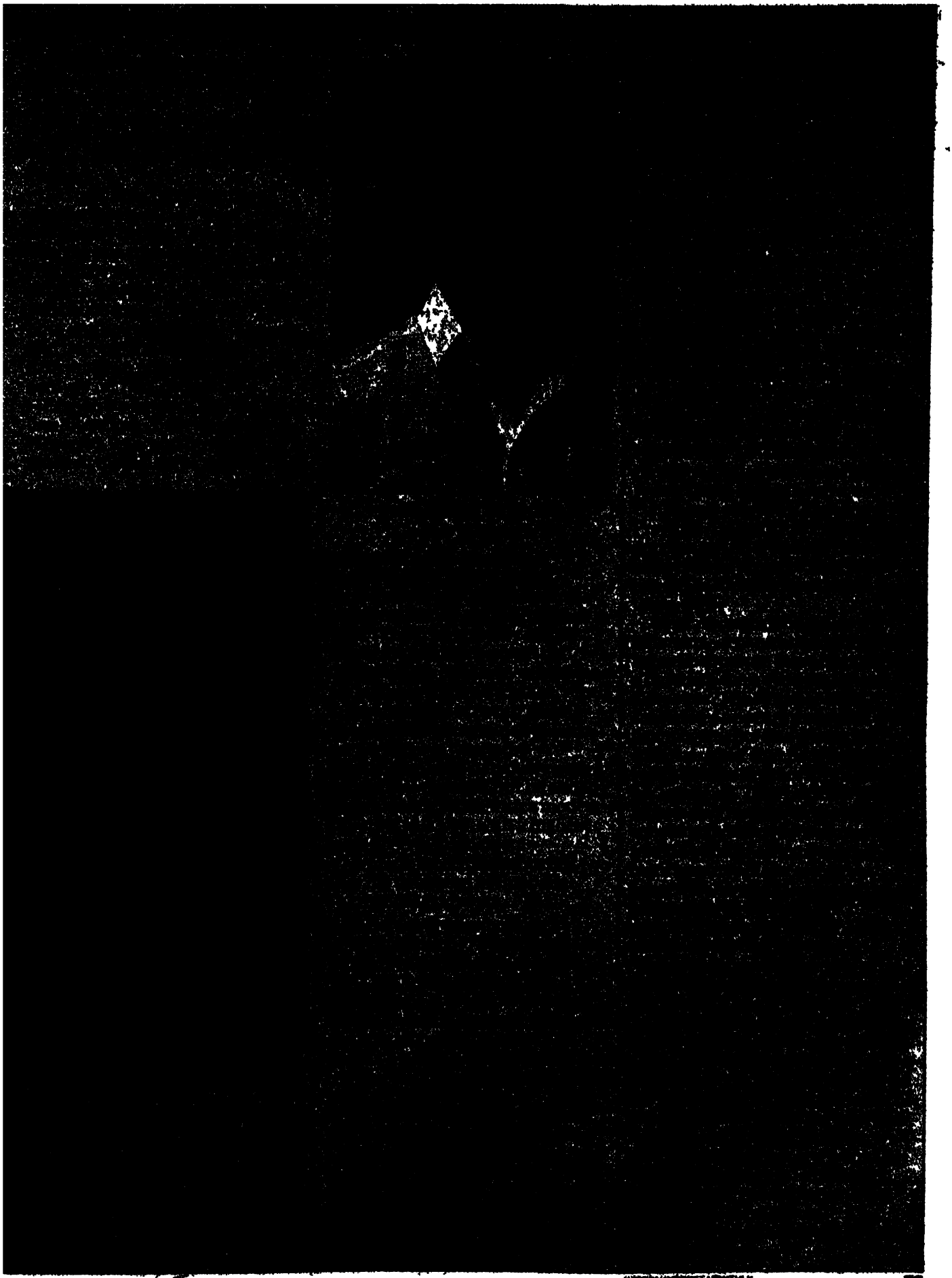
Accused of activities connected with Hughes' 'rebel' tour of South Africa, Wessels received a calculated insult when the ACB placed him on the bottom tier of their contracts scheme. Wessels declined the contract offer and retired from Test cricket, and left Queensland at the end of the season



... the name of Clive Rice (from the World Cup list), South Africa's captain for the recent historic matches in India, was absent...







TENNIS



GREATEST Davis Cup performance, in Neale Fraser's opinion, during his years as an Australian player and team captain: Pat Cash's rebounding from a two-set deficit to beat Sweden's Mikael Pernfors and clinch the 1986 Davis Cup final.

WHAT John McEnroe promised his mother when he started playing tennis: "That I would graduate from college and that I would play Davis Cup."

MICHAEL CHANG'S nickname among the tennis press: "Guppy".



NUMBER of team recreation director Jennifer Capriati's first 25 professional tournament matches that she played on center courts: 2.

AGE bracket where

TRIVIA



QUALITY VS. QUANTITY

MIGHT is right. Right? Or wrong? Hell, if you walk into any gym in town, you'll agree in a shot. And that's because most of the guys into fitness believe they've gotta be big—that's b-i-g—if they're fit.

Not true. You don't have to bulk up like the Incredible Hulk to achieve fitness. That's myth. Ok sure, you're into impressing the women with monster muscles

'gym-races' where everyone competes with the tape measure. Don't let your neighbour's bulging pecs con you into doing more bench-presses than required. If your training programme says you do three sets of 20 with 40 pounds, do that. Don't clap on an extra plate or do an extra set just because he's watching you. You are not competing with [illegible] You're [illegible] for your own [illegible]

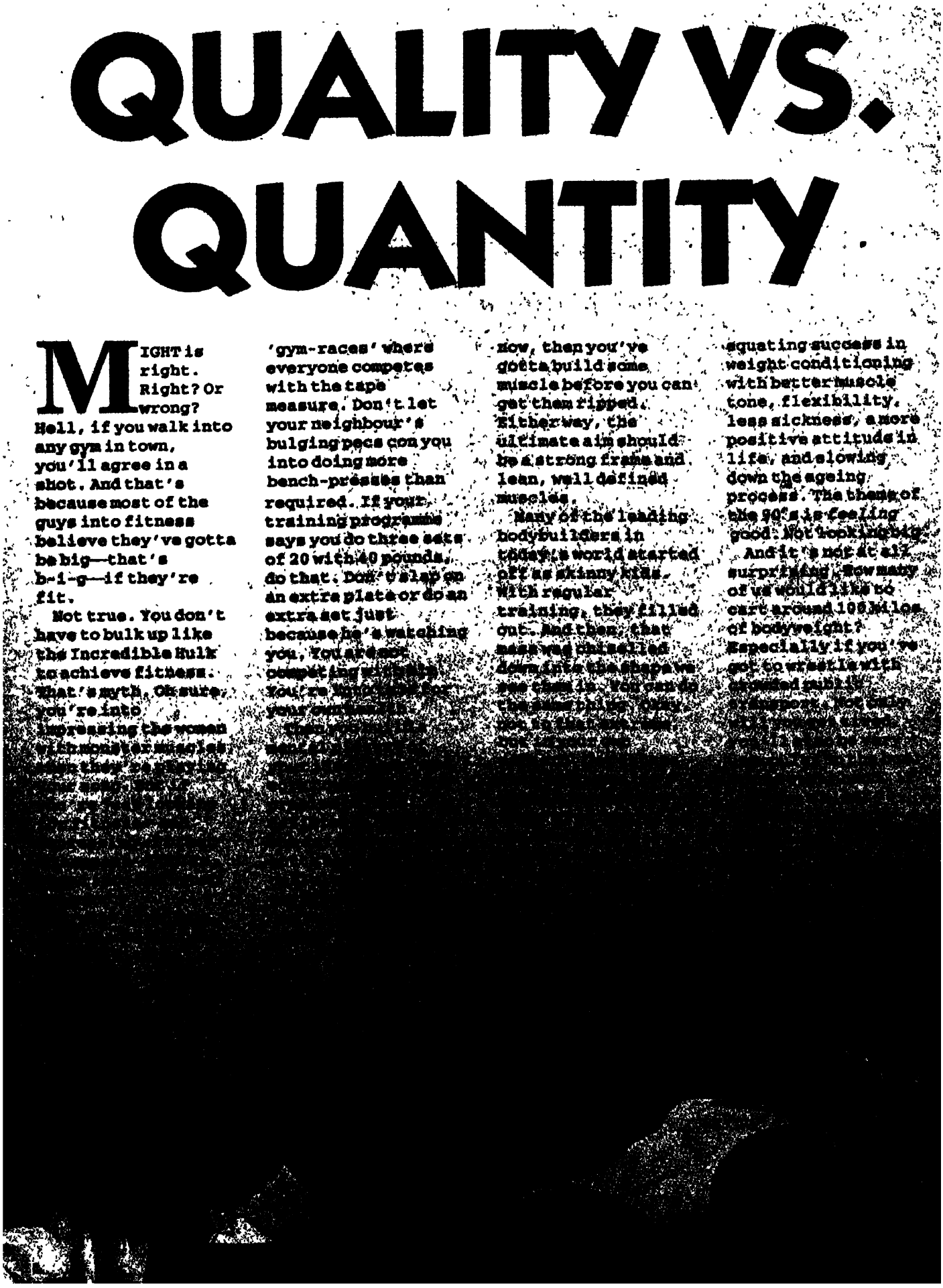
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now, then you've gotta build some muscle before you can get them ripped. Either way, the ultimate aim should be a strong frame and lean, well defined muscles.

Many of the leading bodybuilders in today's world started off as skinny kids. With regular training, they filled out. And then, that mass was chiselled down into the shape we see them in. You can do the same. Only, you don't have to [illegible]

squating success in weight conditioning with better muscle tone, flexibility, less sickness, a more positive attitude in life, and slowing down the ageing process. The theme of the 90's is feeling good. Not looking big.

And it's not at all surprising. How many of us would like to cart around 100 kilos of bodyweight? Especially if you've got to wrestle with [illegible]



DIFFERENT STROKES

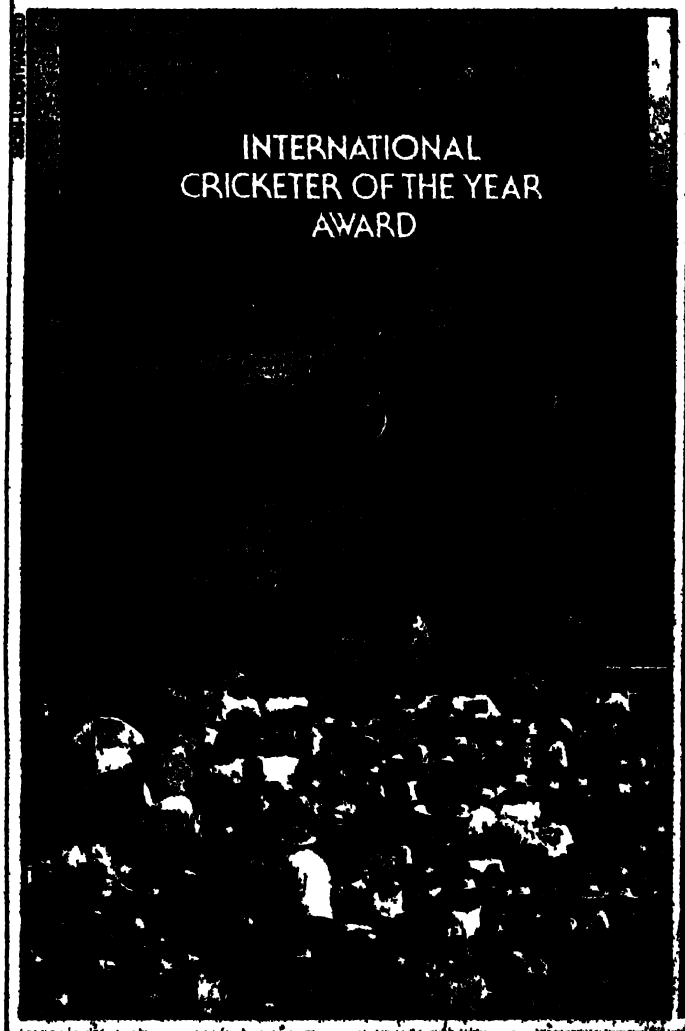
BETTER COKE THAN CIGARETTES?

THE name Benson & Hedges is almost synonymous with cricket in Australia But if soft drink giants Coca-Cola have their way, that won't last too long. Coca-Cola is ready to move into the international cricket arena in Australia when the game's long-standing contract with the tobacco firm expires.

One of the few companies willing and able to part with the kind of money required to pick up the Benson & Hedges cricket deal—worth about five million Aussie dollars a year—Coke's marketing manager Ian Brown says: "Tobacco companies are being forced out of sponsorship and they are withdrawing from some very high profile sports '

However, a spokesman for Benson & Hedges said the agreement with the Australian Cricket Board stood till the end of the 1995-96 season and possibly even beyond. He expressed surprise that Coca-Cola should even speculate now.

Coca-Cola are trying to edge out Benson & Hedges from international cricket





Edberg and Annette Olsen have finally decided to tie the knot

WEDDING BELLS FOR STEFAN

WORLD No. 1 Stefan Edberg and his long time girlfriend Annette Olsen, after a five-year romance, have finally announced their wedding date. "At least there will now be an end to all the marriage speculation about us," she said.

The couple will marry on April 18 in a church in Annette's hometown Vaxjo, in southern Sweden. But there won't be time or a chance for honeymoon. Edberg, 26, will pull out of the Monte Carlo Open which begins two days after the wedding, but will be back on the tour a week later. As the star explained: "We won't be having a honeymoon because we've been together for so long already."

The reception will be at the Teleborg (yes, isn't it?) castle, the town's largest civil building which can hold 200 guests.



WHAT A SHAME

THE desire to win a gold medal at the Olympics is like a drug, addictive Having won gold in the Summer Olympics, retired hurdler Edwin Moses wants to win another at the Winter Olympics at Albertville.

Moses, part of a four-man bobsled team which didn't qualify for the Winter Olympics, has filed for binding, independent arbitration to make it to the U.S. bobsled team or a retrial.

Edwin Moses' dream of winning a medal at the Winter Olympics has been thrown off the track

He and his colleagues claim that they were not properly notified of the trial schedule. A hearing was held where a retrial was ordered, but at a subsequent meeting the recommendation was overruled. That left one recourse: to file for arbitration through the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC).

Although the USOC have promised a hearing one wonders whether it will really matter, because Moses and his buddies have hardly had any practice since the trial in July last year.

WHEN GENIUS ACKNOWLEDGES GENIUS

WHILE John McEnroe made plenty of fans at Flinders Park during the Australian Open, he's always had a fan in Aussie cricket:, captain Allan Border. Border and the bulk of the Australian cricket team are avid tennis buffs and were at Flinders Park while in Melbourne for the WSC games. They even watched the high profile Becker-McEnroe match from the VIP box. And the night obviously made an impression.

"For all his tantrums, I find him still the most interesting guy to watch in tennis," said Border, adding "I find a lot of tennis players very robotic these days in that they serve and then just stand at the baseline and whack it. McEnroe's an artist. It's a big kick for all of us over 30."

Repaying the interest from the tennis side was Pam Shriver who went across to the cricketers' hotel after the first WSC final.



freewheeling

IT'S funny, you know, how the only sport that didn't appear on the television monitor in the Adelaide Oval's media dining room, through the five days of the fourth Test, was cricket.

But then a lot of funny things happen in the media 'recreation' room Especially if people like Ian Chappell and Rod Marsh are around. With Channel Nine, and the two radio stations—ABC and 2SW—signing up a galaxy of former Australian cricketers, the media room could pass of as a Who's Who of Australian cricket. The Chappell brothers, Marsh, Doug Walters, Richie Benaud, Keith Stackpole, you name it and they're there. Add to that Tony Greig and Sunil Gavaskar and it's like walking into a class of '70' reunion. And apparently Channel Nine will add David Gower, Clive Rice and Geoff Howarth to their panel for the World Cup.

But whoever comes or goes, the man of the room is always Ian Chappell. There is never a dull moment when he is around. The man responsible for the addition of the word 'ugly Australian' in cricket's dictionary is never short on humour and even less short on bad language.

The F's and B's fly around the place as fast and as frequently as the seagulls fly around Australian cricketing venues. Even though it's all done in good humour, it makes you wonder how Chappell manages to control his language during commentary.

"It's because the f...ing women probably told them we weren't all that good to look at," Chappell's Gavaskar retorts.

asked about the 'ugly Australian' bit. Then the elder Chappell goes on to narrate another of his funny stories.

When a colleague showed me what a cricket ball for the blind looked like, Chappell picked it out of my hand saying, "do they play a lot of that in India." My Indian colleague confirmed that blind cricket was becoming more and more popular in India.

"Yeah I played my share of blind cricket too," the former Aussie captain joked with a straight face. "Problem was I was often foxed by some of the balls, because a couple of them didn't rattle while they went by."

And of course the butt of many of Chappell's jokes—and Tony Greig's too for that matter—is Bill Lawrie. Not Lawrie himself, but his nose.

When one mediaman asked the lady behind the coffee counter for a spoon to stir his coffee with, Chappell butted in. "Why there's Bill's nose there, use it."

Chappell also has his own version of the story behind Lawrie getting the nickname 'phantom'. "He got it because he read a lot of those comics on that 60's trip to India," explains Chappell. "But do you know the reason why he took to the comics?"

"There was this dismissal of Bill's where he was clean bowled all three stumps. Now Bill was a great movie freak. Any free time and he would slip into a movie hall. On that particular trip everytime he went for a movie, the news review before the feature would show that same dismissal. Eventually Bill was so fed up of seeing it that he decided to spend his spare time reading comics."

The younger Chappell, Greg, is a far more subdued fellow. Not as jovial as his brother at the best of times, a failed business and financial problems have mellowed him more than his age would suggest, and his personal problems have apparently made him very forgetful.

One morning during the Adelaide Test, Greg walked out to get into his car and drive down to the Oval. Not being able to locate his car keys he took the duplicate out.

Ian Chappell (left): The funniest man in the place



"He's so forgetful that when he's driving and someone begins a conversation, he soon forgets he's at the wheel," adds Rod Marsh who gives Ian Chappell a good run for his money on the humour front. When not broadcasting, Marsh spends his time watching golf on the dining room monitor. One gets the feeling that the wicketkeeping brother of golfer Graham Marsh, would prefer to be teeing off than watch flannelled fools out there in the centre.

In fact golf seems to be the favourite pastime of many former cricketers. Sir Donald Bradman preferred a weekend out on the green rather than make a visit to the Adelaide Oval to watch the Test match. He made his customary visit on the Monday of the Test. Horse racing is also a very popular pastime. And there are a few hard core punters in the media room who gather around the television set every time a race is on and cheer their bets very vocally. Then there were the tennis lovers—Sunil Gavaskar, for example, who enjoyed tuning into the Australian Open every now and then.

As I said, if you were in the media room you wouldn't believe that there was a Test match underway a hundred yards away through the glass door. The [illegible]

QUARTZ

It's Time You Felt The PACE

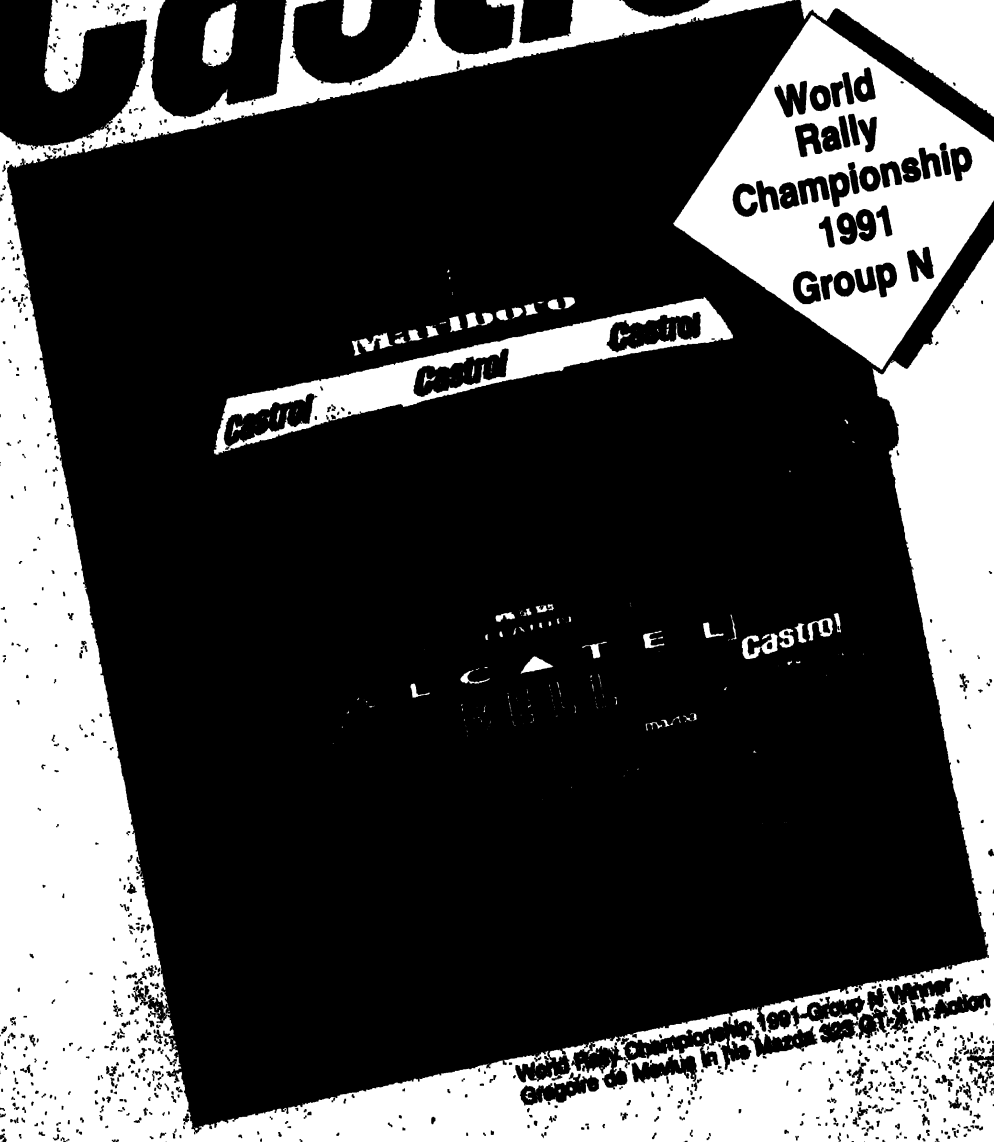
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World Rally Championship 1991 Group N

World Rally Championship 1991 Group N Winner
Grégoire de Mevius in his Mazda 323 GT-X in Action

The race for the Group N title in the World Rally Championship has been won by Castrol supported driver Grégoire de Mevius.
Grégoire de Mevius and his Mazda 323 GT-X

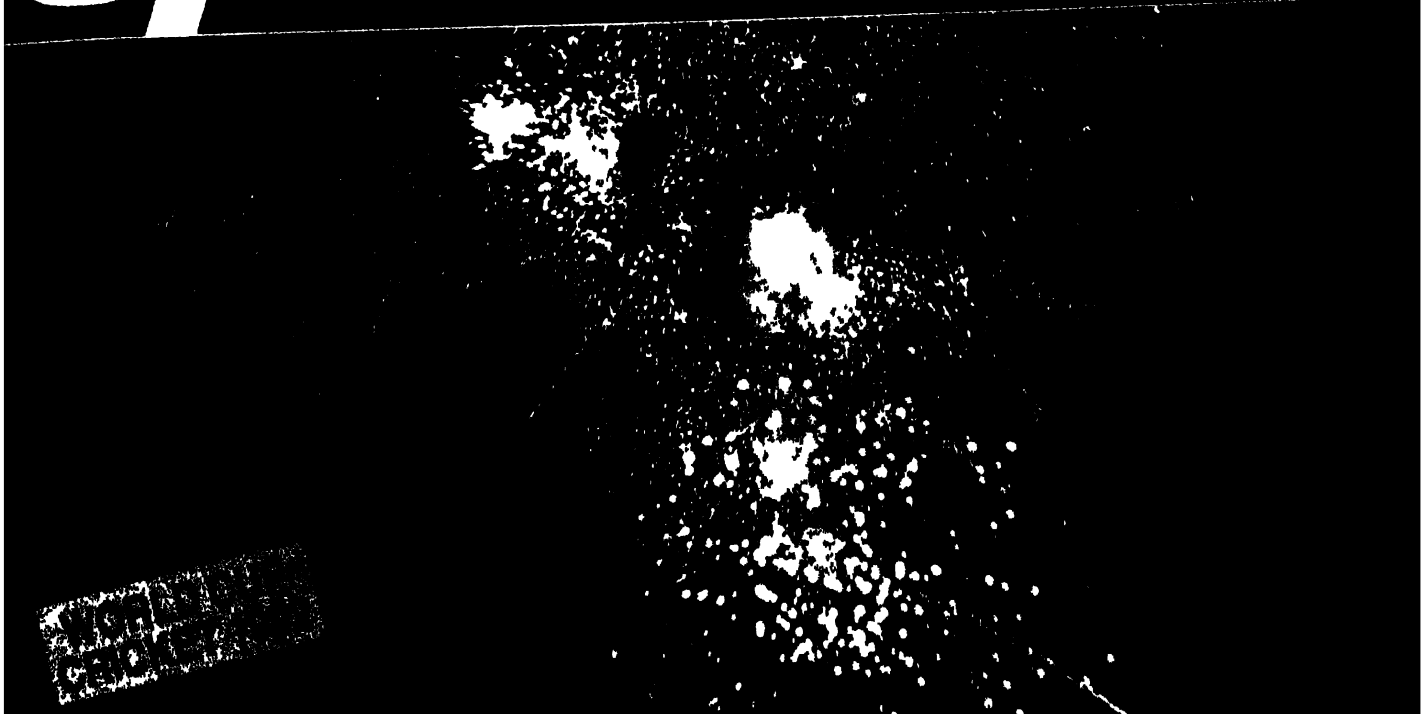
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WORLD CUP PREVIEW SPECIAL

Sportsworld



FESTIVAL OF COLOUR

Fireworks light up the Eden Gardens after the Reliance Cup final, 1987

FREE POSTER: WORLD CUP PLANNER



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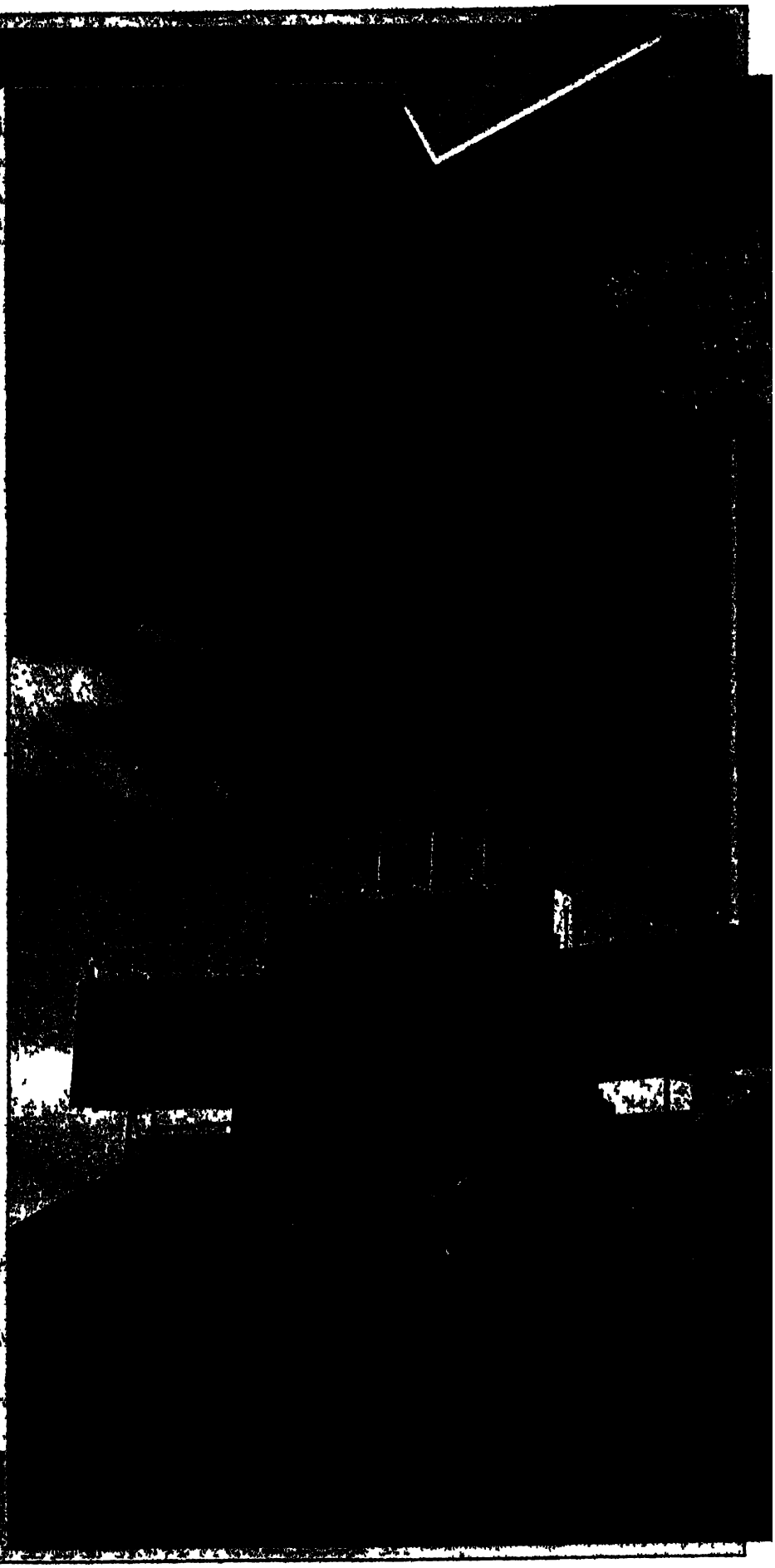
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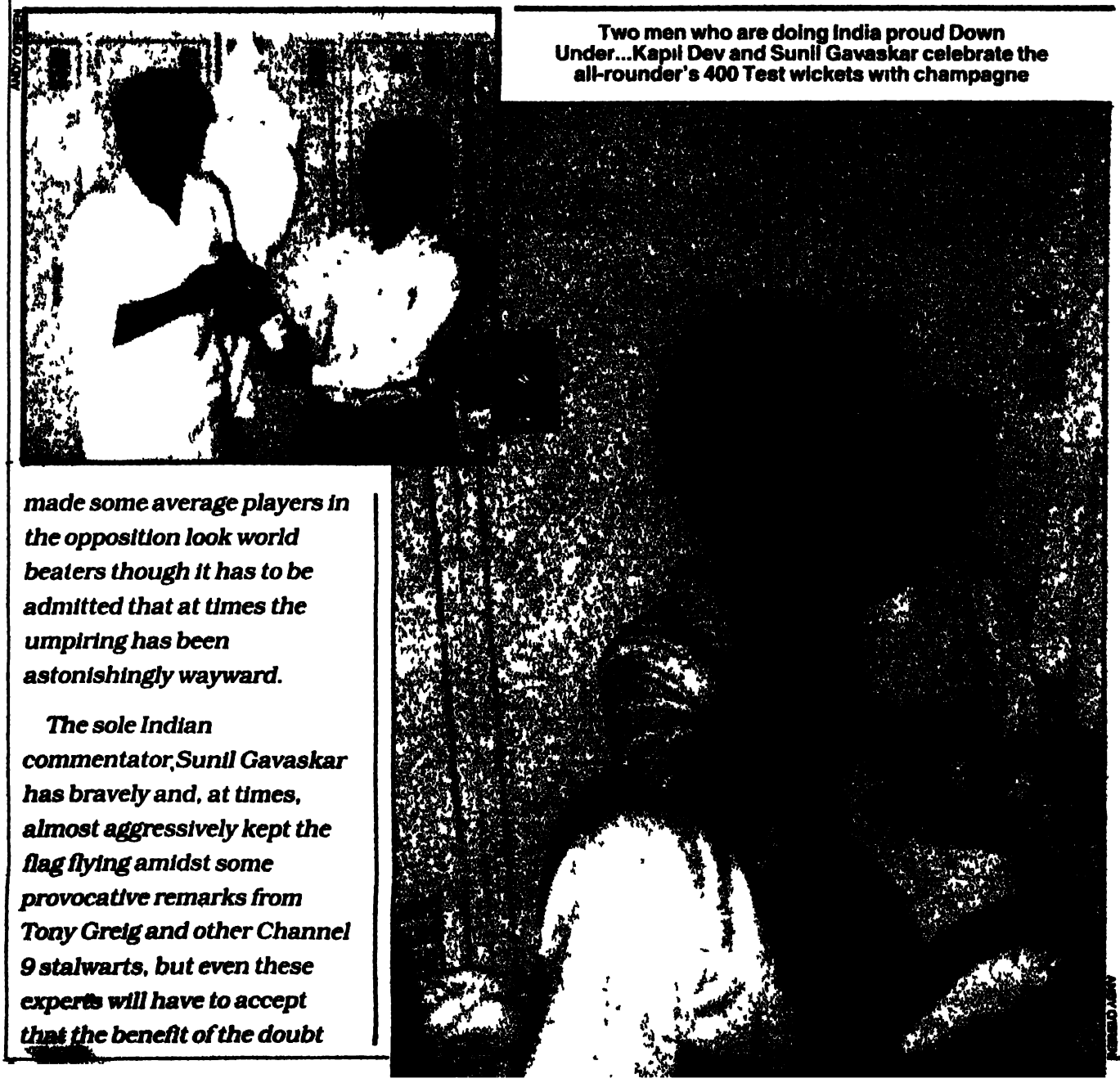


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INSPITE of having the world's most successful bowler and the world's most exciting batsman, the Indian performance Down Under has been so shoddy that it has made some average players in the opposition look world beaters though it has to be admitted that at times the umpiring has been astonishingly wayward.

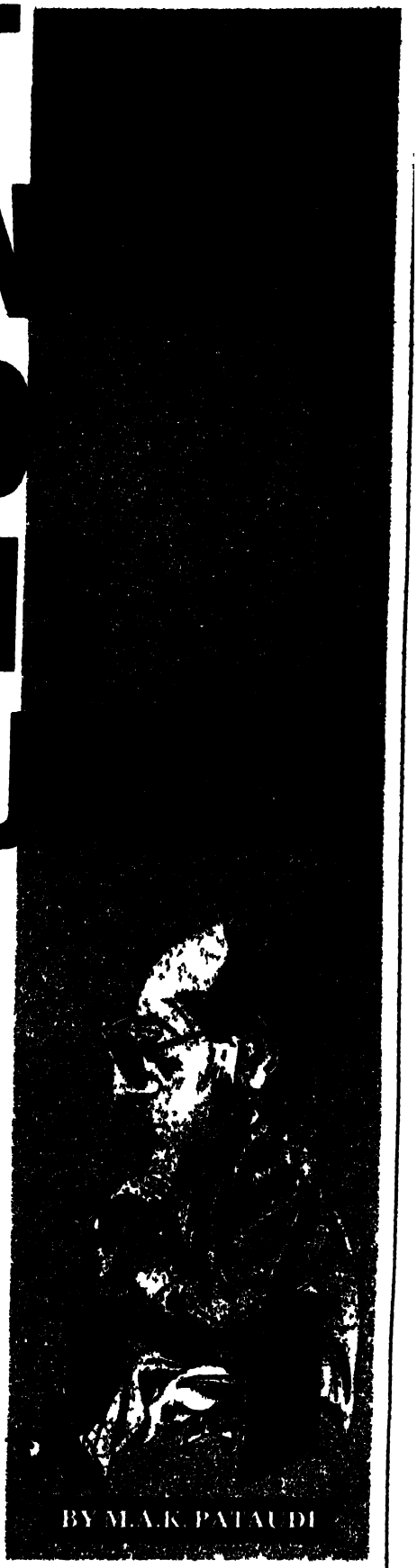
The sole Indian commentator,Sunil Gavaskar has bravely and, at times, almost aggressively kept the flag flying amidst some provocative remarks from Tony Greig and other Channel 9 stalwarts, but even these experts will have to accept that the benefit of the doubt was not a privilege which the Indian batsman enjoyed too often.

Those of us who have for years realised the necessity of neutral umpires are about to reach the stage where we would like the men in the middle to be given some electronic assistance through another referee (a bit like polo though not entirely similar) who will sit by the sideline and who is to be consulted if there is any doubt whatsoever. The traditionalists will be aghast at these sentiments, but they reacted much the same way when limited-overs cricket was introduced. A monitor with slow motion replays will certainly eliminate all



Two men who are doing India proud Down Under...Kapil Dev and Sunil Gavaskar celebrate the all-rounder's 400 Test wickets with champagne

MOST TALEN BY NO MEAN FAVOU



BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

mistakes where run outs and stumpings are concerned and to a large extent help in deciding the lbws.

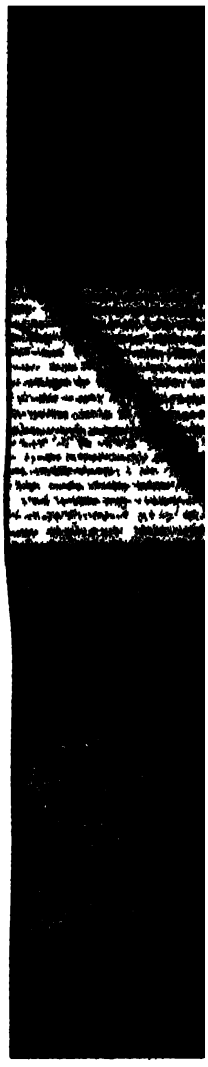
The Australian umpiring—unlike their cricket—was incompetent, and had it been Indian, Pakistan or Sri Lankan umpires the Australian press would have dubbed it unfair and biased. Yet it was not all the umpires' doing that India got undone. The fault lay squarely with the players and not in their stars, for they are by no means underlings.

Their performance has so far belied their potential, and it was a strange kind of deathwish, or a lack of discipline which has annoyed their fans and followers, and cost them the one-dayers as much as the Test series. Nor can the players any longer blame the BCCI for hastily arranging a pointless bout against South Africa instead of sending them off to Australia a few days earlier to get acclimatised to entirely different playing conditions than those experienced recently in Sharjah (is one going to blame the umpires for that bit of nonsense also).

And, at home Mr. Tamhane and his colleagues can rest free; they may have practised some pretty transparent attempts at a balancing act, but the selection committee can hardly be responsible for Srikkanth's pathological dislike for short singles and Manjrekar's penchant for getting run out. And who is to blame if some fielders consider diving around well below their dignity while for some others the correct position to receive a throw-in for a possible run out is well beyond their cricketing imagination?

I am afraid that however nice the captain and his manager may be, neither they nor Mr. Scindia's





Will the inclusion of talented youngsters like Vinod Kambli (right, middle) and Ajay Jadeja (far right) stop the opposition from looking superhuman? Man of the Series Craig McDermott (right, receiving his car) might not agree

exhortations have managed to instil a sense of urgency and purpose into a team in which half the players look as if the game is already lost before the first ball is bowled, and the whole thing is considered a futile and slightly embarrassing exercise, the sooner finished the better. Fortunately at least one of these players does not find a place for the World Cup and the inclusion of Kambli and Jadeja is most welcome, that is if they can find a place in the

haruddin is presently in one of those peculiar situations where he is surrounded by some genuine talent which refuses to take off. The situation is strange but hardly unique—Kunderan with a highest Test score of 192, had to bat at No. 11, and India still barely made 200. In fact, for a limited-overs game, there is too much batting, and when each batsman wants to take his quota of five or six overs to settle down, the team will find itself at scores of 150 for 4 after the 43rd over which is a silly position to be in a 50-over game.

I can understand 180 for 4 or 150 for 8, and when it also doesn't really matter who opens the innings, perhaps it would be best if the Indians decided on a permanent batting order, in which each star is allocated a particular job and the batsman played to an overall plan. This is the way Australia plays it and if an individual steps out of line, he is dropped even if he happens to be Dean Jones.

This, then, is the crunch for Azharuddin. We all know that he is a nice guy and as long as he was getting runs and the



MARK BOLAND



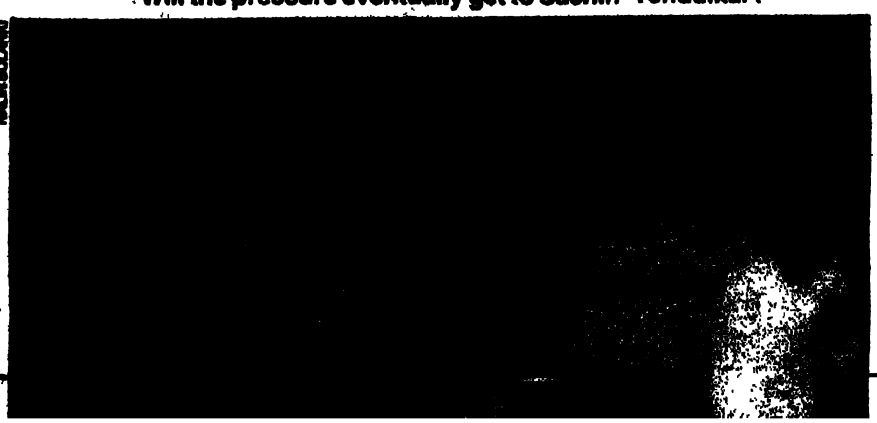
UTPAL SONKAR

side interesting the crowds (as in England last year) we were prepared to wait for him to grow. That time has now come. Believe it or not, India, if it puts it all together, can even now get close to winning the World Cup (remember the second B and H final when, under pressure, Australia fussed and tumbled?) and the captain will have to be seen to captain.

It must be pretty clear by now that the most talented side in this competition is by no means the favourite to win. That honour presently goes to the Australians who may, at best, be described as competitive professionals who hate the idea of losing.

In fact India does possess a fine batting side and the bowling and fielding is perfectly adequate for the occasion, but the side does not seem in the least bothered about its performance, and unless Azharuddin can change this attitude, he and a few others are going to be out of a job pretty soon, and nobody is going to shed any tears.●

Will the pressure eventually get to Sachin Tendulkar?



MARK BOLAND

BENSON & HEDGES WORLD CUP 1992

A COSTUMED CARNIVAL

The fifth World Cup,with a change in förmat and coloured clothing, promises a month long veritable carnival of cricket

PATRICK EAGAR



AUSTRALIA

FIXTURES Feb 22 v New Zealand (Auckland, NZ), 26 v South Africa (Sydney, day/night), March 1 v India (Brisbane), 5 v England (Sydney, d/n), 7 v Sri Lanka (Adelaide), 11 v Pakistan (Perth, d/n), 14 v Zimbabwe (Hobart), 18 v West Indies (Melbourne, d/n)

PRADEEP MANDHANI





THE defending champions and co-hosts, Allan Border's men start as favourites to retain their title, won at Calcutta in 1987. Australia pack their side with allrounder for one-day games, with Simon O'Donnell, Steve Waugh and Peter Taylor—none of whom can currently find a place in the Test XI—almost certain starters. An immensely strong batting side—they can afford to leave that prolific opener Mark Taylor on the sidelines more often than not—Australia possess perhaps the world's outstanding one-day batsman in Dean Jones. With the experienced Border down the order to insure against any terminal batting collapses, they will be hard to beat. The fixture list gives them a tough start, though, with an emotional floodlit game against South Africa following the competition curtain-raiser at Auckland. *Tip: Champions again!*

ENGLAND



FIXTURES: Feb 22 v India (Perth, day/night), 27 v West Indies (Melbourne, d/n), March 1 v Pakistan (Adelaide), 5 v Australia (Sydney), 9 v Sri Lanka (Ballarat), 12 v South Africa (Melbourne, d/n), 15 v New Zealand (Wellington, NZ), 18 v Zimbabwe (Albury).

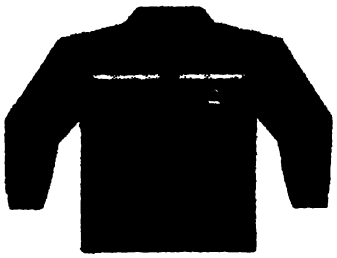
GRAHAM GOOCH'S men have made a workmanlike start to their tour of New Zealand, but the precise make-up of the World Cup squad is still unclear. It seems likely that pantomime king Ian Botham will open with



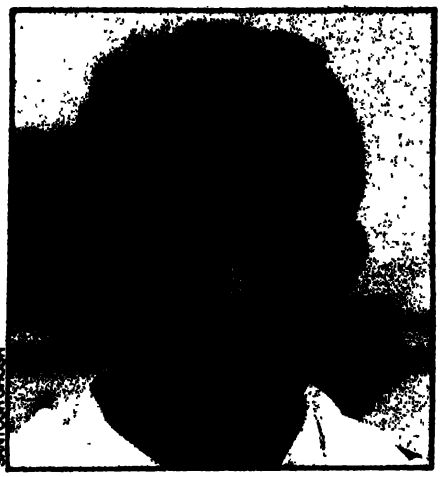
SANTOSH GOOGA

Gooch in the World Cup, in an attempt to exploit the regulation requiring seven fielders within the 30-yard circles for the first 15 overs of an innings. After that England's prospects depend on how their middle order shapes up: an in-form, confident Graeme Hick would be a great bonus. That one-day veteran Allan Lamb is another key player, while the performances of Lawrence and Tufnell with the ball, if they make the 'cut' into the final squad, will be worth watching. Like Australia, England will be able to pack the side with allrounders—Botham, Lewis, Pringle, Reeve— and should be a formidable batting side. The revised itinerary has done England few favours, though, the first four matches being against India, West Indies, Pakistan and Australia.
Tip: Semi-finalists.

INDIA



FIXTURES: Feb 22 v England (Perth, day/night), 28 v Sri Lanka (Mackay), March 1 v Australia (Brisbane), 4 v Pakistan (Sydney, d/n), 7 v Zimbabwe (Hamilton, NZ), 10 v West Indies (Wellington, NZ), 12 v New Zealand (Dunedin, NZ), 15 v South Africa (Adelaide).



SANTOSH GOOGA

AFTER a harrowing tour of Australia, India will have to reproduce their best one-day form if their 1991-92 winter is not to be a total disaster. Their batsmen showed signs of a return to form in the Sydney Test, but the apparent inability of skipper Mohammad Azharuddin to come to terms with the higher bounce of Australian pitches is a major worry. Rumours flew that Kapil Dev, the victorious captain in 1983, would take over the captaincy for the World Cup, but in the end 'Azha' kept the job. India have one of the less taxing World Cup schedules travelwise, with three successive matches in New Zealand towards the end of the campaign.
Tip: Eliminated.

NEW ZEALAND



FIXTURES: Feb 22 v Australia (Auckland, NZ), 25 v Sri Lanka (Hamilton, NZ), 29 v South Africa (Auckland, NZ), March 3 v Zimbabwe (Napier, NZ), 8 v West Indies (Auckland, NZ), 12 v India (Dunedin, NZ), 15 v England (Wellington, NZ), 18 v Pakistan (Christchurch, NZ).



IT is the avowed aim of Kiwi captain Martin Crowe that his side should reach the semifinals. Unless they do, New Zealand will be the only side not to appear in Australia, as all their preliminary matches are at home, an advantage which might just enable Crowe's fond wish to be fulfilled. New Zealand's problem, post Hadlee, is likely to be in bowling: their willing but ordinary medium-pacers are likely to be meat and drink for the stronger batting sides. On the batting side, a lot will depend on whether Crowe himself is fully recovered from a persistent knee injury, although Andrew Jones has a remarkable one-day record and Mark Greatbatch, if he recovers his best form, is a proven matchwinner. *Tip: Eliminated.*

PAKISTAN



FIXTURES: Feb 23 v West Indies (Melbourne), 26 v Zimbabwe (Hobart), March 1 v England (Adelaide), 4 v India (Sydney, day/night), 8 v South Africa (Brisbane), 11 v Australia (Perth, d/n), 15 v Sri Lanka (Perth), 18 v New Zealand (Christchurch, NZ).



PERHAPS the most unpredictable side in the competition, Pakistan's strength now lies in their bowling, where their leading Test wicket-taker and captain, Imran Khan, is content to leave the hard work to others. But Imran, with team-mate Javed Miandad, if he plays, will be the only player to have appeared in all five World Cup tournaments (unless Viv Richards is recalled by West Indies) and will have to get through his overs in the coming weeks. Wasim Akram, a probable World Cup star, is very experienced at the limited-overs game, and boasts two one-day hattricks to prove it; but the formidable fast bowler Waqar Younis has rarely reproduced his impressive Test form in the one-day arena. Pakistan finish their qualifying matches with a potentially crucial match in New Zealand. *Tip: Beaten finalists.*

SOUTH AFRICA



FIXTURES: Feb 26 v Australia (Sydney, day/night), 29 v New Zealand (Auckland, NZ), March 2 v Sri Lanka (Wellington, NZ), 5 v West Indies (Christchurch, NZ), 8 v Pakistan (Brisbane), 10 v Zimbabwe (Canberra), 12 England (Melbourne, d/n), 15 v India (Adelaide).



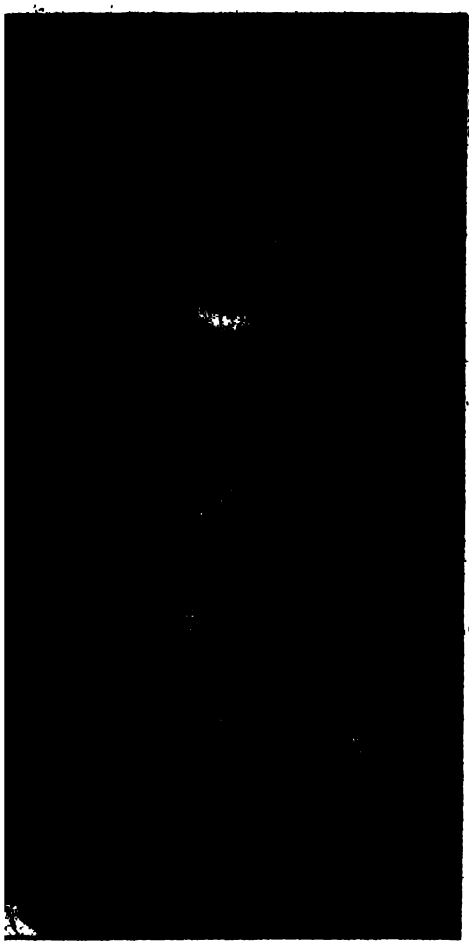
The pressures on Kepler Wessels' largely untried team will be immense, and the selectors' decision to leave out Cook and Rice may backfire on them. For all that, the new-look South Africans will be a good fielding side and, led by Wessels, should score enough runs. Big-hitting vice-captain Adrian Kuiper will be one to watch. Much will depend on whether the bowling comes good: apart from the speedy Allan Donald, the attack in India was rather unimpressive. After the razzmatazz which will no doubt surround their opening match at Sydney, the South Africans will be pleased that their next three matches will be more tranquil affairs in New Zealand, before a potentially emotional match against neighbours Zimbabwe at Canberra.
Tip: Surprise semi-finalists.

SRI LANKA



FIXTURES: Feb 23 v Zimbabwe (New Plymouth, NZ), 25 v New Zealand (Hamilton, NZ), 28 v India (Mackay), March 2 v South Africa

(Wellington, NZ), 7 v Australia (Adelaide), 9 v England (Ballarat), 13 v West Indies (Berri), 15 v Pakistan (Perth).



OUTSIDERS Sri Lanka seem to have drawn the short straw when the itinerary was redrafted. After starting in New Zealand, they zig to north Queensland before zagging back to NZ, then return to Australia for matches in up-country Ballarat (Victoria) and Berri (South Australia). The islanders, led by the affable Aravinda de Silva, are likely to be outgunned by the leading teams, but they will doubtless cause an upset or two during the competition. Sri Lanka's strength lies in their batting, with de Silva the best of a bunch of talented strokemakers. The bowlers, however, are much of a muchness, with the genial Rumesh Ratnayake leading a battery of similar-looking medium-pacers with long names. *Tip: Eliminated.*

WEST INDIES



FIXTURES: Feb 23 v Pakistan (Melbourne). 27 v England (Melbourne, day/night). 29 v Zimbabwe (Brisbane), March 5 v South Africa (Christchurch, NZ) 8 v New Zealand (Auckland, NZ), 10 v India (Wellington, NZ). 13 v Sri Lanka (Berri) 18 v Australia (Melbourne, d/n).



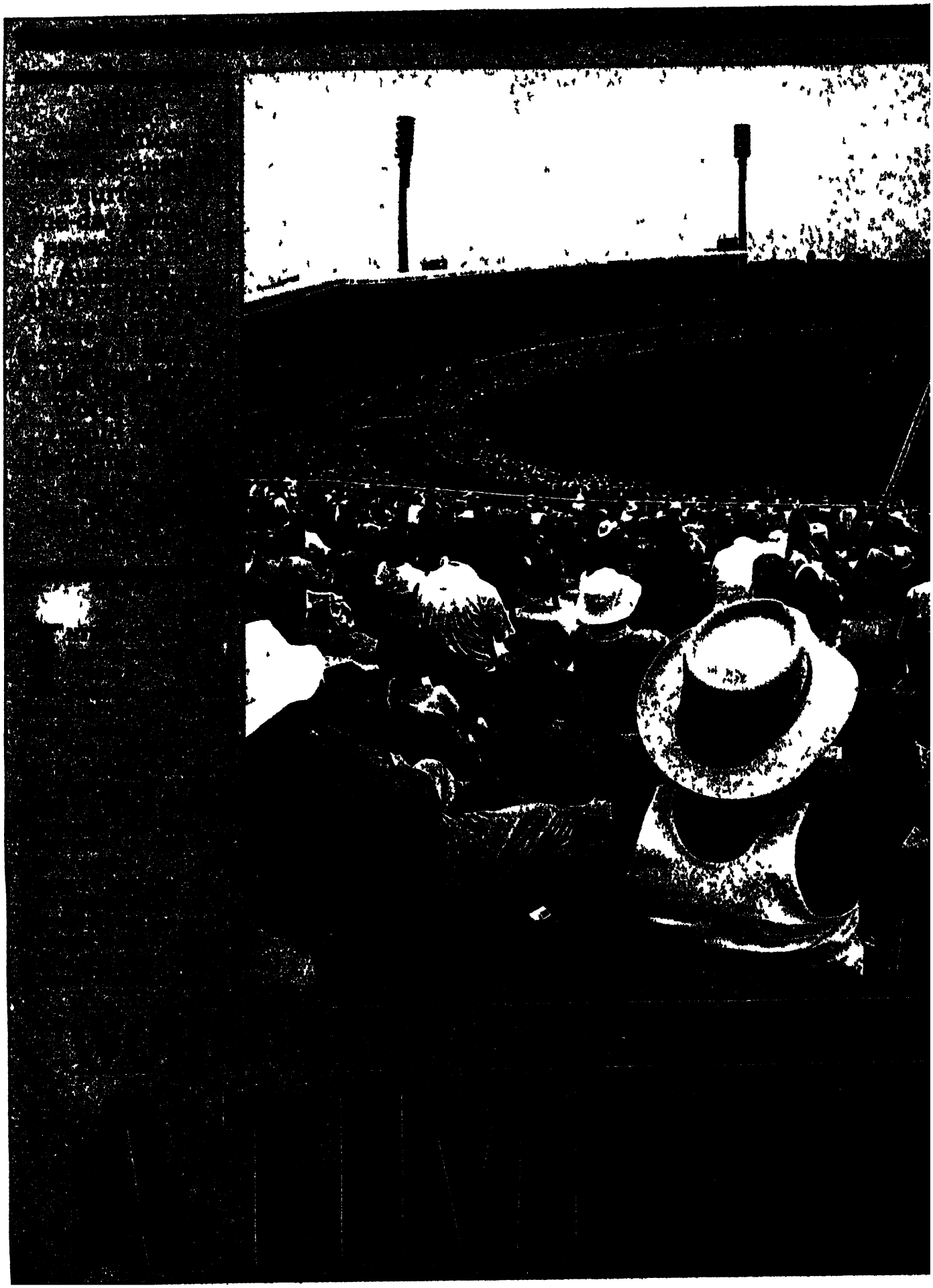
RARELY have the mighty West Indies gone into any one-day tournament as underdogs, but that is very much the case this time, especially given their patchy form on tour in Australia so far. New captain Richie Richardson has been having a bad trot with the bat, and it remains to be seen whether West Indies recall Viv Richards—the only man to score 1000 runs in World Cups alone— for one last hurrah. Wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon, too, may return to the colours, but it seems that Gordon Greenidge, a veteran of the four previous tournaments, is now beyond the pale. The batting has fired only intermittently recently, and while the bowling, led by the mature Marshall and the awsome Ambrose, is still a handful, its sting is drawn slightly by the regulations restricting the number of short-pitched deliveries. West Indies will do well to overcome the loss of their fastest bowler, the injured Ian Bishop, but the schedule has been kind to them: apart from one trip to up-country, Berri, their matches are all being played at the major centres, with three games at the MCG. *Tip: Eliminated.*

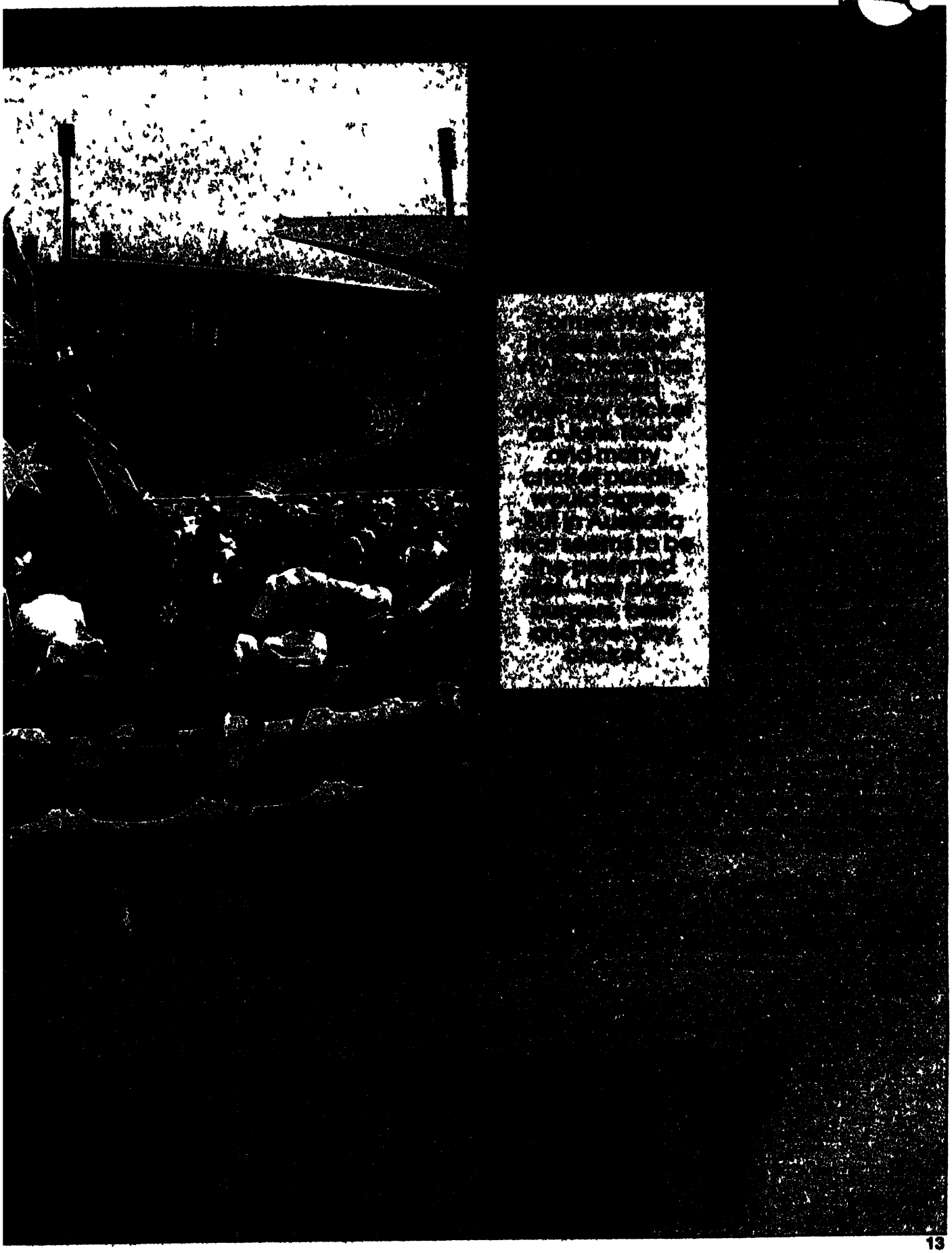
ZIMBABWE



FIXTURES: Feb 23 v Sri Lanka (New Plymouth, NZ), 26 v Pakistan (Hobart), 29 v West Indies (Brisbane), March 3 v New Zealand (Napir, NZ), 7 v India (Hamilton), 10 v South Africa (Camberra), 14 v Australia (Hobart), 18 v England (Albury).

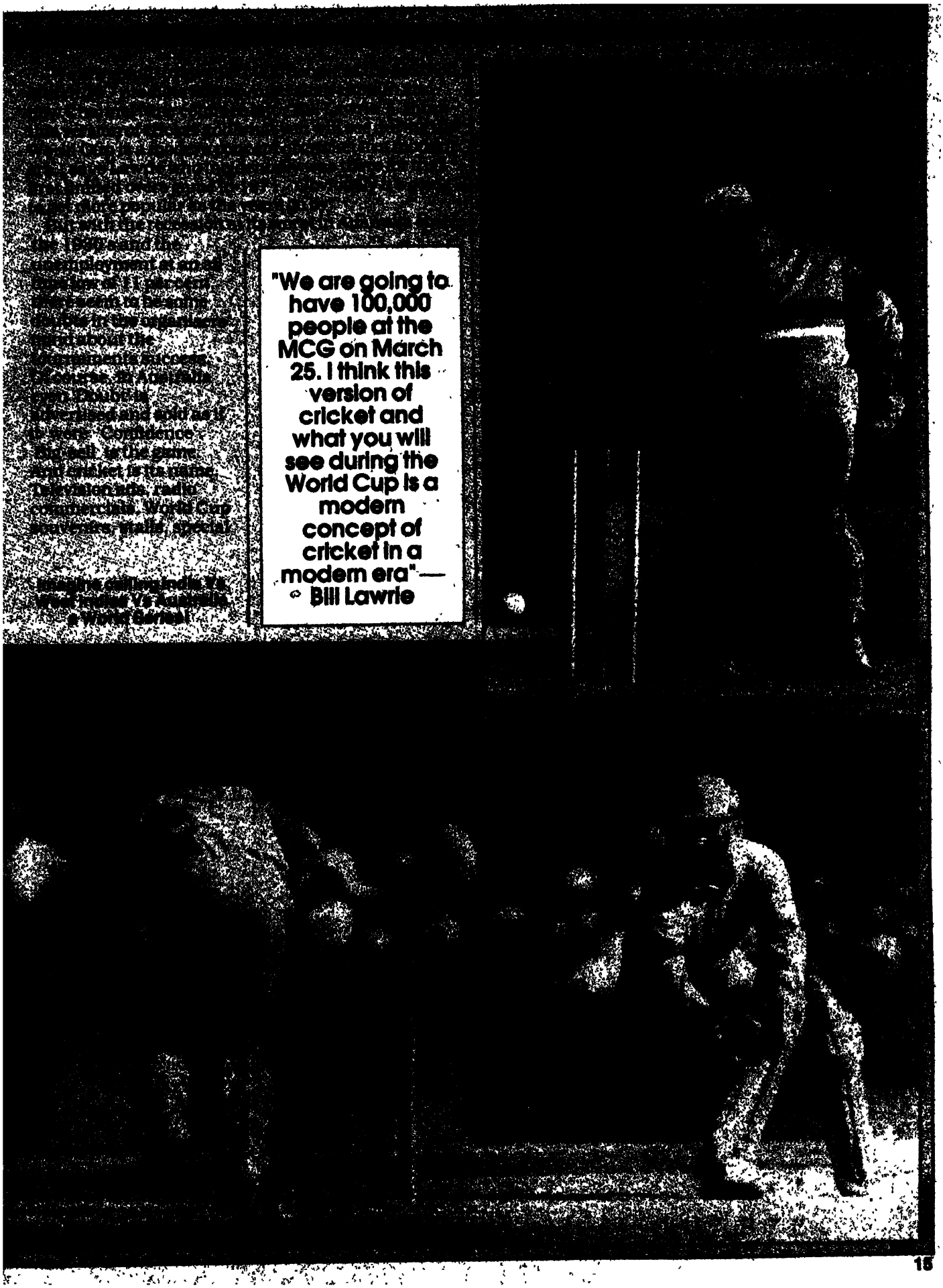
COACHED by the enthusiastic Essex seamer Don Topley, minnows Zimbabwe, who qualified for the World Cup by virtue of winning the ICC Trophy for non-Test-playing countries, will be hoping to cause an upset or two, as they did in 1983 when they defeated mighty Australia. Captained by Dave Houghton, who kicked off the 1987 tournament with a memorable 141 against New Zealand, the Zimbabweans are likely to include John Traicos, 44, the offspinner who played Test Cricket for South Africa back in 1970. Their best chance of a victory comes at the start of the tournament, against Sri Lanka: after that the intense hedge-hopping itinerary might overtax the part-timers. *Tip:Eliminated.*



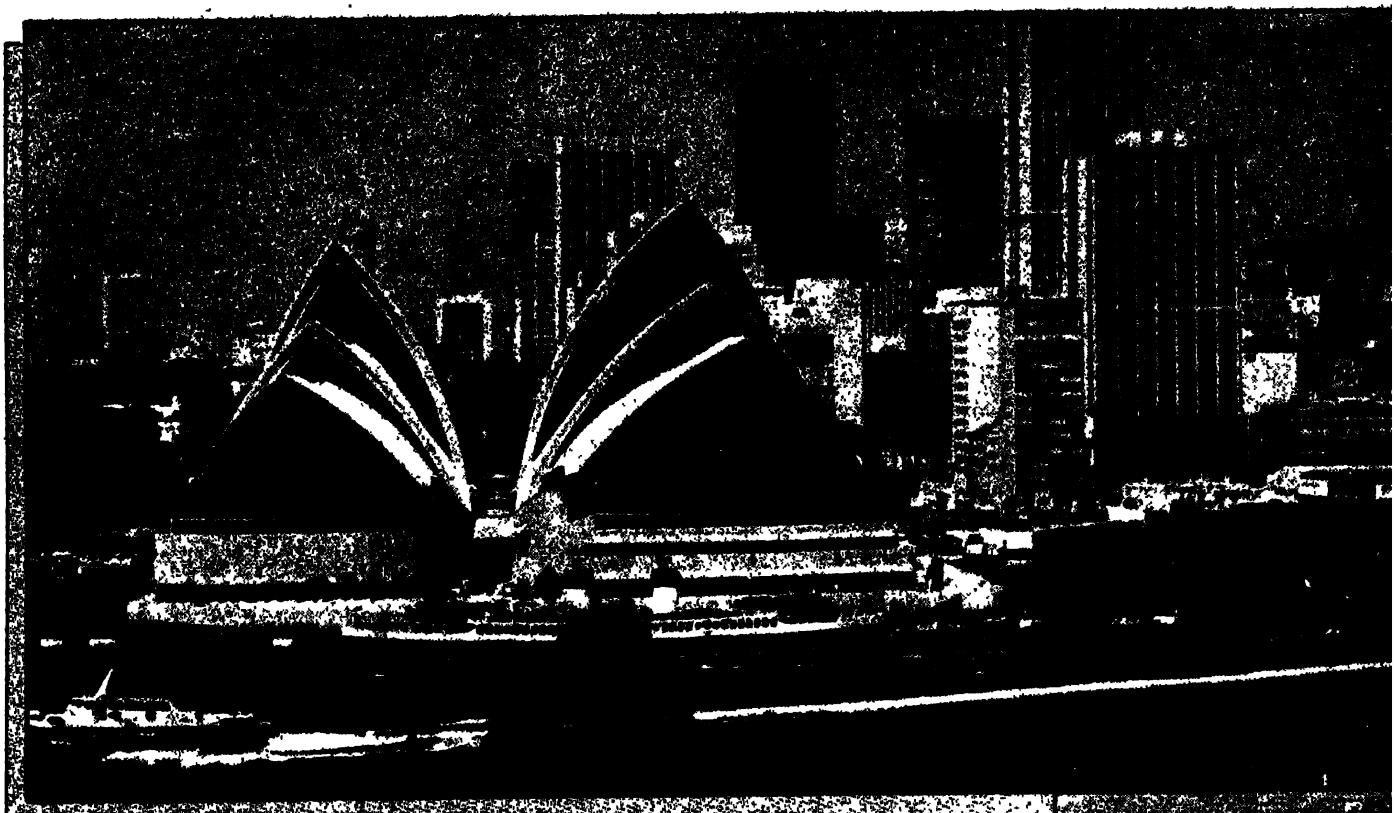








"We are going to have 100,000 people at the MCG on March 25. I think this version of cricket and what you will see during the World Cup is a modern concept of cricket in a modern era"— Bill Lawrie



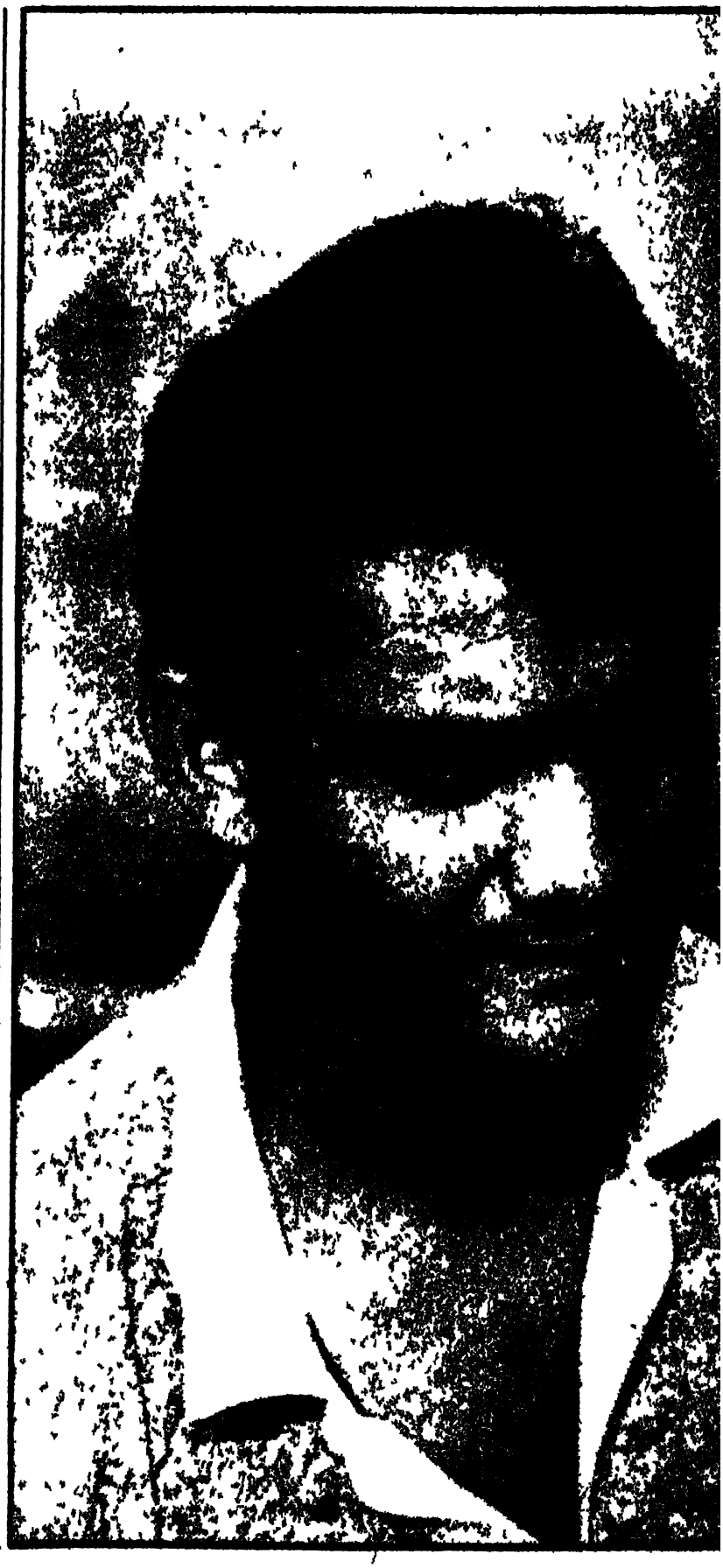
Victorian sports minister Neil Trease added to the hype by suggesting that television cameras by used in deciding run-outs and stumpings in the World Cup



Hype is also having a classy black-tie sit-down dinner with the cream of world cricket in attendance after the opening ceremony. And marketing means you pay 175 dollars for an invitation. No matter who you are



The Indian skipper tells ANDY O'BRIEN that India should do well in the World Cup if they play to the best of their ability. But he also wonders if they're capable of doing just that



Obviously the morale of the team isn't too high after the humiliating 4-0 series defeat. What steps are being taken to motivate the players prior to the World Cup?

I've always maintained that you can t keep motivating people all the time All we can do now is to practise very hard over the next few days working on our batting and our fielding which have been our problem areas We have to last out our 50 overs, that s the first priority as far as the batting is concerned

What about the fielding? You have been critical of the team's fielding right through this tour.

Yes the fielding is a major concern, and as far as I am concerned it has been the most disappointing aspect of the tour It's just that we are playing for India and we must realise that If I drop a catch I feel very bad You re letting down your country, you're letting down your team, so many people

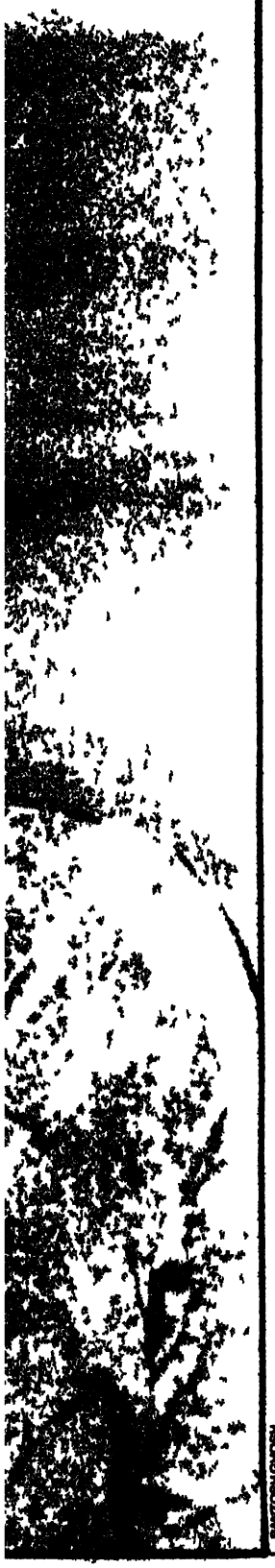
Are you having any major practise sessions to improve fielding before the World Cup?

Yes we have a 45 minute to an hour fielding session everyday before net practise You know catching, throwing This is a young side and if they field like this at this age then all I can say is that I feel very sorry for them You can't have a strategy if you can t field I'm really very very disappointed with the fielding We tend to do everything well in practise, but when we get into the game, it's the same old story

Honestly, how would you rate India's chances, especially with the fielding and batting in such poor form?

Why, I would still rate it as very good See, we didn t do too well in the Tests, but were pretty good in the one-day games That too without playing at our top level We have been here for so many months that we have got used to the conditions and the wickets, and I think that if we play to the best of our ability, there's no reason why we shouldn t do well The question is, can we play to the best of our ability?

But being here so long also has a negative



MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

"Can We Play To The Best Of Our Ability?"

Personally I would have liked the team to have gone back home after the Perth Test....it would have been much better if we had a rest

THE WORLD CUP ON DOORDARSHAN

February 22 (Saturday) — India vs England at Perth Live telecast 10 15 am to 1 45 pm and 2 30 pm to 6 pm
Special Highlights 12 25 am (Sunday)

February 27 (Thursday) — Special Highlights 11 20 pm

February 28 (Friday) — India vs Sri Lanka at Mackay Live telecast 4 30 am to 7 05 am on Channel I 7 05 am to 8 am on Channel II 8 25 am to 8 35 am recap on Channel I 8 45 am to 12 15 pm on Channel I
Special highlights 1 50 am (Saturday)

March 1 (Sunday) — India vs Australia at Brisbane Live telecast 5 30 am to 9 am and 10 05 am to 1 15 pm on Channel I
Special highlights 1 10 pm

March 4 (Wednesday) — India vs Pakistan at Sydney Live telecast 10 am to 1 30 pm and 2 15 pm to 5 45 pm
Special highlights 11 10 pm

March 7 (Saturday) India vs Zimbabwe at Christchurch Live telecast 3 am to 6 30 am on Channel I 7 15 am to 8 25 am on Channel II 8 25 am to 8 35 am to 10 45 am on Channel I
Special highlights 11 30 pm

March 10 (Tuesday) — India vs West Indies at Wellington Live telecast 3 am to 6 30 am on Channel I 7 15 am to 8 25 am on Channel II 8 25 am to 8 35 am recap on Channel I 8 35 am to 10 45 am on Channel I
Special highlights 10 55 pm

March 12 (Thursday) — India vs New Zealand at Dunedin Live telecast 3 am to 6 30 am on Channel I 7 15 am to 8 25 am on Channel II 8 25 am to 8 35 am recap on Channel I 8 35 am to 10 45 am on Channel I
Special highlights 11 15 am

March 15 (Sunday) — India vs South Africa at Adelaide Live telecast 5 am to 8 45 am on Channel I 9 am to 10 am on Channel II 10 am to 10 15 am recap on Channel I 10 15 am to 12 45 pm on Channel I
Special highlights 10 50 pm

March 18 (Wednesday) — Special highlights 10 50 pm

March 21 (Saturday) — First semi final at Auckland Live telecast 3 30 am to 7 am on Channel I 7 45 am to 8 25 am on Channel II 8 25 am to 8 30 am recap on Channel II 8 30 am to 11 15 am on Channel I
Special highlights 1 30 am (Sunday)

March 22 (Sunday) — Second semi-final at Sydney Live telecast 10 00 am to 1 30 pm and 2 15 pm to 5 45 pm
Special highlights 11 20 pm

March 25 (Wednesday) — Final at Melbourne Live telecast 10 00 am to 1 30 pm and 2 15 pm to 5 45 pm
Special highlights 10 50 pm

wickets. ... best of our a... we shouldn't d... be play to the b...

But being here so ...

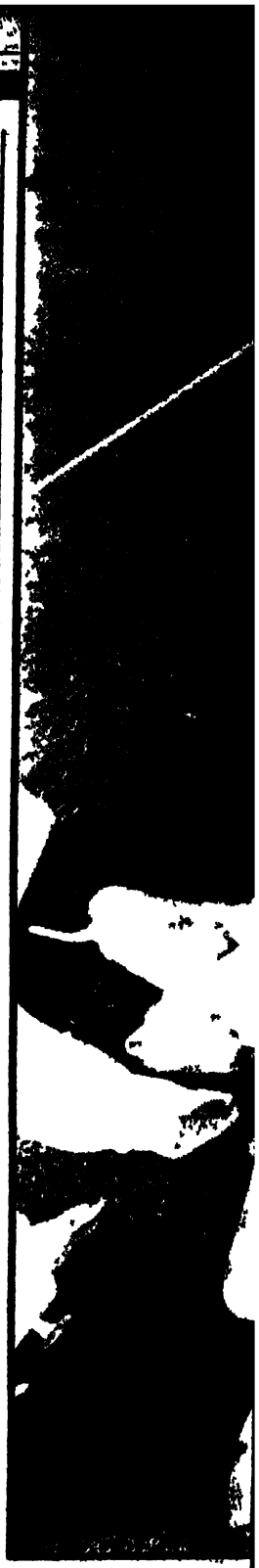
side to it. The team might be tired and jaded?
Well, if youngsters get jaded at this age then I have nothing to say. But there is a point in what you say. Personally, I would have liked the team to have gone back home for a week or so after the Perth Test, and then return for a week of warm-up matches before the World Cup. It would have been much better if we had a rest. If we had gone home, then we could have got back our enthusiasm. This is the longest tour I've been on—almost five months—it's really hard.

Instead of a rest at home, you are forced into a series of warm-up matches, in which you are merely going through the motions. Why didn't you tell the Board how you feel, if you felt this way? You knew the itinerary before you came here.
The Board is aware of my feelings. Yes, I did see the itinerary before it was approved and did voice my concern, but with little success. That's the Board's decision. That's the way it is. I thought we should have had a rest We had a very long tour and too many games. Not many people are really into the warm-ups and I can't blame them. (Incidentally Azhar dropped out of the first two warm-up matches complaining of a knee injury).

The defeats and the length of the tour haven't done any good for your team, their confidence, morale and mental attitude. You have spoken so much about mental attitude, so what are you doing about this aspect for the World Cup?
You can't do anything really. You can tell them as much as you want, but once they are out in the middle, they are on their own. If you are in the Indian team and don't know what to do out there in the middle, or what is expected of you, then there is very little anybody can do for you. At this stage, there isn't much to say really. And frankly, we have done too much talking over the last two months. It's time for some action now—and satisfaction.

After the 4-0 loss in the Test series, there has been plenty of criticism in the press about your captaincy and the team's performance. What kind of pressure does that put on you?
I don't even know what criticism you are talking about. And since I don't know what the criticism is, since I haven't seen anything, how can there be any pressure?

Would you be relieved if you lost the captaincy?
I'm not really worried about all this. I don't read newspapers, so I don't know what people are saying.



I'm not really worried about all this (criticism). I don't read newspapers, so I don't know what people are saying.



SANTOSH GHOSH

But closing your mind and ears to the problem isn't going to solve anything?
It's not closing your mind. I mean if one newspaper can carry a story that, 'Kapil Dev ditches the Indian team after the disastrous Perth Test', then they can say anything. I mean everyone knew that Kapil was going home. I even gave my consent because I felt the whole team should have gone back, and then these newspaper people come out with that story. What else can one say?

But do you know that you have come under fire in the Indian press?
To be frank, it doesn't bother me any longer. They have their job to do and I will just go out there and do my job. After that it is up to the selectors.

Do you know that there was an opinion poll in India where the majority of the people voted for Kapil Dev as captain?
I have nothing to say about all this. It doesn't worry me as I have said before. I have no time for all this. Polls are a political thing and we are playing cricket. What do they have to do with each other? This is not politics where polls decide matters. We are not playing for the public. The public is involved, of course, but we are playing for the country.

The major criticism about you, and your captaincy, is that you are too soft a person; not assertive enough. How do you react to this?
If I were a 'softie' as you say, then I would have been stripped off my captaincy a long time ago. But that's the way I am. I don't think it is right or necessary to shout at people on the field for anything. That's the way I am and it will be hard for me to change.

But shouting and being assertive can be two different things altogether!
So, is the fact that I'm too unassuming to be the captain of India to go against me? I don't like throwing my weight around. I don't believe that because I am skipper I am above the rest. Or that I can have any airs and graces about me. I don't do anything extra. I'm still the same old person. I have'nt changed because I am captain. That's the way I am and that's the way I will be.

One of the criticisms against you has been, that you are reluctant to change the batting order during a limited-overs game. Is that true?
No, very often during the WSC games we had two or three players padded up, and we were ready to send anyone.

But eventually there were no changes. Will there be during the World Cup?
Yes,there might. We are keeping our minds open to change. We are planning to shuffle around the batting order a bit, but again all depending on the circumstances.

Will Shastri's return be a great relief to you?
Ravi will add stability to the innings. And if Srikkanth can go out there and play as he normally does, the Srikkanth way, and not try to cut his shots, then we will have a start which will provide a solid foundation for our innings. But I must add that Ravi should also look after his injury. But now that he is better he should give us the stability.

Do you realise that a bad World Cup could mean the end of your captaincy?
I believe in fate. Nothing else worries me. I have a job to do and I will do it the best that I can.

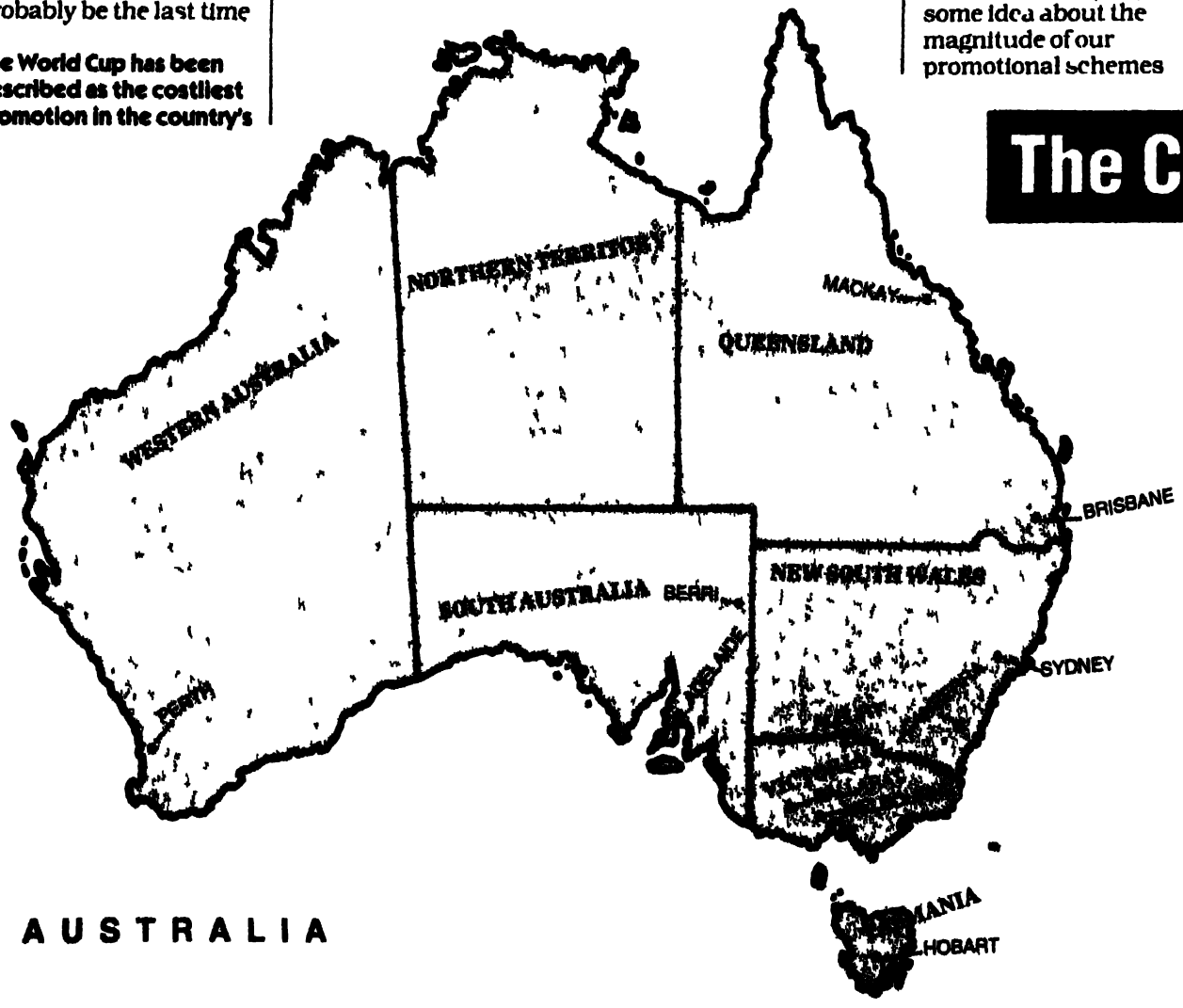
'India's Standards Wil

Admits DAVID RICHARDS, the Peter Ueberroth of the World Cup Down Under, relating his experiences as the Chief Executive of the Australian Board, in organising the biggest cricket carnival in the country's sporting history...

SPORTSWORLD: You have been involved in the day-to-day planning of the World Cup. What kind of work has this involved?
DAVID RICHARDS It has required all the planning strategy and dedication of a military operation This is the first time that we have got involved in a venture as big as this and judging by the amount of work involved it will probably be the last time

The World Cup has been described as the costliest promotion in the country's sporting history.Can you give us a roughidea of the promotion and how much it has cost?
I really don t know whether this is the biggest promotion in sport And I m afraid I can t disclose things like budgets on promotion, sponsorships and the rest All this we keep very confidential Apart from the financial aspects however I can give you some idea about the magnitude of our promotional schemes

The Cup



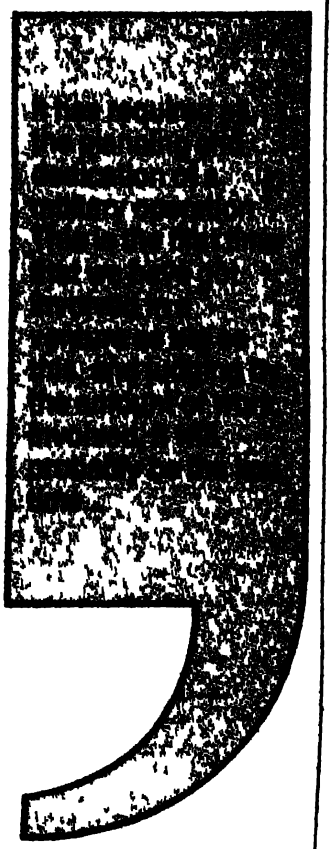
Be Hard To Match'

We obviously have a lot of plans for the TV, and besides we have a two and a half minute song which is based on the 'Who Will Rule The World' concept You could call it a theme song It will be played prior to the start of every match We also have a national radio campaign Of course, the promotion is being handled by an advertising and a marketing consultancy

What is the break-up of the prize money and are there any other sponsors?
The winning team will get $50,000, the runner-up $25,000 and the two losing semi-finalists $12,500 each Of course, apart from this there are the Man of the Match and other awards

Of course, Benson and Hedges are the major sponsors having been associated with Australian cricket for 19 long years. But there are others helping out as well. Ansett Australia will fly all the teams around the continent for all the matches this summer Kookabura, apart from supplying the white balls will supply the biggest assortment of coloured pads ever to be on show

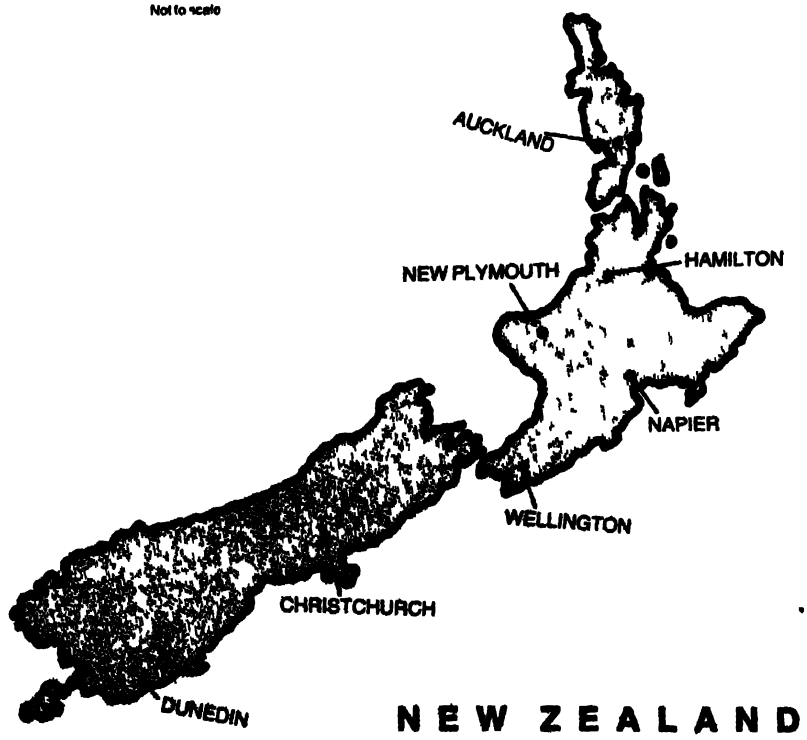
We even have an official wine sponsor—Tyrrell's will supply wine for the major World Cup functions and the hospitality areas. Nissan Motors will be presenting a Nissan 300 to the man of the tournament, who will be called the "World Cup Champion."



It is obvious that you went out of your way to accommodate South Africa. Did you do this merely for the financial gain or were you prepared for their return and had things ready, anyway?
No, we weren't ready In fact, the task became more demanding after South Africa's late entry.

Territory

Not to scale



BENSON & HEDGES WORLD CUP – 1992

NZ	Aus.	Match	Place	Umpires	Timing(IST)
22	Feb.	Australia vs New Zealand	Auckland	Hayat(P) Shepherd(E)	5.00am
	22	England vs India	Perth*	Buultjens(SL) McConnell(A)	11.00am
23		Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe	New Plymouth	Reporter(I) Woodward(NZ)	4.00am
	23	West Indies vs Pakistan	Melbourne	Randell(A) Robinson(Z)	4.30am
25		New Zealand vs Sri Lanka	Hamilton	Reporter(I) Shepherd(E)	4.00am
	26	Australia vs South Africa	Sydney*	Aldridge(NZ) Bucknor(WI)	10.00am
	27	Pakistan vs Zimbabwe	Hobart	Buultjens(SL) Randell(A)	5.00am
	27	England vs West Indies	Melbourne*	Liebenberg(SA) Woodward(NZ)	10.00am
	28	India vs Sri Lanka	Mackay	Robinson(Z) Shepherd(E)	4.30am
29		South Africa vs New Zealand	Auckland	Hayat(P) Reporter(I)	4.00am
	29	West Indies vs Zimbabwe	Brisbane	Liebenberg(SA) Woodward(NZ)	4.30am
Mar.	1	Australia vs India	Brisbane	Aldridge(NZ) Robinson(Z)	4.30am
	1	England vs Pakistan	Adelaide	Bucknor(WI) McConnell(A)	5.00am
2		South Africa vs Sri Lanka	Wellington	Hayat(P) Woodward(NZ)	4.00am
3		New Zealand vs Zimbabwe	Napier	Buultjens(SL) Liebenberg(SA)	4.00am
	4	India vs Pakistan	Sydney*	McConnell(A) Shepherd(E)	10 00am
5		South Africa vs West Indies	Christchurch	Aldridge(NZ) Randell(A)	4 00am
	5	England vs Australia	Sydney*	Bucknor(WI) Hayat(P)	10.00am
7		India vs Zimbabwe	Hamilton	Buultjens(SL) Randell(A)	4.00am
	7	Australia vs Sri Lanka	Adelaide	Reporter(I) Robinson(Z)	5.00am
8		West Indies vs New Zealand	Auckland	Liebenberg(SA) McConnell(A)	4.00am
	8	South Africa vs Pakistan	Brisbane	Aldridge(NZ) Bucknor(WI)	4.30am
	9	England vs Sri Lanka	Ballarat	Hayat(P) Reporter(I)	4.30am
10		West Indies vs India	Wellington	Randell(A) Woodward(NZ)	4.00am
	10	South Africa vs Zimbabwe	Canberra	Bucknor(WI) Shepherd(E)	4.30am
	11	Australia vs Pakistan	Perth*	Liebenberg(SA) Reporter(I)	11.00am
12		New Zealand vs India	Dunedin	McConnell(A) Robinson(Z)	4.00am
	12	England vs South Africa	Melbourne*	Aldridge(NZ) Buultjens(SL)	10.00am
	13	West Indies vs Sri Lanka	Berri	Shepherd(E) Woodward(NZ)	5.00am
	14	Australia vs Zimbabwe	Hobart	Aldridge(NZ) Bucknor(WI)	6.00am
15		England vs New Zealand	Wellington	Randell(A) Robinson(Z)	3.30am
	15	South Africa vs India	Adelaide	Buultjens(SL) Hayat(P)	5.00am
	16	Pakistan vs Sri Lanka	Perth	Liebenberg(SA) McConnell(A)	6.00am
18		New Zealand vs Pakistan	Christchurch	Bucknor(WI) Randell(A)	3.30am
	18	England vs Zimbabwe	Albury	Aldridge(NZ) Hayat(P)	4.30am
	18	Australia vs West Indies	Melbourne*	Reporter(I) Shepherd(E)	10.00am
21		FIRST SEMI-FINAL	Auckland		6.30am
	22	SECOND SEMI-FINAL	Sydney*		10.00am
	25	FINAL	Melbourne*		10.00am

* Day/Night Match.
Note : IST timinge can differ by half an hour

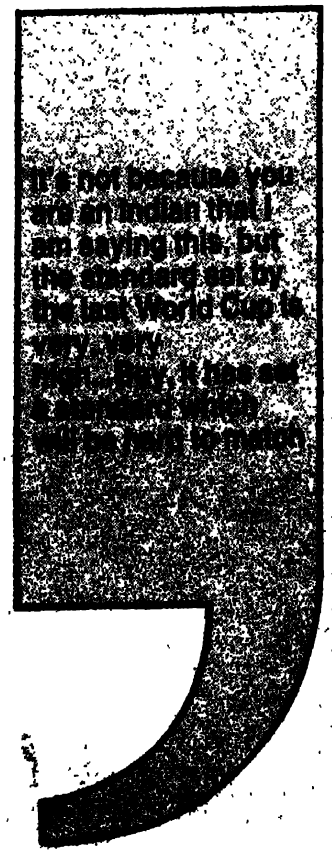
Chart by Niiratan Maity

But both we and the New Zealand Board were determined to have the South Africans, if they were allowed and we were prepared to make sacrifices to accommodate them. To give you an example; John Armstrong, a computer expert from the Victoria College in Melbourne, and myself had spent the equivalent of a full month working through millions of possibilities on a computer to schedule the games the best way possible. When South Africa was admitted the whole thing had to be redone. Eight extra games were added to the schedule in the same time span. Travel requirements and practice dates had to be rearranged, ticket advertising had to be delayed and the entire promotional arrangements had to be redone to include the South Africans.

With so much hard work gone in, you must be hoping that the tournament will be worth the effort. What kind of response have you got till now?
Well, obviously we are looking for popular support to the tournament. More than 110,00 tickets have already been sold in Australia.

There is this feeling that the overkill of one-day cricket in Australia might hamper the World Cup?
I was asked this same question on radio the other day and I told them that they were very wrong in thinking that way. The fact that our ticket sales are already past budget predictions means that the people have realised through our promotions that the World Cup is a once-in-a-lifetime chance. It comes just as the Haley's comet does.

People feel strongly that this is a prestigious international event. During the normal season in which we had the West Indies, India and the home team, we broke out just about bang on target and that included some matches being affected by bad weather. And though I must admit our budget for that was conservative, we did well to be on budget. So, I see no reason why people should not respond to an event no one should miss for anything.



So what kind of a profit are you looking at?
Well, you must remember that we promised to pay the ICC members including associate members, as well. The set-up costs for the tournament are over $7 million. By 'set-up' costs, I mean just to get the show on the road. The running of the games etc are over and above this. So, if the weather and public support is on our side, we expect a marginal profit. We won't make a loss that's for sure, but the idea that we will come out of this with a massive profit is wrong. This is a World Cup and not a tournament for the Australian or New Zealand Board.
One of the great myths is that huge money is to be made out of a World Cup.

So what you are saying is that the success you are looking for is not only in terms of money but organisation as well.
Surely. We don't want to be out of pocket. We just want the tournament to be a success financially and organisationally. It's not because you are an Indian that I am saying this, but the standard set by the last World Cup is very, very high. I was on that management committee and I say that, that tournament was a grand success, not because we won it, but because of the organisation. You people didn't think it was so successful, may be because you didn't win. But boy, it has set a standard which will be hard to match.

But why was it that you in Australia didn't go for the World Cup alone? Why was New Zealand involved in the first place?
This effort has always been a joint venture for us. It all began in June 19 when Mr Bob Vance, chairman of the then New Zealand Cricket Council put the idea into our heads during the International Cricket Conference meeting. We were extremely receptive to the idea and became more so after Australia won the Reliance Cup. A week after our triumph at the Eden Gardens I wrote to my counterpart in New Zealand, Graham Dowling to tell him officially that we would support a joint bid between the two countries. It was their idea after all.

What kind of effect do you think the World Cup might have on the struggling Australian economy?
It will obviously make its small contribution in tourist money and the inflow of foreign currency. But, the details will be known only after the tournament when we will release a report on the World Cup's effect on the economy of the country.

With just a few more days remaining for the opening ceremony, is everything under control?
Yes, I should think so. We have the experience of holding major cricket matches. So we know what to do. But, of course, it is something much bigger than what we have experienced before. We are still working overtime, but I think once the show's on the road, it will be one smooth and fascinating cricketing carnival.
Andy O'Brien, Melbourne

WORLD CUP RECORDS

PERFORMANCES OF EACH COUNTRY

Country	Year	Played	Won (2 pts)	Lost	Abandoned (1 pt)	Success %	Reached S/F	Reached Final	Cup Won
West Indies	1975-'87	24	18	5	1	77.08	3	3	2
England	1975-'87	24	17	7	—	70.83	4	2	—
Australia	1975-'87	22	13	9	—	59.09	2	2	1
India	1975-'87	21	12	9	—	57.14	2	1	1
Pakistan	1975-'87	21	11	10	—	52.38	3	—	—
New Zealand	1975-'87	20	9	11	—	45.00	2*	—	—
Sri Lanka	1975-'87	18	2	15	1	13.88	—	—	—
Zimbabwe	1983-'87	12	1	11	—	8.33	—	—	—
East Africa	1975	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Canada	1975	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—

Note: The match between West Indies and Sri Lanka at the Oval in 1979 was abandoned without a ball bowled.



HIGHEST INNINGS TOTALS (300+ only)

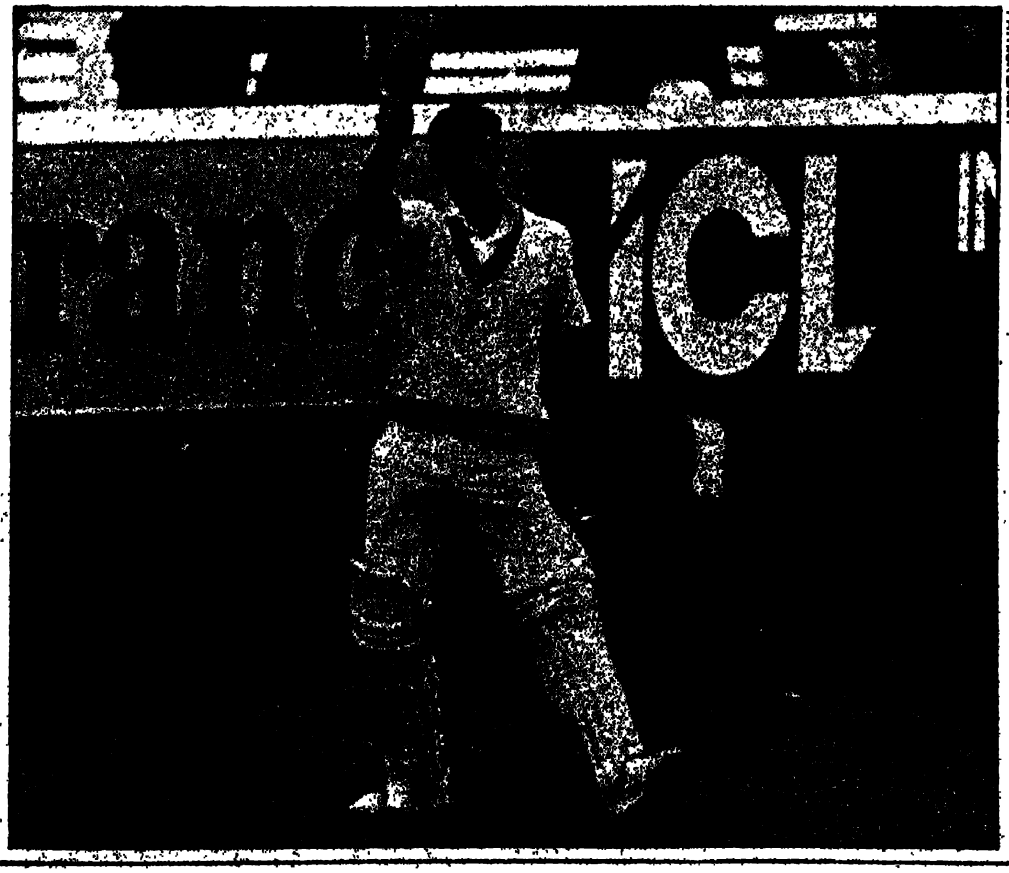
Score	Overs			
360-4/60		West Indies v Sri Lanka	Karachi	1987
338-6/60		Pakistan v Sri Lanka	Swansea	1983
334-4/60		England v India	Lord's	1975
333-9/60		England v Sri Lanka	Taunton	1983
330-6/60		Pakistan v Sri Lanka	Nottingham	1975
328-5/60		Australia v Sri Lanka	The Oval	1975
322-6/60		England v New Zealand	The Oval	1983
320-9/60		Australia v India	Nottingham	1983
309-5/60		New Zealand v East Africa	Birmingham	1975

Highest for other countries

289-6/60	India v Australia	Delhi	1987
288-6/60	Sri Lanka v Pakistan	Swansea	1983
240 59.5	Zimbabwe v Australia	Southampton	1983

LOWEST TOTALS (99 or less)

45 /40.3	Canada v England	Manchester	1979
86 /37.2	Sri Lanka v West Indies	Manchester	1975
93 /36.2	England v Australia	Leeds	1975
94 /52.3	East Africa v England	Birmingham	1975



PATRICK EAGAR

(Extreme left) The frugal and the prolific: World Cup's most economical bowler Bishen Bedi in conference with Mohammad Azharuddin

Richard Hadlee (left): the superior being

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

181	Vivian Richards (West Indies) v Sri Lanka	Karachi	[illegible]

BIGGEST VICTORY MARGINS

10 wickets	India beat East Africa	Leeds	[illegible]
	West Indies beat Zimbabwe	Birmingham	[illegible]
202 runs	England beat India	Lord's	[illegible]

NARROWEST VICTORY MARGINS

1 wicket	West Indies beat Pakistan	Birmingham	[illegible]
1 wicket	Pakistan beat West Indies	Lahore	[illegible]
1 run	Australia beat India	Madras	[illegible]

BOWLING — BREAK-UP FOR EACH COUNTRY

	Matches	Runs given	Overs bowled	Wickets taken	Runs per over	Runs per wkt
West Indies	23	4821	1220.2	196	3.95	24.59
England	24	4689	1267.3	191	3.70	24.54
Australia	22	4841	1097.1	173	4.41	27.98
India	21	4544	1119.2	162	4.06	28.04
Pakistan	21	4739	1146.5	167	4.12	28.37
New Zealand	20	4404	1054.2	145	4.17	30.37
Sri Lanka	17	4234	835.4	91	5.06	46.53
Zimbabwe	12	2612	579.4	61	4.51	42.82
Canada	3	292	99	7	2.95	41.71
East Africa	3	722	149.5	10	4.81	72.20
	83	35898	8951.5	1203	4.10	29.84

RECORD WICKET PARTNERSHIPS

1st	182*	Rugby McKosker and Adam Turner (Aust)	[illegible]
2nd	176	Dennis Amiss and Keith Fletcher (Eng)	[illegible]
3rd	195*	Gordon Greenidge and Larry Gomes (WI)	[illegible]
4th	149	Rohan Kanhai and Clive Lloyd (WI)	[illegible]
5th	139	Vivian Richards and Collis King (WI)	[illegible]
6th	144	Imran Khan and Shahid Mahboob (Pak)	[illegible]
7th	75	Duncan Fletcher and Iain Butcher (Zim)	[illegible]
8th	124	Dave Houghton and Iain Butchart (Zim)	[illegible]
9th	131	Kapil Dev and Syed Kirmani (Ind)	[illegible]
10th	71	Andy Roberts and Joel Garner (WI)	[illegible]



Kapil Dev: the team-man

Viv Richards: the soloist



Chetan Sharma the one and the only



MOST EXPENSIVE BOWLING

O	M	R	W				
12	1	105	2	Martin Bicknell (1st Test)	v England	The Oval	1996

5 WICKETS IN AN INNINGS

		Against		
7-51	Winston Davis (West Indies)	Australia	Leeds	1983
6-11	Gary Gilmour (Australia)	England	Leeds	1975
6-39	Ken MacLeay (Australia)	India	Birmingham	1963
6-21	Allan Hurst (Australia)	Canada	Birmingham	1979
6-25	Richard Hadlee (New Zealand)	Sri Lanka	Bristol	1983
5-32	Asantha De Mel (Sri Lanka)	New Zealand	Derby	1983
5-34	Dennis Lillee (Australia)	Pakistan	Leeds	1975
5-35	Joel Garner (West Indies)	England	Lord's	1979
5-39	Asantha De Mel (Sri Lanka)	Pakistan	Leeds	1983
5-39	Vic Marks (England)	Sri Lanka	Taunton	1983
5-43	Kapil Dev (India)	Australia	Nottingham	1983
5-44	Allan Donald (South Africa)	Sri Lanka	Leeds	1998
5-47	Greg Thompson (Australia)	Pakistan	Lahore	1987
5-48	Graham Dilley (England)	West Indies	Leeds	1979
			Nottingham	1998
				1987

Compiled by East Kent Drivesolve

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WORLD CUP

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which is the only team to have made it to all the semi-finals of the World Cup?

2. Which cricketer was awarded three consecutive 'Man of the Match' awards during the 1987 Reliance World Cup?



13. Identify this player

3. Imran Khan of Pakistan will be leading his country for the third consecutive World Cup. Whose feat will he be emulating?

4. Who is the only cricketer to have scored four consecutive half-centuries in the World Cup?

5. In the 1979 World Cup, a match was abandoned without a single ball being bowled due to heavy rain. It was deferred twice, but play was still not possible. Which were the teams involved?

6. A father and son combination have played in the World Cup, but for different countries. Identify them and for which countries did they play?

7. Kapil Dev and another player hold the record for having taken 12 catches each in a World Cup. Who is the other player?

8. Two countries, which participated in different World Cups, have the same distinction of having played only three matches and lost all three. Name the two countries.

9. During the World Cup in 1975 three brothers played for the same team against England. Name them.

10. Which cricketer has scored the maximum number of runs in the four World Cups held so far?

11. Who were the umpires of the 1987 World Cup final held at Eden Garden, Calcutta?

12. In the history of the World Cup, only four times has a wicketkeeper won the 'Man of the Match' award. Dave Hougton won it twice and Salim Yousuf once. Who was the other?



14. ENG. vs WI 1979 WORLD CUP FINAL: Identify this batsman

PREDICTIONS

16. Which country is going to win the 1992 World Cup?

17. Who is going to be the 'Man of the Match' in the final?

18. Which bowler is going to get the highest number of wickets in the 1992 World Cup?

19. Which batsman is going to score the maximum number of runs in the 1992 World Cup?

20. Who is going to score the fastest century of the 1992 World Cup?

RULES

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

Address your entries to: SPORTSWORLD AGFA WORLD CUP QUIZ, 21, RAJA RAJ KRISHNA STREET, CALCUTTA-700 001.

15. ENG. vs NZ. 1983 WORLD CUP. Identify the wicketkeeper



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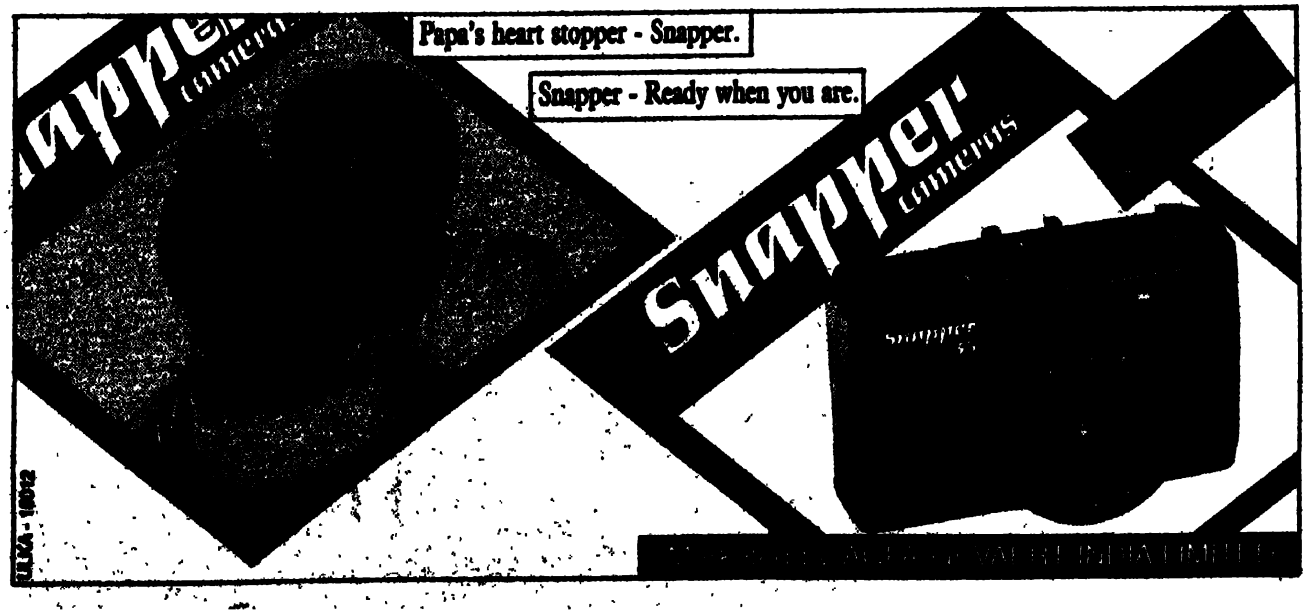
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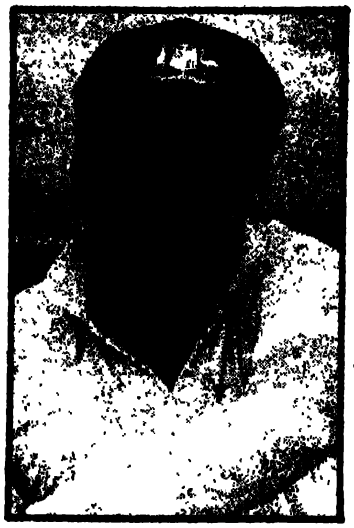
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SPECIAL FEATURE

"HOW I'D LOVE TO BE IN TENDULKAR'S SHOES!"



DEAN JONES assesses the series that was

ANOTHER Test series over and a few more lessons learnt about this great game.

The main thing the Australian batsmen learnt was never to underestimate a bowling attack made up of medium-fast swing bowlers. After England belted India all over the park in their Test series in England in 1990, we thought this Indian attack would be easy pickings. How wrong we were.

Maybe we were complacent early and then too cautious later on but they really did bowl well. Even when one of us go to 60 or 70, we never felt in total control. We always knew, another surprise was coming and it made us wary.

Kapil Dev is still a great bowler and Manoj Prabhakar a great competitor with a big bag of tricks. Young Jawagal Srinath had to be the most unlucky bowler in the series. He beat the bat so many times but could not seem to get an edge. He is young, had played only a small amount of first-class cricket before this tour and this was his first Test series. With Dennis Lillee's continued coaching, Srinath's turn will come.

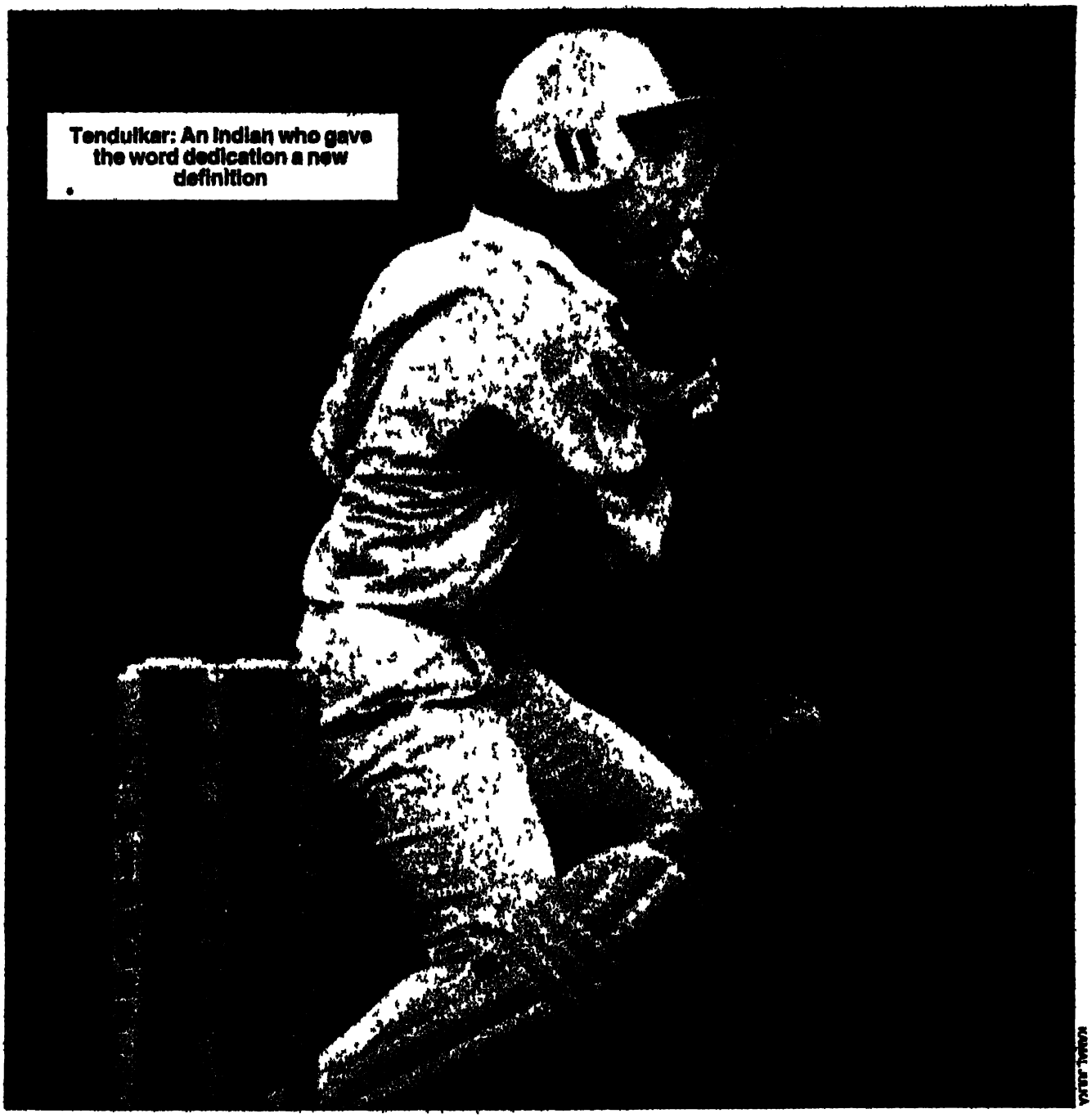
The spinner, Venkat Raju, is one of the best I've faced in quite a while. He might not look too threatening with that casual stroll to the wicket but he can certainly bowl. He's a good bloke as well. He enjoys a joke and a chat and, unusual for an Indian, a few beers too.

Not that the other Indians aren't good blokes. A lot of the players on both sides played under-19s together and so have known each other for years. The teams have got on very well for a while now and this summer was no different. In fact, both sides went to Geoff Marsh's place for a get-together during the last Test and it was terrific that all the Indians came along.

I must say I was surprised that Craig McDermott beat David Boon for the International Cricketer of the Year. McDermott's bowling was magnificent throughout, but in a series dominated more by ball than bat, I thought Boonie's consistency and the way he held our batting

Kapil Dev: short circuited many an Australian innings





Tendulkar: An Indian who gave the word dedication a new definition

together under pressure was fantastic. The voting must have been close.

While we're on batting, what a player Sachin Tendulkar is. How I'd love to be in his shoes.

I've never seen an 18-year-old with that much confidence and ability. Already he's played a couple of dozen one-dayers and made three Test centuries from 16 Tests. Early on, we worked out that a few of the Indian batsmen were a little afraid when the going got really tough but that kid is fearless. I just hope they don't give him the captaincy too early. Let him make heaps of runs first. The cricket world needs him.

As well as Dennis Lillee coaching Srinath and company, I hear that the Indians have asked Greg Chappell to coach their batting. Good luck to the Indians, but let's hope we Australians make use of our former great players, too.

COURTESY THE SUNDAY AGE

ANALYSIS

CHANCES ARE...

With the World Cup extravaganza approaching its final countdown DAVID McMAHON provides a case study of the teams and predicts their chances

IF the first three World Cups—in 1975, 1979 and 1983 held on English soil—was traditional with the West Indies winning the first two and, just as they were tipped to win the third, being upset by India (the side that beat them not once but twice in the competition), the fourth World Cup was a brave notion by definition For, it was the first time that the tournament had been held outside England and also the first time it had been hosted by two different countries India, reigning champions, co hosted the 1987 tournament with Pakistan and Australia beat England in an engrossing final Now once again the reigning champions—in this case, Australia will host the tournament, sharing the responsibility and costs with New Zealand.

Across the Tasman Sea, there has been much turbulence in the run-up to the [illegible]. New Zealand have been humbled by a resurgent England in the recent Test series and, more ominously, there have been rumblings in the media about the quality of captaincy Martin Crowe, the man who was supposed to lead the New Zealand renaissance, has been proved mortal after all He not only lost the Test series to England, he was also subsequently castigated by the press

A week ago, Sir Richard Hadlee, speaking exclusively to this correspondent, mused that Crowe might even be forced to give up the captaincy Hadlee would make no comment about whether or not he believed that Crowe should give up the job, saying only that there was a campaign for the younger of the Crowe brothers to step aside. Lack of runs and self confidence aren't the only problems that Crowe is facing presently These problems are compounded by an injury which might not only cost him a berth in the Test side but also the captaincy. Moreover, critics should not be surprised if Crowe doesn't play in the World Cup at all.

Things are not so rosy for the West Indies either. They struggled early in the triangular series, the sort of performance that brought to mind the prediction by Gordon Greenidge, two year ago (and published in this magazine), that the mighty West Indies would start to falter



Australia are the odds on favourites. The world could well be witness to Border's greatest triumph: winning the Cup at home

unless they could produce the sort of world-class batsmen to take his place and that of Richards and Haynes. "There has never been any doubt about our bowling," he said, "but we have to find batting of the same calibre."



Things have been turbulent on the South African cricketing front as well. The cricket world was taken by surprise last month, when it was announced that Rice was not among the probables for the World Cup. It was an acrimonious point for a team that was just re-entering the world stage. Rice went public with his belief that his omission was the result of a vendetta; but nothing would alter the state of affairs and captaincy was passed on to Kepler Wessels.

Wessels himself is no stranger to big-time international cricket. Like Allan Lamb and Graeme Hick, Wessels saw that he had to establish himself in another country if he were to get a break into Test cricket. He chose Australia as his launching-pad, making the Test squad in 1981 and scoring a century in his debut Test. He will now have the honour of having worn the colours to two cricketing countries and is expected to lead the South Africans with the same sort of flair and undoubted class that he has so often displayed at the crease.

Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe will not be among the contenders at the final hurdle, but they cannot be counted out. Both teams play the game hard, revel in a challenge, and can be unorthodox to a point. The other teams, which have in their meetings with these two countries, grown so used to treating them as cannon fodder will soon learn not to underestimate two potentially tough cricketing nations.

Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe will not be among the contenders at the final hurdle, but they cannot be counted out. Both teams play the game hard, revel in a challenge, and can be unorthodox to a point. The other teams so used to treating them as cannon fodder will soon learn not to underestimate two potentially tough cricketing nations

And what of the 1983 champions, India? On present form, the Indians have improved with every Test although losing the series by an unflattering margin to Australia. The bowling has been consistent, but the batting has often flattered to deceive. The batting strength implied by the fact that Kapil Dev, Manoj Prabhakar and Kiran More are low down in the order has never really surfaced. There have been a few individual performances, but apart from Sachin Tendulkar—and the now-fit Ravi Shastri on occasion—few of the Indian batsmen have



Martin Crowe's lack of form and fitness could lead to him being absent from the World Cup

found form for a long period of time. Unless his senior colleagues can emulate Tendulkar, India will have to be very lucky to find a berth in the finals.

The Pakistanis, as they always have been, will be a major threat in this competition, perhaps more dangerous than ever before with their great depth and variety in bowling and their maturity and sheer class in batting. There will be little to separate them from among the top contenders and they must count among the top three challengers.

return off Botham and the coming of age of Phil Tufnell as a spinner, could only augur well for the English.

And the favourites for the title? At this stage, look no further than Australia. Why? Read on.

Depth of talent. This is a squad that has, at various stages in their member of meetings with India, left out players of the calibre of both Waugh brothers, Mark Taylor, Bruce Reid, Dean Jones and Geoff Marsh and still not felt the difference.

Fielding. The Australians save more

And the favourites for the title? Australia. It is the sort of team which will fight to the bitter end even if the cause seems lost. And, more important, it is the sort of team that believes that it has the ability to perform cricket miracles.

With Imran Khan at the helm, they will be professionally marshalled and led, and with Javed Miandad back in the squad, they will have the sort of batting genius to salvage even a match that looks hopelessly lost.

England seems to have been re-born as a tough, professional side, a far cry from the disparate unit four years ago which capped so many players in the series against the West Indies and which went through so many captains before the job was handed to Graham Gooch. They have ground the New Zealanders in the current series, their batting often awesome, their fielding tight, their approach professionally tight in the extreme. The runs in the field than most Test tailenders have scored in an entire career. They field spectacularly close to the wicket as well as in the outfield, and their throwing and catching must make them one of the quickest on-the-ball sides ever.

Commitment. This is the sort of squad that will make 250 when most others would be content with 225. It is the sort of team that will cut off twos and threes to singles. It is the sort of team that will fight to the bitter end even if the cause seems lost. And, more important, it is the sort of team that believes—and rightly so—that it has the ability to perform cricket miracles. ●

WORLD CUP TRIVIA

VIVIAN RICHARDS is the first player (and so far the only one) to aggregate 1000 runs in World Cup matches and now has a tally of 1013 runs in 25 matches at an average of 63.31.

IN 1975, Gary Gilmour of Australia took 6 wickets for 14 runs in the semi-final against England at Leeds and followed up the performance with 5 for 48 in the final against West Indies. His feat was emulated by Asantha De Mel of Sri Lanka in 1983 when he took 5 for 39 and 5 for 32 in two matches, against Pakistan at Leeds and against New Zealand at Derby.

IMRAN KHAN and Javed Miandad are likely to be the only players to play in all the five World Cups.

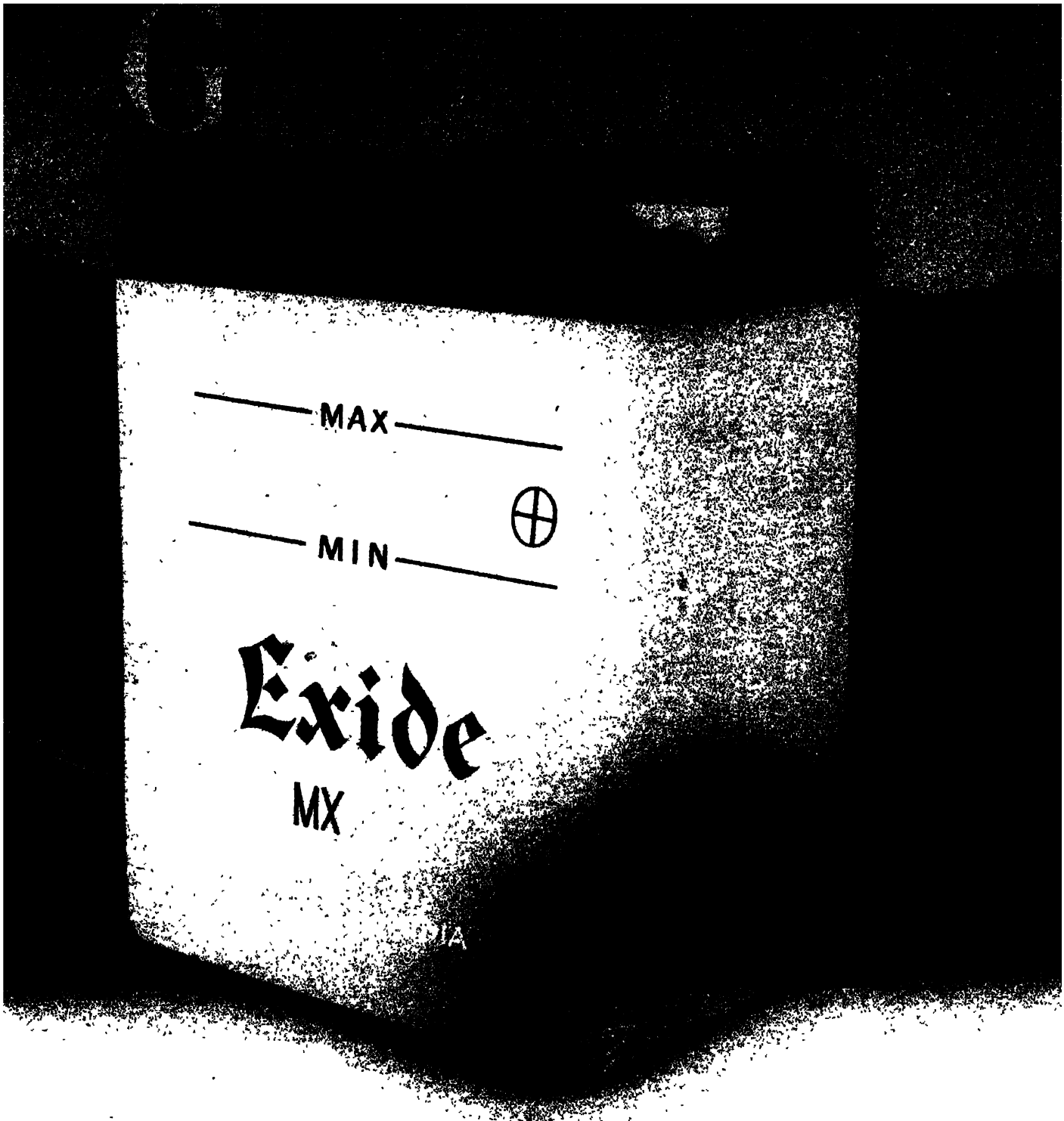
ALVIN KALLICHARRAN, the diminutive West Indian left hander—in what was then billed as a pace-for-pace match—punished Australian spearhead Dennis Lillee for 4-4-4-4-4-1-4-6-0-4 in one gorgeous sequence.

IN 1983, Bob Willis the England skipper, was adjudged the Man of the Match for his captaincy in the match against Sri Lanka at Leeds.

THE 1992 World Cup jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand and sponsored by Benson and Hedges has two major innovations in that the nine participating teams are playing each other once and a number of matches are to be played under floodlights.

THE West Indies-Sri Lanka match at Old Trafford on June 7, 1975, during the first World Cup, finished in the shortest time. The match lasted for only 58 overs. Sri Lanka batted first and were all out for only 86 runs in 47.3 overs. West Indies reached the victory target by scoring 87 for one in 20.4 overs. After that, both the teams engaged in an exhibition match to satisfy the spectators.

[illegible] has represented the [illegible] in most matches (33) of the [illegible]



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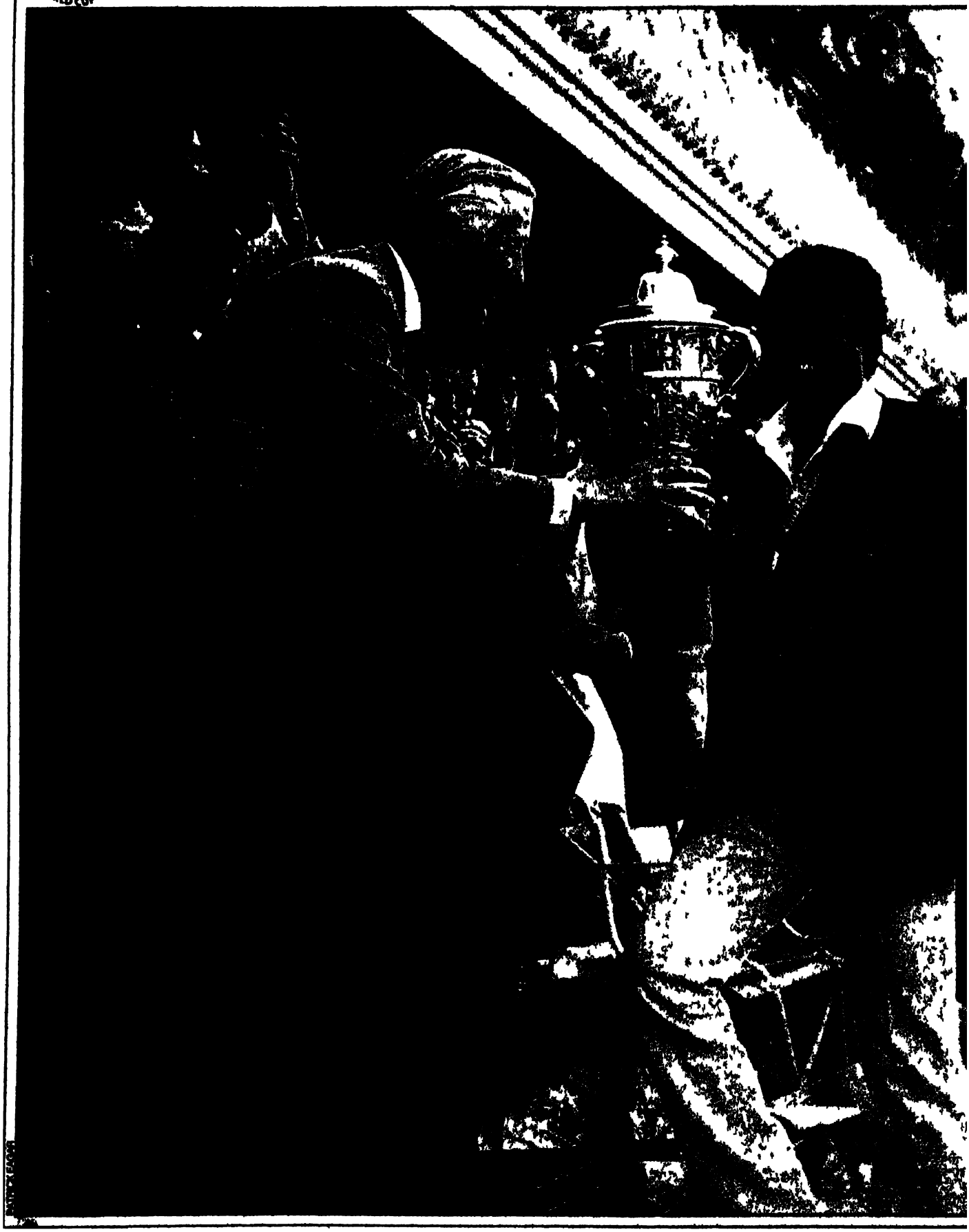
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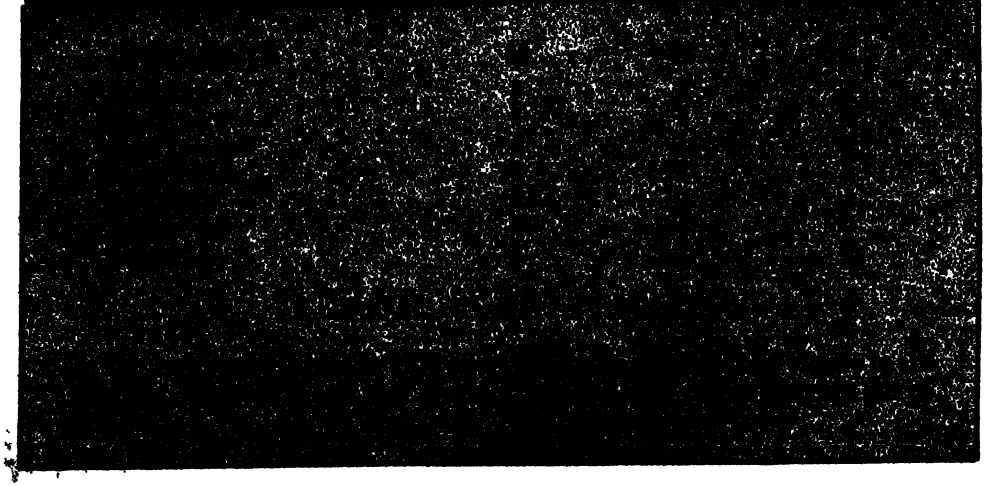
THE TRACK RECORD

WEST INDIES

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
Sri Lanka	3	3	0
Pakistan	5	4	1
Australia	4	4	0
New Zealand	2	2	0
India	4	2	2
England	3	1	2
Zimbabwe	2	2	0
TOTAL:	23	18	5

* West Indies won nearly 80 per sent of the total number of matches played in the last four World Cups, out of which they remained unbeaten (won all) in first two competitions.

INDIA



Kapil Dev receives the Cup in 1983 after beating the West Indies in a scintillating final

AUSTRALIA

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
[illegible]			
[illegible]			
[illegible]			
[illegible]			
[illegible]			
Zimbabwe	1	1	
India	4	3	
New Zealand	2	1	
TOTAL:	22	13	9

* Out of a total number of 13 wins, Australia [illegible] Reliance Cup, final.

PAKISTAN

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
Australia	3	1	2
West Indies	5	1	4
Sri Lanka	5	5	0
Canada	1	1	0
England	5	2	3
New Zealand	2	1	1
TOTAL:	21	11	10

* Pakistan reached in the semi-finals in three consecutive World Cups.

NEW ZEALAND

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
East Africa	1	1	0
England	4	1	3
India	4	2	2
West Indies	2	0	2
Sri Lanka	3	2	1
Pakistan	2	1	1
Zimbabwe	2	2	0
Australia	2	0	2
TOTAL:	20	9	11

* In the first two World Cups, New Zealand reached the semi final: but in the third Prudential Cup, they failed to achieve this feat narrowly.

SRI LANKA

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
West Indies	3	0	3
Australia	1	0	1
Pakistan	5	0	5
New Zealand	3	1	2
India	1	1	0
England	4	0	4
TOTAL:	17	2	15



PATRICK EAGAR





ENGLAND

OPPONENTS			
India	3	2	1
New Zealand	4	3	1
East Africa	1	1	0
Australia	3	1	2
Canada	1	1	0
Pakistan	3	1	2
West Indies	3	2	1
Sri Lanka	4	4	0
TOTALS:	24	17	7

England won over 70 per cent of the total number of matches they played in the four World Cups. But sadly they could not win the title even once in spite of reaching the finals twice.

LET THE PASSION



HERO HONDA

ZIMBABWE

OPPONENTS	M	W	L
Australia	4	1	3
India	4	0	4
West Indies	2	0	2
* New Zealand	2	0	2
TOTAL:	12	1	11

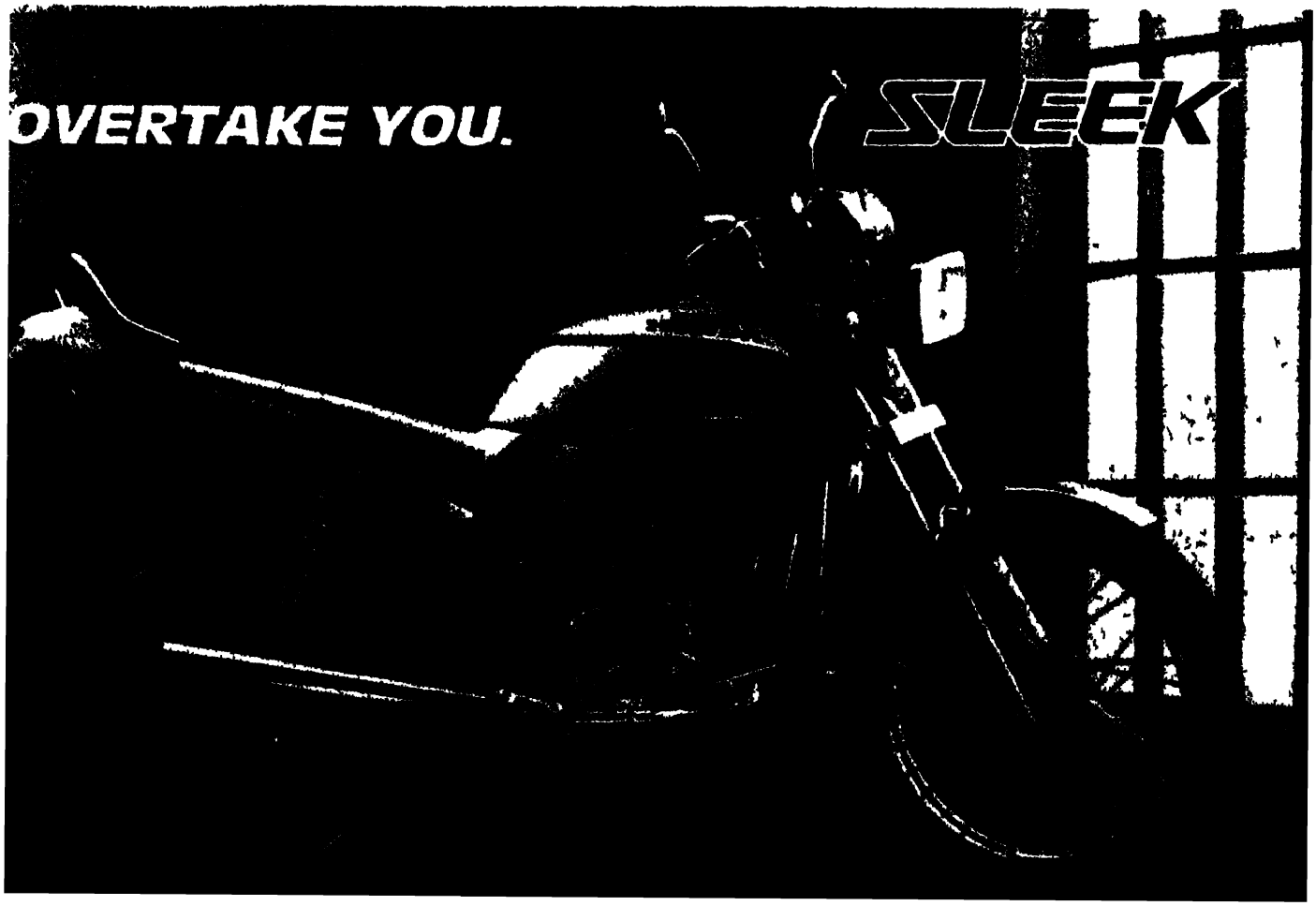
* Zimbabwe played all the twelve one-day internationals in the last two World Cups as winners of the ICC Trophy. Zimbabwe is still the Associate Member of ICC and by winning the ICC Trophy again, they qualified for the forthcoming fifth World Cup. The ICC Trophy is played among the Associate Members of the International Cricket Council.

SOUTH AFRICA

* The ICC banned South Africa from international cricket in 1970. But the first official one-day international was played between Australia and England in 1971. South Africa played 172 Test matches up to 1970 and are yet to play in the World Cup. They however made their debut in one-day international on November, 10, 1991 against India at the historic Eden Gardens after their re-entry into international cricket after a gap of 21 years and eight months. Having only three one-day matches experience, South Africa is now set to make their debut in the fifth World Cup as the ninth country.



Compiled by
HARI PRASAD
CHATTOPADHYAY



WORLD TENNIS

Top Gun

JIM COURIER



Jim Courier does not know how to behave like a 21st century celebrity. Is he one? Never did. Probably never will.

He has not Irksome Agassi's disregard for everything ordinary; not Sampras' whining way about pressure; nor Becker's traumas with identity. Hell, when Courier says, "Like being a tennis player, this is a dream that I don't want to wake up from", you know he's wacko. Totally unreal. Or is that too real?

But worse, much worse, Jim Courier is not pretty. Never was. Probably never will be.

He has not Edberg's graceful elegance; not Wilander's dancing, rocking magic; nor Becker's tennis hair. Hell, Courier's a lumbering, a plodder, a player of mindless drudgery who somehow combined perspiration with inspiration to create for himself a career that is the envy of many more talented players.

Courier, unquestionably the most [illegible] of his generation, [illegible] 1992 [illegible] 1993 [illegible] to be a [illegible] Courier has [illegible]

[illegible] Courier [illegible] the most [illegible] skills in the game is a player to a different [illegible] than Courier. As commanding, though less frequently, is Becker

[illegible] Courier [illegible] the [illegible] Courier [illegible] Courier [illegible] Courier

competitiveness has reached exaggerated proportions, Courier's grace shines

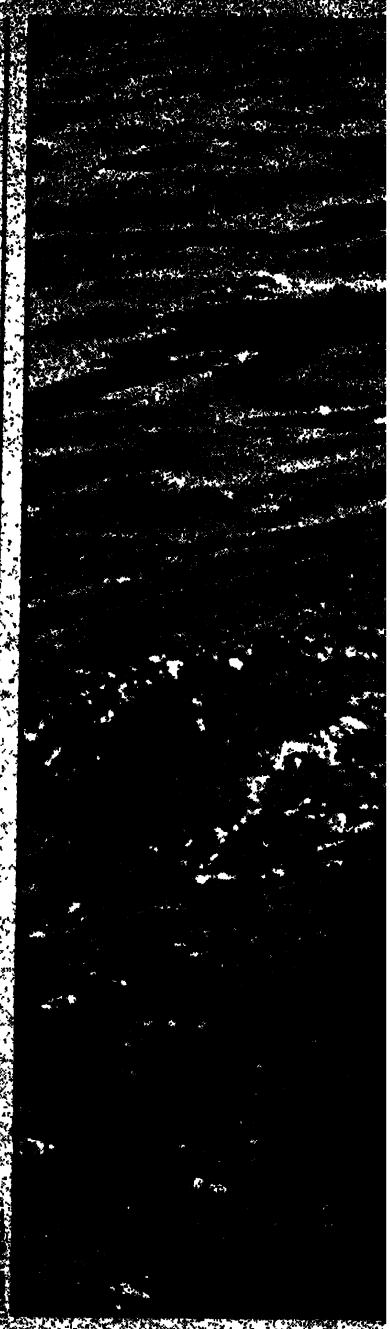
what of his tennis is boring. But if Courier's concentrated, furious assault from the baseline infuriates, then in his favour that is exactly where tennis has progressed (regressed if you like) today. He is modern tennis' most complete representative, a from of play far removed form anything inventive (read McEnroe), anything athletically pleasing (read Becker and Edberg) or anything topsinningly tedious (read Lendl and Wilander). Courier is no mere back court player, no straight-forward clay court cretin—instead he has added power and aggression, through racket technology and muscle, to create a new form and become a threat on any surface. No-one hits harder, all the time, than him.

Trained under a succession of coaches—initially Nick Bollittieri, then Sergio Cruz, then Jose Higueras and now finally Brad Stein—it was Higueras, the canny Spaniard, who exerted the most significant influence over Courier.

Higeuras, a former Top 10 player, who established his coaching credentials by guiding a resolute, but only reasonably gifted Michael Chang to the French Open title in 1989, was to inherit a raw, bad tempered and frustrated Courier.

Prone to attempting winners off every shot and mocked once by Andres Gomez because he made so many errors, Courier was schooled by Higueras on how to harness his energy and use the court. "Jose taught me that the points count whether you win it or the other guy loses it. He made me see the court differently, and opened my eyes how to use my potential", said Courier. In reply Higueras would say, "Jim is the best worker I've ever seen. He is never satisfied."

Courier's frustration

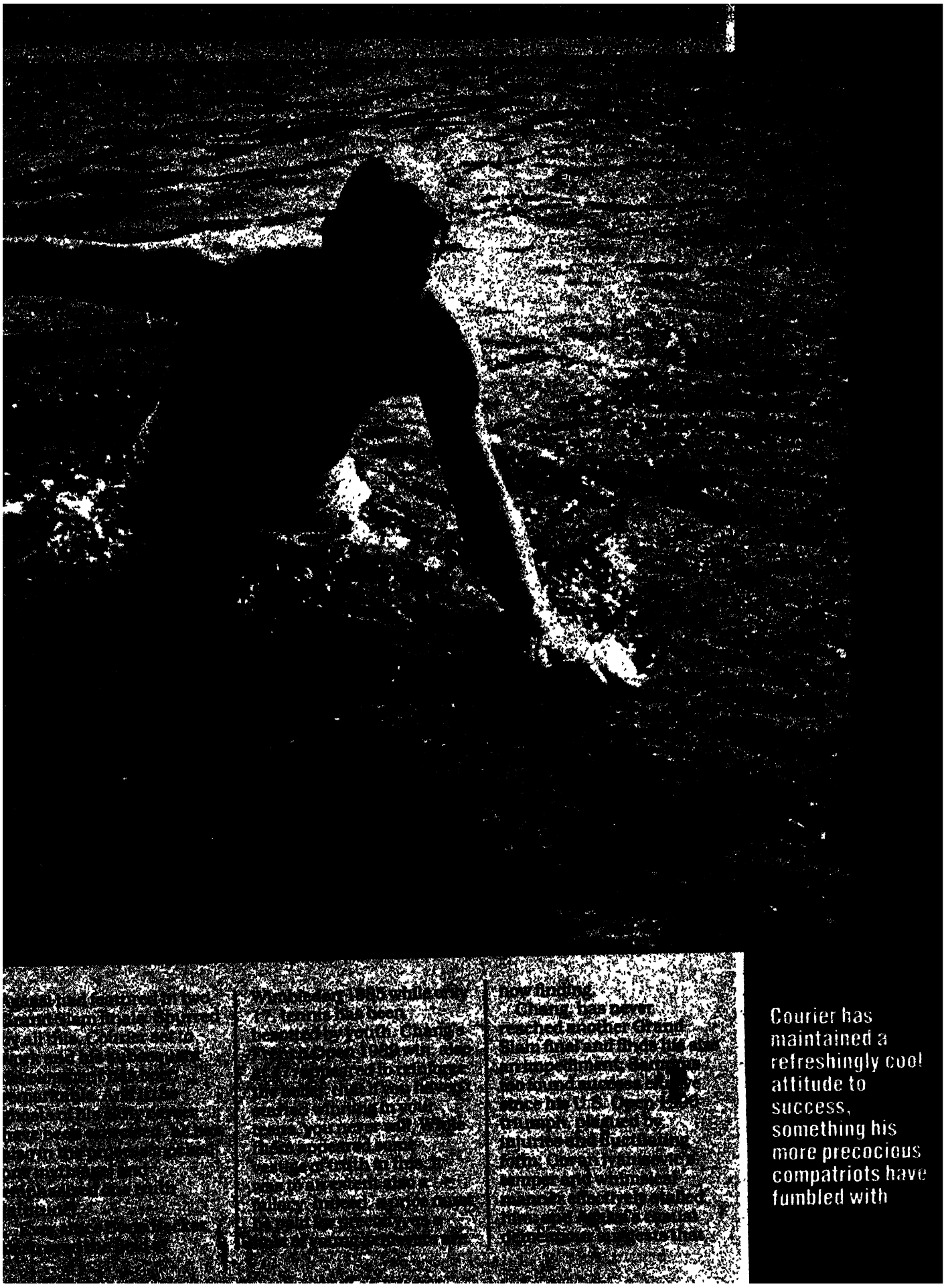


Courier swings in the Paris after his Aussie Open win

No. 1

The Complete History

Name	Date	Weeks at No. 1
I. Nastase	Aug 23, 1973	40
J. Newcombe	June 3, 1974	8
J.S. Connors	July 29, 1974	160
B. Borg	Aug 23, 1977	1
J.S. Connors	Aug 30, 1977	84
B. Borg	April 9, 1979	6
J.S Connors	March 21, 1979	7
B. Borg	July 9, 1979	34
J.P. McEnroe	March 3, 1980	3
B. Borg	March 24, 1980	20
J.P. McEnroe	Aug 11, 1980	1
B. Borg	Aug 18, 1980	45
J.P. McEnroe	July 6, 1981	2
B. Borg	July 20, 1981	2
J.P. McEnroe	Aug 3, 1981	58
J.S. Connors	Sep 13, 1982	7
J.P. McEnroe	Nov. 1, 1982	1
J.S. Connors	Nov 8, 1982	1
J.P. McEnroe	Nov 15, 1982	11
J.S. Connors	Jan 31, 1983	1
J.P. McEnroe	Feb 7, 1983	1
J.S Connors	Feb 14, 1983	2
I. Lendl	Feb 28, 1983	11
J.S. Connors	May 16, 1983	3
J.P. McEnroe	June 6, 1983	1
J.S. Connors	June 13, 1983	3
J.P. McEnroe	July 4, 1983	17
I. Lendl	Oct 31, 1983	6
J.P. McEnroe	Dec 12, 1983	4
I Lendl	Jan 9, 1984	9
J.P. McEnroe	March 12, 1984	13
I Lendl	June 11, 1984	1
J.P. McEnroe	June 18, 1984	3
I. Lendl	July 9, 1984	5
J.P. McEnroe	Aug 13, 1984	53
I Lendl	Aug 19, 1985	1
J.P. McEnroe	Aug 26, 19[illegible]	2
I Lendl	Sep 9, 1985	157
M. Wilander	Sep 12, 1988	20
I Lendl	Jan 30, 1989	80
S. Edberg	Aug 13, 1990	24
B. Becker	Jan 28, 1991	3
S. Edberg	Feb 18, 1991	20
B. Becker	July 8, 1991	9
S. Edberg	Sep 9, 1991	22
J. Courier	Feb 10, 1992	—



Courier has maintained a refreshingly cool attitude to success, something his more precocious compatriots have fumbled with

Courier's combative attitude is his finest attribute....and his mental toughness appears almost a compensation for his limited natural skills





Courier is modern tennis' most complete representative, a form of play far removed from anything inventive (read McEnroe) or anything athletically pleasing (read Becker)

SARDA PLYWOOD MASTERS

Rough Rider

American Ryan Blake, a tough guy no less, won the tournament in style and settled for a motorcycle as his booty

WHEN you see Ryan Blake for the first time—shoulder flapping hippie hair faded bandana tight over the forehead, uneven stringy beard, prizefighter's physical menace—you think he could belong to one of those never grown-up, Yankee biker gangs And amazingly, you might not be that far wrong

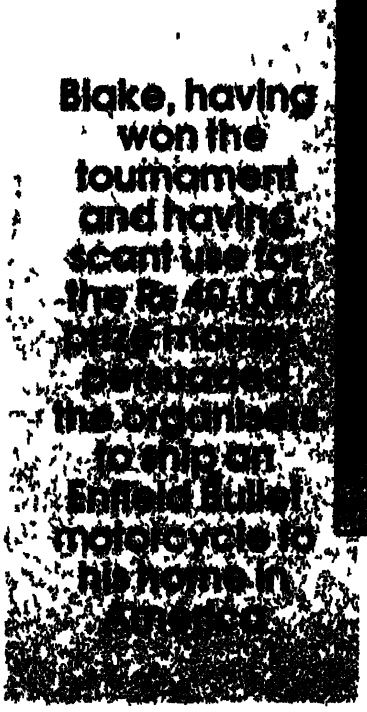
Blake, from Atlanta, Georgia—home of Coca-Cola—is a tennis player of course, but, having won the Sarda Plywood Masters, and having scant use for the Rs 40,000 prize money, he persuaded the organisers to ship an Enfield Bullet motorcycle to his home in America 'I've ridden that bike during one of my earlier trips to India and I like it," he contended Who was to argue?

Blake's tennis-player-cum-bike-jockey role is unusual but hardly unique A few years ago, pro Gary Muller won a Harley Davidson at an ATP players golf (yes, golf) tournament and promptly sold it to Derrick Rostagno, one of the tour's known free spirits. But that's another story

This story is about Blake ranked somewhere in the 400s on the ATP computer, a reasonable talent, who did well to win a tournament he probably never should have A ferocious flat serve, some competent volleys and groundstrokes made Blake a journeyman at best, beatable for some of the local lads, who unfortunately beat themselves instead.

National finalist Rohit Reddy, a quicksilver mover and often sweetly efficient, went down in three sets (7-6, 2-6, 4-6) to the overweight, unfit, but marvellously cerebral Nandan Bal With Reddy, 19, up a set against Bal, 33, it looked quite over—but the former lost momentary concentration to be broken in the first game of the second set and thereafter was tighter with each game, while a relaxed, experienced Bal chipped away at his crumbling confidence

They're going to get me for child abuse, mused a contented Bal afterwards, the fact that he hadn't played a





tournament for a year reflecting further on Reddy's misfortune. A day later Bal took eventual Masters finalist Akash Lamba to 5-7, 6-7 reiterating his cleverness and how unsure our young players can be.

Lamba, however, one of the bright new hopes, did wonderfully well thereafter to beat the favourite Asif Ismail—his smooth, easy groundstrokes breaking down Ismail's serve and volley game, though on grass one would expect the reverse. Ismail, talented but injury prone (back and ankle), has a supreme but erratic serve, and that coupled with his own subtle lack of desire keeps him from being as good as he can—and indeed he can be very good. He has more variation on his return, more thrust in his groundstrokes, and were he to harness himself correctly, a Davis Cup place would not be a dream. Ismail, has not been lucky enough to find a sponsor, and often, with no incentive in sight, young players lose their momentum, which in the end is a tragic waste of talent.

On the other side of the draw, Ryan easily swept away a slower Enrico Piperno, and when he faced off against Lamba in the final, we had a classic David and Goliath scenario. Blake, 6 ft 2 in and 190 pounds and Lamba about six inches shorter and about 55-60 pounds lighter. Problem was, this David hadn't enough weapons on grass. A serve, with no wind-up—almost just an arm-generated pace—fetched too few cheap points and though he hit some passes, especially some exquisitely timed cross-court backhands, he had not the power to dominate Blake.

Blake dropped the first set (3-6), but his three-quarter pace serving mystified till he explained it. "I have a bad back and I can't serve flat out without warming up. Today, since the rain prevented us from warming up, I had to take it easy in the first set. This tournament wasn't worth re-injuring my back." Once loosened up, Blake served viciously, often acing with his spinning second serve, dominating through the second (6-3) and into the third before Lamba in one spurt both impressed and appalled.

Down 3-5, he hit a flurry of swift groundstrokes, forcing Blake into error to break him to 4-5. Then, just as Lamba appeared more assured, he hit two abysmal backhands weakly into the net to lose the game and the match.

Lamba, if he puts on weight and finds a weapon, could be an interesting slow court performer, but here in Calcutta, for the time being, the score stood Goliath 1, David 0.

To be fair to the young Indians, they were coming off a gruelling month long Satellite tour and both the exhaustion (mental and physical and the change of surface (clay to grass) proved too unsettling.

On the ladies side, Janaki Krishnamoorthy continued her domination of women's tennis beating Neeth Deviah 7-5, 6-3 in the final. In the boys Under-16 Sushil Narla upset local hero Saurav Panja 0-6, 6-1, 7-6 after being down 2-5 in the third set.

Rohit Brijnath

DRAMA AT HIGH



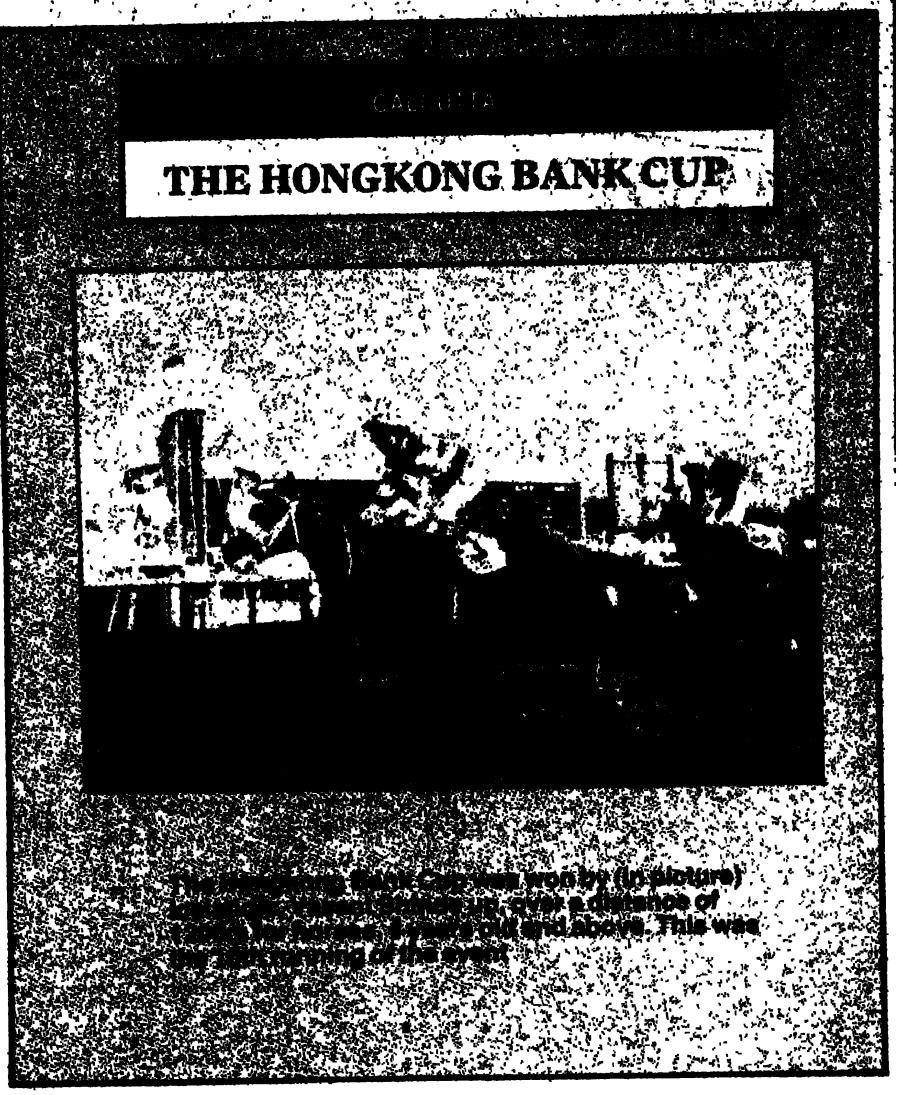
THE Indian Derby is the most important race in the life of a four year old thoroughbred colt or filly Added to that it is Bombay's social happening of the year No wonder—apart from 1992 being the golden jubilee year—the prize money involved was a stunning eight lakhs (approx)!

For this year's event the legendary Lester Piggott returned with Willie Carson the Queen's jockey and a man who has won close to every Classic in the U K And the 2 400m race was an absolute thriller Most people who saw it called it a Drama at High Noon

The race seemed over when Astonish the favourite with Aslam Kader up made a bid for the lead at 100m But the pint size Carson kept pushing La Bonne Vie extracting every ounce of energy left in her to lose by the shortest of margins—less than half an inch A photo verdict was necessary and Astonish was announced the winner

NOON





NALIN SOLANKI



Aslam Kader, on Astonish (right), rode to a brilliant finish holding off the fierce challenge of British jockey Willie Carson astride La Bonne Vie; (inset) Aslam Kader acknowledges the cheers of the crowd as trainer Bezan Chinoy (left) leads in Astonish

SAHARA!

Farookh Shaikh wandered across its limitless expanse along with a team of rallyists who attempted to cross the desert on the Kinetic Honda DX 100



No amount of words—spoken or written—can express the limitless expanse of the Sahara desert and also subsequently, the awe inspiring effect it had on a couple of desert rallyists like us. It was the Sahara that we had chosen in order to quench our thirst for adventure and we came out all the better for it. We also came out with one very significant achievement ..the setting of a world record in crossing 2500 kms of pure pristine desert in a total of 5995 kms on two puny scooters, namely, the Kinetic Honda DX 100s.

The 'we' included four persons from Pune: Neville Jal Darukhanawalla, the team leader, Roland D'Souza, a collegiate, Dilip Bam and myself in the capacity of French interpreter. C.K. Chinappa, a renowned two-wheeler rallyist from Bangalore and Wing Commander Koka Rahul Rao of the Indian Air Force were the two others who provided their valuable experience by coming along. Besides the people who were physically present for the trip itself, there were a host of others who contributed their bit by putting the whole rally into shape. The crossing was termed 'Operation Sahara Attack'.

The opening run of the crossing was made from Univers Motors in Casablanca on December 19 to camp for the night at Fes. Leaving Fes, we set our sights on the town just before the border of Morocco and Algeria. It was on the last leg of this journey that problem number one reared its head. One of the two scooters started to face fuel flow problems and suffered a chipped reed valve barely 50 kms from Oujda. This effectively served to stop the scooters functioning and it had to be pushed into Oujda for the repairs.

...The drive to Laghouat was a

It was the Sahara that we had chosen in order to quench our thirst for adventure and we came out all the better for it. We also came out with one very significant achievement...the setting of a world record in crossing 2,500 kms of pure pristine desert in a total of 5995 kms. on two puny scooters

[illegible] exciting for lack of kilometres. From El-Golea onwards, we started encountering the usual desert problems courtesy tons of sand, and the scooters were finding it slightly difficult to cope on normal road tyres.

The problem was rectified when we reached In (Ain) Salah, and changed the tyres to 'knobbies' as these would be better suited for the journey ahead.

The last stretch of the tarmac-cum-sand road before the actual desert began was also one of the longest distances we had covered in a single day—700 kms—from In Salah to Tamanrasset. Crossing into Niger, we resumed out journey to Arlit, a mining town and upon reaching it, we embarked immediately for Agadez, the end of the pure desert sector

We made it to Tahoua and then proceeded the same evening for the actual border town of Birni N'Konni. Spending the night at Birni, we crossed over into Illela, the Nigerian border. We spent a few days in Lagos and finally departed for our country not without a little regret, reaching it on January 13.

[illegible] feeling of not totally being there [illegible] of not having come back. This is the only [illegible] that the Sahara has left behind—leaving us bound of flesh from the [illegible] Sahara [illegible] the sand [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Sport is the short form of the word *disport* which originated from the word *des-porto*. What does *des-porto* mean literally?

2. What does the word *judo* mean?

3. The Roman sport *paganica* is the direct ancestor of which modern sport?

4. When was the first time gloves were used in world championship boxing?

5. Who is the first boxer to hold three world titles simultaneously?

6. Women were allowed to take part in only one event at the first Commonwealth Games. Name the event.

7. When was the photo-finish first used to assist the athletic judges?

8. In which year was Wimbledon first televised?

9. Which club laid down the rules of lawn tennis?

10. What was the Australian Open earlier known as?

11. Between which two countries was the first Davis Cup (1900) held and where?

12. Of which footballers was it said that they could "trap a ball on a six pence"?

13. What nickname did Ruben Marino Navarro of Argentina earn?

14. Which Argentine goalkeeper was called 'Tarzan' because of his superb physique?

15. Who invented the overarm serve in lawn tennis?

ANSWERS

1. Carry away.
2. The gentle way.
3. Golf.
4. July 10, 1884.
5. Henry Armstrong of USA.
6. Swimming.
7. The 1954 Commonwealth Games, Canada.
8. 1937.
9. The Marylebone Cricket Club.
10. The Australasian Championships.
11. Between Britain and the US at the Longwood Cricket Club, Boston.
12. Sir Stanley Matthews and Tom Finney.
13. Valiant axe.
14. Antonio Roma.
15. A.T. Myers.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
NILANJAN CHAUDHURY,
264 UMPLING,
SHILLONG.
(MEGHALAYA)

All answers sent in by contributor

An Indian triumph DownUnder?

THE recently concluded Test series in Australia had its fair share of umpiring controversies, some fine and inspired individual performances and some very insipid cricket from the Indians.

But inspite of the Australians asserting their supremacy there were times when even they were in dire straits. Many a time they failed to come to terms with the Indian bowling and they were fumbling for runs. The only problem was that in spite of having them against the wall we could not nail them there. Only the bowlers put up inspired performances but there was no support from the much applauded Indian batting line-up. One is sure that if the Indian batsmen also performed to their full potential then the results would have been different.

Now with the World Cup coming up,it is high time for the Indians to get their act together. They surely have the talent in them. Only a fair measure of perseverence and dedication is required. All the members of the Indian team would do well if they inculcated these qualities into their game. And it shouldn't be difficult since Sachin Tendulkar and Kapil Dev have shown them what it is all about.
B.S. VISWANATH.
Bangalore.

Will things be the same again?

LADY LUCK is surely not smiling on Steffi Graf. In 1990 we had her in all sorts of problems, both on and off the court. Then in 1991 she finally managed to put some semblance of sense into her game and it almost looked like the No. 1 spot that she had relinquished would be hers again. But come 1992 and there was more bad news in store for her and her fans. She pulled out from the Australian Open because she was suffering from German measles and if this disease does take its toll then it could well mean the end of a great player.

This is the time when all her fans and all sports lovers should beseech the Almighty to spare her and give her another chance to restart her career again. It's going to be difficult, yes, but then one is sure that Steffi can do it. Here's wishing her a very speedy recovery
PAYAL RAY.
Calcutta



The days of uncertainty are over. Graf started her year by defeating Rika Hurali of Japan in her first match in the Virginia Slims of Chicago tennis tournament

Time to act

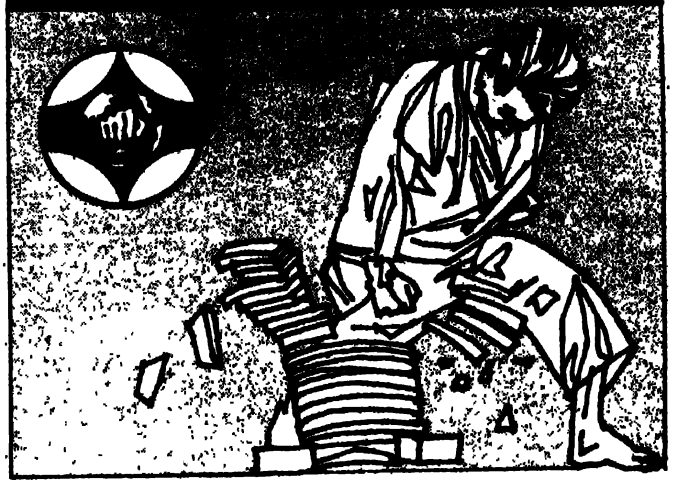
THIS is in reference to the letter that Andy O'Brien wrote to the Indian cricket fans in the issue dated 29th January. It was a well written piece that gave us a complete picture on the state of affairs in the Indian camp. And one feels that it's time the selectors really did some serious thinking and came up with a solution. If the situation is not sorted out now then it is going to be too late to salvage the state of Indian cricket.
ARTA MISHRA.
Cuttack

What a guy!

WHAT more can be written or said about this great player called Kapil Dev. He's already proved it beyond any doubt that he is one of the greatest exponents of the game. The admiration that he evokes in the hearts of millions of his fans just cannot be put into words. He has proved that with perseverence and dedication one can surely achieve one's dreams. Aspiring cricketers,and even some of the so called 'established' cricketers,in the Indian team could take a few pages from his book and put in some inspired performances that could pull our cricket out of the doldrums where it is right now.
PRABAL GUHA.
Calcutta.

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND





CARRYING on with the perfection of the stances, this week we'll discuss *zenkutsu-dachi*, performed with a *gidan-barai*. Very important for self defence techniques, this stance should be perfected if you are interested in the advanced stages of karate.

Practicing it regularly will not only perfect it, it will also develop the thigh muscles and knee joints.

By Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushinkaikan karate.

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



The importance of perfecting the zenkutsu-dachi stance (inset) is underlined by the enthusiasm with which Ganguly's class performs it

The Health Column

CARB

ENJOY sport do you? And to stay in shape, you train intensely, right? Then injuries are something you've familiar with. For most fitness enthusiasts it's as elementary as 1+1=2. It's not amazing because competitive sports and even working out in the gym presents infinite possibilities for injuries such as torn ligaments, tendons, cartilage and even broken bones. Minor injuries can occur from poor body mechanics, spinal imbalances, dehydration and overtraining.

But don't let all this talk about injuries put you off, because a human body has the capability to stitch itself back into shape—in some cases even better than before—provided you give it the right nutrition. This week we are going to give you a crash course in injury prevention and healing, that will make your sporting life hassle-free and enjoyable. The main message is—and most people don't realise it—that proper nutrition can effectively minimise the pain and maximise the recovery process.

Sometimes when we are training we go into 'the zone' and we pump with vigour that we never realised we had. And because this high comes rarely, it's precisely the reason why it's bad; because the body takes time to adjust to the demands placed on it.

Once we blast those muscles, the feeling of accomplishment is enough to cover the pain till one wakes up the next day. This soreness is the result of working too hard—and can damage, in some cases even destroy, cells in the body.

Muscle-blitzing triggers a tremendous protein turnover; and muscle mass is 80% amino acids—the building blocks of protein. Under physical duress, amino acids released by the excessive exercise find their way into the blood stream and become part of the circulating amino acid pool to be used for muscle growth and for tissue repair. All heavy exercises cause protein damage to some degree. Uncontrolled or eccentric movements—in weight training only make matters worse. By eccentric pumping in this case we mean the sudden urge to keep on pumping with added poundage that befalls everyone who does weight training as well as lifting weights with sudden, jerky motions.

Stretching both before and after exercising is a sure-fire method to avoid injuries

A novel way to get the system in tune before working-out is to indulge in careful flexibility and warm-up exercises. Stretching prepares that body of yours to the cruel ordeal that you are going to dish out. Once you've finished, post-workout stretching is as important as pre-exercise warming-up as it avoids muscle soreness while allowing the heart to shift gradually into normal gear. It is a fact that athletes who stretch come across fewer injuries.



IT UP!



Nutrition also plays a very important role in tissue healing. There is no way you can stick to your normal diet and expect returns for working out, and neither can you expect athletic longevity or peak performance. People in today's hectic world do not have time for anything, leave alone eating, and as a result people stuff themselves with the so-called fast foods.

In reality these persons are too malnourished. There is too much of salt, sugar and fat put into the system and all these elements slow down the healing process to a great extent. The body does not get enough of minerals to prevent pulls and cramps. In fact this style of eating actually promotes injury.

Cultivating the right food habits is the most crucial part of any fitness regimen

Here are some recommendations that will enhance your performance and also hasten the process of healing if you are injured.

Eat 5-6 meals a day. Do not stay away from food throughout the day if you want to lose weight and then stuff yourself at night before you go to bed. Your calorie intake should be based on your activities for three hours following your meal. Eat more if there's a workout ahead, less if you'll be resting. If you are recovering from an injury, and not exercising, then you should cut down on the caloric intake. This is to avoid putting on the extra kilos that you could certainly do without.

Eat enough carbohydrates—the source of glucose—the fuel that powers your muscles and brain. If you do not get enough carbs—that is, if you eat a diet full of fat and protein—your muscles will burn protein, leading to additional protein breakdown and wastage.

To return to a functional level, an athlete going through arduous post-injury strength and flexibility work must put enough carbs into the body to speed up the process of healing. The optimum ratio of caloric intake at one sitting should be one part fat, two parts of protein and three parts of carbohydrates.

The best sources of carbohydrates are legumes, rice, whole grains, vegetables and fruits. The natural carbohydrates that these foods contain are absorbed slowly into the blood stream and hence is a constant source of energy.

Refined carbs on the other hand, found in white flour and sweets are poor in fibre and nutrient content, and hence are absorbed faster into the blood stream. As a result there is a roller coaster effect on the glucose levels in the blood and this contributes to fatigue. This is a common cause of athletic injuries and also leads to a loss in concentration.

You need plenty of good protein to meet the extra demands of tissue repair and injury healing. But don't overdo it. A meal that is very high in protein causes a protein flood that the body's digestive mechanism cannot handle. The liver actually turns the extra protein into fat. Get your protein in small amounts throughout the day. This will give the system enough time to process it comfortably.

So the next time you feel sore after a tough workout, take it easy for a few days and give the muscles some time to recuperate. At the same time take extra care to see that you eat right. Once you form the right food habits, you'll be a winner all the way—injuries or otherwise. ●

SPORT SHORTS

by Fred Hall

ANTON (TONI) SAILER
AN OLYMPIC FIRST



The 1956 Winter Olympics at Cortina D'ampezzo, Italy set two landmarks- The first televised Winter Olympics and the first Alpine Skier to win THREE GOLD MEDALS.

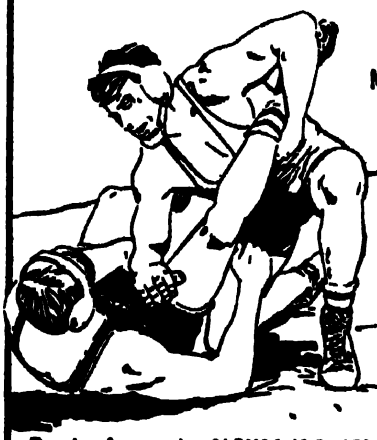
Anton (Toni) Sailer, a 20 year old Austrian alpine skier, dominated the games! The daring skier won all three alpine events by a wide margin, never again equaled.

The Giant Slalom by 6.2 sec., Special Slalom by 4.0 sec., and the Downhill by 3.5 sec.

DIST BY AMA FEATURES

WRESTLING-ALWAYS A NEW TWIST

Wrestling is truly an ancient sport. The walls of Egyptian Pharaoh Ptahhotap's tomb are covered with depictions of wrestling holds and falls. The tomb dates to 2350 B.C. The Greeks introduced wrestling to the 18th Olympiad in 704 B C.



Modern "GRAECO-ROMAN" style wrestling is of French origin, established in the 1860's. The "International Amateur Wrestling Federation" which governs the sport was founded in 1912.

Russian free-styler ALEKSANDR MEDVED has won the greatest number of world championships, SEVEN!... light heavyweight titles in 1964 (Olympic) and 1966, the heavyweight 1967 and 1968 (Olympic) and the super-heavyweight title in 1969, 1970 and 1971!

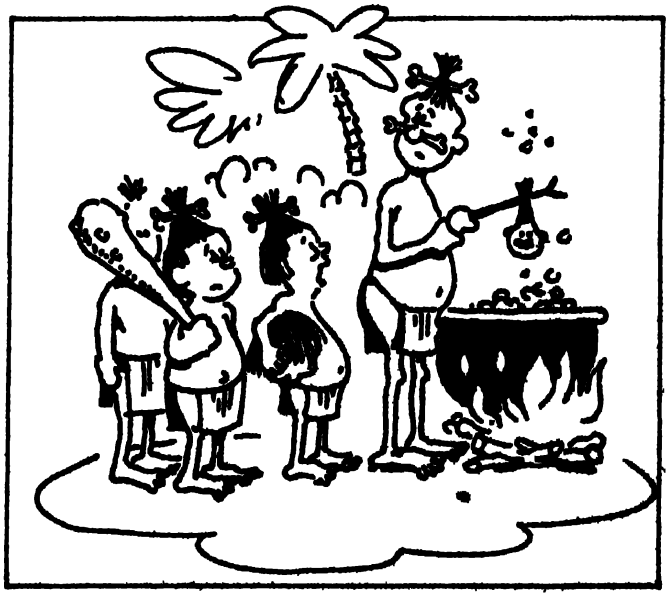
DIST BY AMA FEATURES

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"Get back here you!"



"Soon as you shrink this one dad, we can get the game under way."

This week in the history of sport

INDIA defeated Pakistan 2-1 in the fourth and final hockey Test match played at Lahore on **Feb 19, 1978.**

ICE SKATER Jeanette Altwegg of England won the Olympic gold medal for figure skating on **Feb 20, 1952** at Oslo, Norway.

ASHOK PANDIT collected 575 out of a possible 600 points and clinched the gold in the men's standard pistol category shooting in the G.B. Paul Federation shooting championship at Madras on **Feb 21, 1991.**

JOHN G. REID, a Scotsman residing in New York introduced the game of golf in America on **Feb 22, 1888.**

ON **Feb 23, 1874** an English army officer, Walkar Clopton Wingfield patented a game called 'Sphairistike', which became the fore-runner of modern lawn tennis.

ON **Feb 24, 1941** handicapped swimmer Charles Zibbelman swam continuously for 168 hrs. in a pool in Honolulu, USA, thus setting a record.

STARTING a great chapter in boxing history, Muhammad Ali (then Cassius Clay) became the world heavyweight boxing champion by defeating Sony Liston (who refused to come out to fight in the seventh round) on **Feb 25, 1964.**

A.R. Sherif

MILESTONES



CALCUTTA

Deodhar Trophy

AFTER a long wait of ten seasons, South Zone emerged the best in one day cricket in the country South Zone won the Deodhar Trophy championship for the sixth time at the Eden Gardens when they defeated Central Zone by 36 runs in a final match which had to be truncated to 35 over a side due to the effects of unseasonal showers

With the cream of Indian cricket busy Down Under, the Deodhar Trophy seemed a match for the record books until the national selectors decided to name the Indian squad for the World Cup the day after the final in Calcutta

The announcement once again lifted the hearts of the hopefuls, but as it finally turned out, the selectors had already made up their mind about the Indian 14 for the world's cricketing showpiece Or else, how can Ajay Jadeja's inclusion, despite a poor knock of four runs for North Zone in a quarter-final match against South in Sambalpur be justified? At the same time, Arshad Ayub's brilliant bowling throughout the Deodhar Trophy, was ignored. In fact, this is the first time that India have been touring Australia without a specialist off-spinner in the side

However, the Deodhar Trophy meet this season, showed the South Zone spinners in good light Ayub, who led South in the absence of Mohammad Azharuddin, and young off-spinners Asish Kapoor and B Ramprakash of Kerala bowled economical spells and essentially, showed the capability to bowl to their field

South Zone launched their campaign in Sambalpur North Zone their opponents, looked very much the superior side with almost a Test class medium-pace attack some fine one-day batsmen But as it turned out, the Surendra Sai Stadium wicket in Sambalpur was underprepared and North Zone skipper Chetan Sharma made a hash of a decision to bat first after winning the toss. The track played tricky from the very first over and Ayub introduced the spinners with the new ball only 10 overs old

North batsmen batted without conviction and apart from a stodgy 73 by teenager Dhruv Pandove, most of the others fell to the spinners. Only Rajesh Puri (37) batted attractively, but gifted his wicket when set for a big score Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, a standbye for the World Cup, took three wickets for 37 as South were set to score 194 for a victory

Hyderabad's Abdul Azeem grabbed the game by the scruff of its neck and his 50 off 59 balls set South Zone on course, The wicket, which had behaved so strangely earlier in the day, eased out a lot in the afternoon The fancied North Zone pace attack, boasting of Atul Wassan, Chetan Sharma and Vivek Razdan, seemed benign as South easily got past their target with five wickets to spare Debutant N Gautam and Zakir Hussain contributed 46 and 39 important runs, respectively

After this emphatic victory against North, South ran into defending champions West Zone another strong outfit in a semi-final match in Guwahati But South's spinners yet again stole the limelight as except for the dashing Vinod Kambli, the rest of the West batsmen went down meekly to pave an easy passage for South in the final

In Jamshedpur last year s runners-up East Zone faced Central Zone in another semi-final match, East, without Arun Lal, was led by Syed Saba Karim, the wicketkeeper-batsman from Bihar Central skipper Sashikant Kandekar won the toss and invited East to bat But East, after a boisterous start, was checked by the Central spinners Gopal Sharma and Gyanendra Pandey Only Lalchand Rajput, East's adopted son from Bombay, played a useful knock of 55 before holing out to mid-off, off the bowling of left arm spinner Pandey East scored 190 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs and Central faced an easy target needing to score at the rate of 3.82 per over for a win

But the dramatic intonations of the match was imparted by the East Zone spinners who kept the Central batsmen on a leash Rajput, Ranjib Biswal and Saradindu Mukherjee bowled a tight length and Central batsmen found runs difficult to get Only Yusuf Ali Khan and Abhay Sharma seemed the only competent players



RASBEHARI DAS

South Zone were the winners of the Deodhar Trophy

against spin.

Central needed 47 from the last 10 overs with seven wickets in hand. But Abhay Sharma was out in the 42nd over by Mukherjee for 18 and Yusuf Ali followed, caught by Karim at the wicket off Biswal for 91 in the 44th. The finish seemed to be dramatic.

But the man who had raised visions of an incredible East Zone victory flattered to deceive. Lalchand Rajput spilled two crucial catches and Central needing three off the last over, made it with a ball to spare.

But the news of Central's penultimate ball win paled into insignificance as the news of Dhruv Pandove's untimely death in a road accident while on his way back home from Delhi in a car, spread like wildfire and correctly made the headlines.

South and Central clashed for the third time for the title. Both had won one match each. South, with two morale-boosting wins behind them, started as favourites. Plus, their diversified spin attack was an advantage since the Central batsmen had looked vulnerable against an ordinary East Zone spin attack in Jamshedpur.

Overnight rains left the outfield soggy and the final was delayed by two and a half hours. Central won the toss and decided to field. Azeem, who played a brilliant innings in Sambalpur, was out to an impetuous stroke in the third ball of the match. Woorkeri Raman was hit wicket for 18 and South were reduced to 30 for two in the ninth over.

But N. Gautam and Vivek Jaisimha's 74 run partnership for the third wicket in 54 minutes helped South to a respectable score of 158 for seven in 35 overs.

Jaisimha, who later shared the man of the match award with teammate Ayub, played a good knock of 67 after a quick start. His innings contained four boundaries and a six and came off 83 balls.

Needing to score at the rate of 4.54 per over for a win, Central made an equally bad start. Yusuf Ali was run out for 1 and by the 16th over, Central were reduced to 60 for three.

Ayub, Kapoor, Kumble and Ramprakash bowled an excellent line and put the skids on the Central middle order. Only skipper Khandekar played a gritty 24 but in a mad scramble for runs, the middle order fell in a heap.

Ayub finished with match figures of five for 23 off seven overs and it was an ideal reminder to the chairman of the national selection committee, Naren Tamhane and Russi Jeejeebhoy who saw the final match.

Central were all out for 122 and indeed disappointed the 1000-odd gathering who had turned up to witness a close final which was the benefit match for former Bengal captain Sambaran Banerjee.

Soumitra Bose

Siliguri.

A striking feature of this year's foundation day celebrations was the presence of former Test star Mushtaq Ali. Apart from Mushtaq, former football greats Sahu Mewalal and Mahabir Prasad, former state PWD Minister Jatin Chakraborty and senior police officials, including R.K. Handa, were present to encourage the blood donors.

After Mushtaq inaugurated the camp at the Pankaj Gupta Memori-

The blood donation camp being held on Sir Frank Worrell Day



SANTOSH GHOSH

al Indoor Cricket Coaching Centre, Subrata Das of Rupnarayanpur (Burdwan) was the first to donate blood. A stream of others, including former Bengal Ranji captain Raju Mukherjee, swimmer Surajit Ghosh and junior cricketer Biswajit Bhowmick, followed later in the day. 49 women also donated blood.

Fourteen government blood banks were involved in the collection of the blood.

Soumitra Bose

Frank Worrell Day

FRANK WORRELL DAY was celebrated on February 3 to commemorate the Cricket Association of Bengal's (CAB) Foundation day. 979 in Calcutta donated blood in memory of the legendary West Indian Test captain.

The blood donation camp, jointly organised by the CAB and the Association of Voluntary Blood Donors, attracted people from all walks of life. Similar camps were held in the districts where about 55 donated blood in Tamluk and some more in

Wills Book Release

COME the Calcutta Book Fair and ITC have launched one more in their series of sports books. The Wills Book of Excellen-

ce One Day Cricket, the eighth in the series, was released by former Test star Mushtaq Ali and Arun Lal jointly at the Calcutta Book Fair auditorium on February 4

With the excitement of instant cricket set to hit its zenith with the World Cup starting in Australia and New Zealand from February 22, the book is expected to be a best-seller

Written by Bombay journalist Ayaz Memon, the book is lavishly illustrated with coloured photographs and is possibly one of the most comprehensive one-day cricket books ever published so far Priced at Rs 250, the book is published by Orient Longman

Speaking on the occasion, Mushtaq who played his first Test match in Calcutta, said that had one day cricket been played during his days, he would have taken to it like the proverbial duck to water One of the finest entertainers during his times Mushtaq answered a wide range of impromptu questions, including those on the Indian cricket board and the World Cup team selection

NEW DELHI

Invitation Kabaddi

RAILWAYS and Punjab annexed the women's and men's titles respectively in the All Star Invitation Kabaddi tournament

For the first time in the history of Indian Kabaddi, prize money was awarded to the men and women players The members of the winning team won Rs 56,000/- the runners-up team received Rs 28,000/- while the third position received Rs 14,000/-

The women's final did not rise to any great heights as Railways outplayed Maharashtra 31-7 Only in the first session did Maharashtra put up a fight and the half time score was 12-8 in favour of Railways. Maharashtra could not withstand the raids of the Railways girls. Former Indian players Padmini Gujar, Anita Sawant, Monika Saha and Lalita Bhosla were the key performers.

Punjab shut out local challengers Delhi in a keen men's final tussle at 34-15. The star of the triumph was skipper and International, Balwinder Singh He demolished the Delhi side with such finesse and composure that he accounted for half his side's score. He was ably supported by Shivdev Singh and skipper Mohinder Mohan Singh.

The tournament was inaugurated by K C Lenka, Minister of State, Agriculure, while G Venkataswamy, Minister for Rural Development gave away the prizes

Suresh Kumar Lau

PALA

State Schools Athletics



MADRAS

South Zone Ranji Trophy

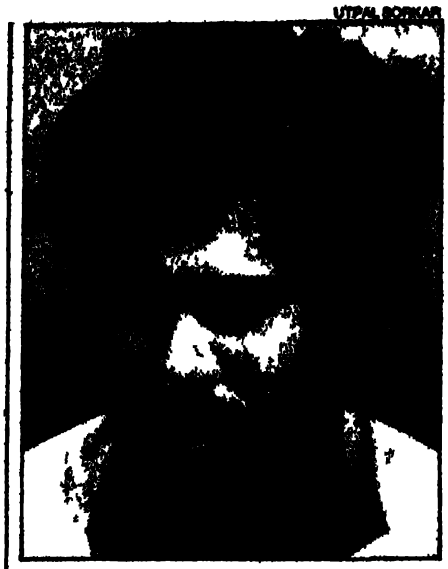
THE fact that the run quotient rule had to decide which team accompanied Hyderabad from the South Zone into the knock-out stage of the Ranji Trophy championship illustrates the keen tussle for supremacy between the big three in the just concluded league phase of the competition Ultimately, Tamil Nadu pipped Karnataka at the post to be the runners-up

It was a truly dramatic encounter at Bhadravati which brought the curtain down on a fascinating duel between the two teams Going into the game which incidentally was a benefit match for former Karnataka batting stalwart, Sudhakara Rao who was a member of the Indian team which toured New Zealand and West Indies in 1976—Tamil Nadu were odds on favourites to qualify for the knock-out stage

For, with 80 points already in their bag, they were a full nine points ahead of Karnataka in the race for the second berth, Hyderabad with 92 points, having already qualified for the top spot For Karnataka to qualify, they not only had to win outright but also had to prevent Tamil Nadu from getting the points they needed,to ensure a berth in the knock-out stage, Tamil Nadu, on the other hand, could even afford to go down to an outright defeat and still qualify if they got sufficient points

Indeed, this is exactly what happened. Karnataka won the low-scoring game by one wicket and garnered 17 points. But, with Tamil Nadu getting eight points, the teams finished with 88 points each. However, on a superior run quotient, Tamil Nadu joined Hyderabad in the knock-out phase of the competition

In retrospect, it was some mathematical miscalculations that prevented Karnataka from making it. With every point precious, Kirmani allowed Tamil



UTPAL BORKAR

Arshad Ayub: in fine form this season

Nadu to get an additional bowling bonus point when he needlessly prolonged the Karnataka first innings Indeed, had Karnataka won by two wickets instead of one, they would have made it to the knock-out stage Instead, once Tamil Nadu had taken the ninth wicket in the Karnataka second innings, they knew they had entered the next phase of the competition even if they lost the match It was a hollow victory indeed for Karnataka

A feature of this year s competition was the distinct difference in cricketing standards between 'the big three and the 'small three' In the last few years either Andhra, Kerala or Goa had either run 'the big three close or at least had done very well

Among 'the big three , Hyderabad had the best credentials and they were deserving winners of the Soundararajan Trophy They had one bad match against Kerala during which they conceded the first innings lead and got only 16 points But they thrashed Goa and Andhra and got the better of drawn encounters against Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to finish comfortably on top of the table

Hyderabad's forte was their batting. All their main batsmen, Abdul Azeem, M.V. Sridhar, R.A. Swaroop, Vivek Jaisimha, Ehtasham and Zakir Hussain were among the runs. And Arshad Ayub played a stellar role, both as all-rounder and captain. He particularly shone as a bowler and with a bag of 37 wickets surpassed Jairam's long standing record (since 1964-65) of 34 wickets. With the knock-out phase still to come, Ayub is bound to improve on this figure

Tamil Nadu were a fine all-round side They were the only one of the big three not to have a bad match against the lesser teams, even though they were at the receiving end against Hyderabad and Karnataka Their main batsmen W V Raman, Robin Singh, V B Chandrasekhar, N Gautam and Kripal Singh all notched up hundreds while D Vasu played a leading role as utility man Left arm spinner, Sunil Subramaniam was again their leading wicket taker and it came as a big surprise when he was not included in the South Zone team for the Duleep Trophy

Karnataka like Hyderabad, had one bad match—against Goa when they picked up only 15 points But otherwise they performed creditably scoring outright wins over Andhra and Kerala besides that hollow victory over Tamil Nadu The batting find was young Rahul David while veterans Kirmani and Jeshwanath chipped in with useful contributions The bowling damage was chiefly done by the spin twins—Raghuram Bhat and Anil Kumble

Except for the odd batting or bowling feat, there was little to enthuse over the performances of Goa, Kerala or Andhra And yet ironically, the single-most noteworthy feat of the season was performed by a player from one of the lesser teams. Sudhakara Reddy, the Andhra opening batsman, performed a feat that has been done only by one Indian—the great Vijay Merchant—and by only four others in the history of first class cricket.

Against Kerala, Reddy scored 91 and 30 and carried his bat each time An outstanding performance indeed. Final points table Hyderabad 92, Tamil Nadu 88, Karnataka 88, Kerala 51, Andhra 35, Goa 20

Partab Ramchand

TRIVANDRUM

S.V. Pandit Memorial Cricket

IN a thrilling encounter, Indian Pistons, Madras defeated State Bank of India, Bangalore by 4 runs to lift the S V. Pandit Memorial Trophy in the first chapter of the All India limited-over cricket tournament conducted by the Kerala Civil Service Cricket Association.

Indian Pistons won the toss and elected to bat on a wicket full of runs. Their openers, former Test star T.E. Srinivasan and C.S Suresh Kumar gave them a tremendous start putting on 130 runs for the first wicket. Srinivasan hit 74 runs off 71 balls with seven 4's and a six. Suresh Kumar made 50 runs off 59 balls. Captain R. Madhavan (40 runs) and N. Gautham (38 no.) took their score to 242 (6 wkts down) in the allotted 41 overs. For SBI, left arm spinner Raghuram Bhatt bagged three wickets for 37 runs in nine overs.

SBI replied strongly through their prolific scorer Arjun Raja who made 82 runs off 80 balls At one stage they were 5 down for 193 in 34 overs. But the match slipped away from SBI when the medium pacer Gautham took three quick wickets in his second spell. SBI required 10 runs in the final over with the last pair at the crease. They managed to get only 6 runs. Left-hander S. Prakash remained unbeaten on 37.

Arjun Raja of SBI was declared the man of the match.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.



The Indian Pistons were the winners of the S.V. Pandit Memorial cricket tournament

NEW DELHI

Asia-Oceania Korfball

KORFBALL is a hybrid of handball and basketball; of Dutch origin, it is played between teams of mixed sexes. Korf in Dutch is basket, and was devised to promote the principle of co-education in sport. The object of the game is to score goals and to prevent the opposing team from scoring.

Korfball is a team game, in which players of each team cooperate in order to succeed; each player directly opposed by one of the same sex from the other team. The movement of players from division to division, in the prescribed manner, means that all players must be able to shoot, to defend, and to move the ball swiftly through the centre.

SURESH KUMAR LAU



Action during the Asia-Oceania Korfball tournament

The second Asia-Oceania Korfball Championship held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi was a low key affair. Only three teams—Chinese Taipei, Australia and hosts India—took part in the three-day double round-robin tournament.

Holders Chinese Taipei retained the title on the basis of goal differences against Australia. The Aussies evened their score against Chinese Taipei with a victory in the second leg-match and ended up with equal points.

Australia placed second and hosts India finished third as they failed to win a single match in the three-team-double-league.

Adrie Zwaanswijk of Netherland, International Korfball Federation observer said: "The quality of matches was better in the second Asia-Oceania Korfball tournament".

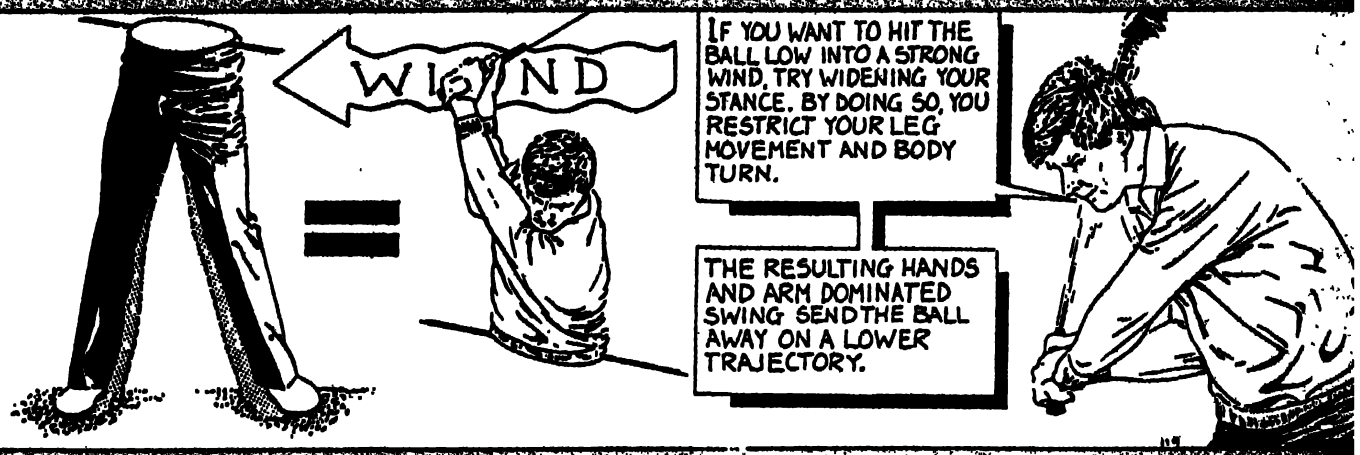
The meet was formally inaugurated by Mr. Rajesh Sharma, Minister of Culture and Sports, Haryana, while Mr. P.A. Sangma, Minister of State for Coal gave away the trophy and medals.

Suresh Kumar Lau

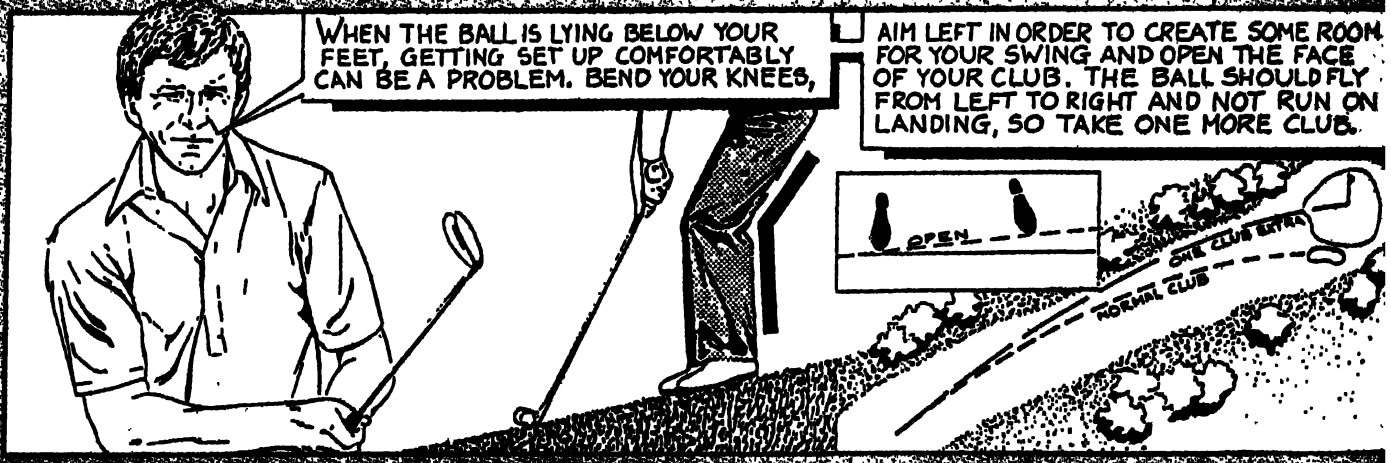
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

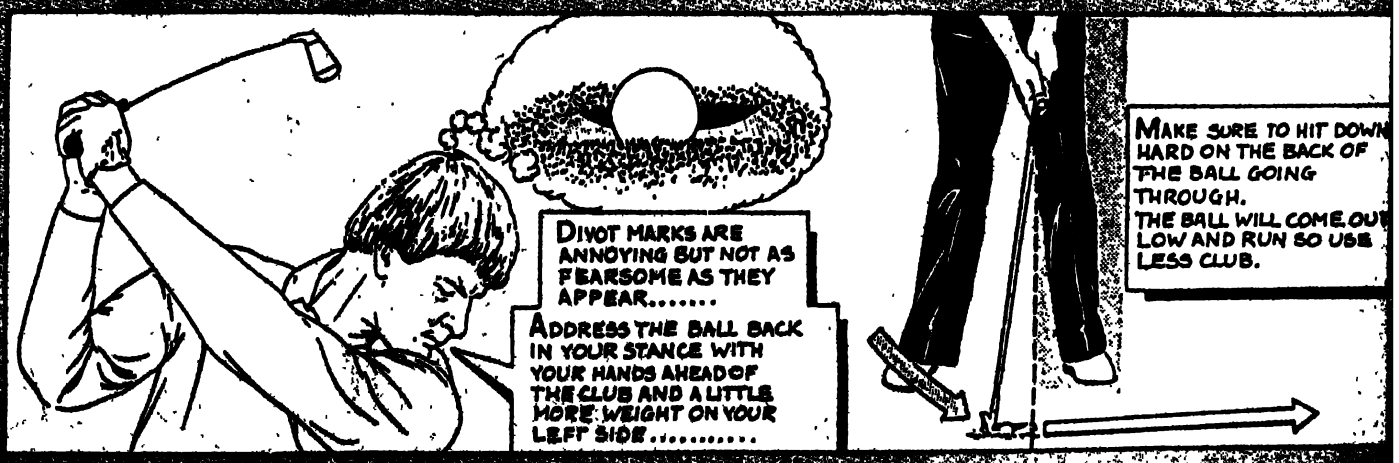
Narrow or Wide Stance



Ball Below Feet



Divot Marks



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Examining his batting partner's swollen temple, an England batsman made the remark 'it looks as if half the ball's in it!' Who were the two?
2. Who was the bowler responsible for the aforementioned plight of the batsman?
3. Where did Don Bradman score the first of his 29 Test centuries?
4. What is common between Harold Larwood and Frank Tyson?
5. What batting distinction did Chris Old earn in the 1977 season?
6. Who was the first West Indies bowler to get a Test hattrick?
7. What is common between long-distance runners Brendan Foster, Meruts Yifter and Ron Clarke?

ANSWERS

1 Geoff Boycott's remark on John Edrich's injury.
2 Peter Pollock (South Africa)
3. Melbourne Cricket Ground
4. Both moved to Australia after retirement
5 He hit up a century in 37 minutes which nearly equalled the record held by P.G.H Fender (Surrey) who reached the hundred in 35 minutes against Northamptonshire in 1920
6. Wes Hall (v Pakistan at Lahore in 1958-59)
7. Each of them is an Olympic bronze medallist in 10,000 m.

CHESS

VALERY SALOV is another of the legion of top class players who have emigrated from the former Soviet Union Salov, now based in Spain is a former World Junior champ whose title aspirations have been hampered by health problems. At his best he plays formidable power chess and is a classical model.

White: Salov Vs Black. Van Derwiel OHRA '91.

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 Nc3 Bb4 5 Bg5 Bb7 6 e3 h6 7 Bh4 g5 8 Bg3 Ne4 9 Qc2 Bc3 10 bc3 Nc3 11 Rg3 g4!? The white recapture on the 11th is supposed to give more play than the alternative way of opening the h-file. Black reacts as sharply as he possibly can. White may be slightly better.

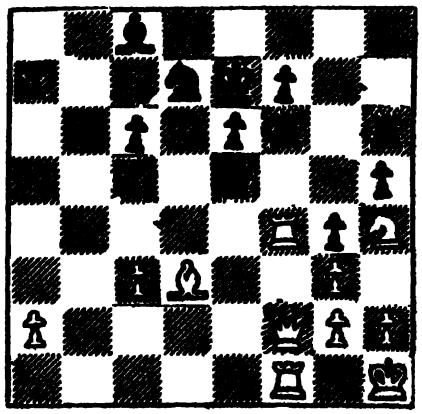
12 Nh4 Qg5 13 Qd2 d6 14 Bd3 Nd7 15 0-0 h5!? The Dutch GM's new idea. He intends to challenge the f-file by Rh6-f6

16 Rf4 Rh6 17 Raf1 Rf6 18 Qf2 Ke7 19 e4 Rh8 20 c5! bc5 21 Bb5 c6 22 Bd3 Bc8 23 Kh1 Rhh6. White's thematic pawn-sac has given him more lines to play down, while black's Bishop is also dead Now he rips open the center. **24 e5! de5 25 de5 qe5** (See Diagram). **26 Nf5!! Rf5 27 Rf5 ef5 28 Re1 Kf6 29 Re5 Ne5 30 Qc5 Be8 31 Qf8! Rh7 32 Bb1 Nd7 33 Qd8 Kg6 34 h4 gh3 35 gh3 Nf6 36 Kh2 Kg7 37 Qa5 Kg6 38 Qa7 Rh8.** Black has finally freed his pieces, but now the a-pawn is dangerous.

39 Qb6 Ra8 40 Qb2 Rd8 41 Qe2 Kg7 42 a4! Rb8 43 Bd3 Ra8 44 Bc2 Rb8 45 Bd3 Ra8 46 Qc2 Kg6 47 c4 c5 48 Qa2 Rd8 49 Qe2 Rd4 50 a5 Bc8 51 Qf3 Ne4. The two threats of g4 and a6 are difficult to stop in combination.

52 g4! hg4 53 hg4 fg4 54 Be4 f5 55 Qg4 (1-0)

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

THE 33rd Winter Nationals at Nagpur in January saw Anand Mehta of Bombay establish a new national record by winning the Rula Trophy for the seventh time. This Open Team tile, the Blue Riband of Indian bridge, went to Anand and his HCL teammates, Jaggy Shivdasani, Haren Choksi, Avinash Gokhale, Rajesh Dalal and yours truly, for the second year in succession. This is from our pre-quarter-final match against Archie's:

Dealer North — N S vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ 6
♥ K104
♦ AK873
♣ AK72

WEST
♠ K94
♥ AJ63
♦ J5
♣ 10965

EAST
♠ A8753
♥ 5
♦ Q1092
♣ QJ4

SOUTH
♠ QJ102
♥ Q9872
♦ 64
♣ 83

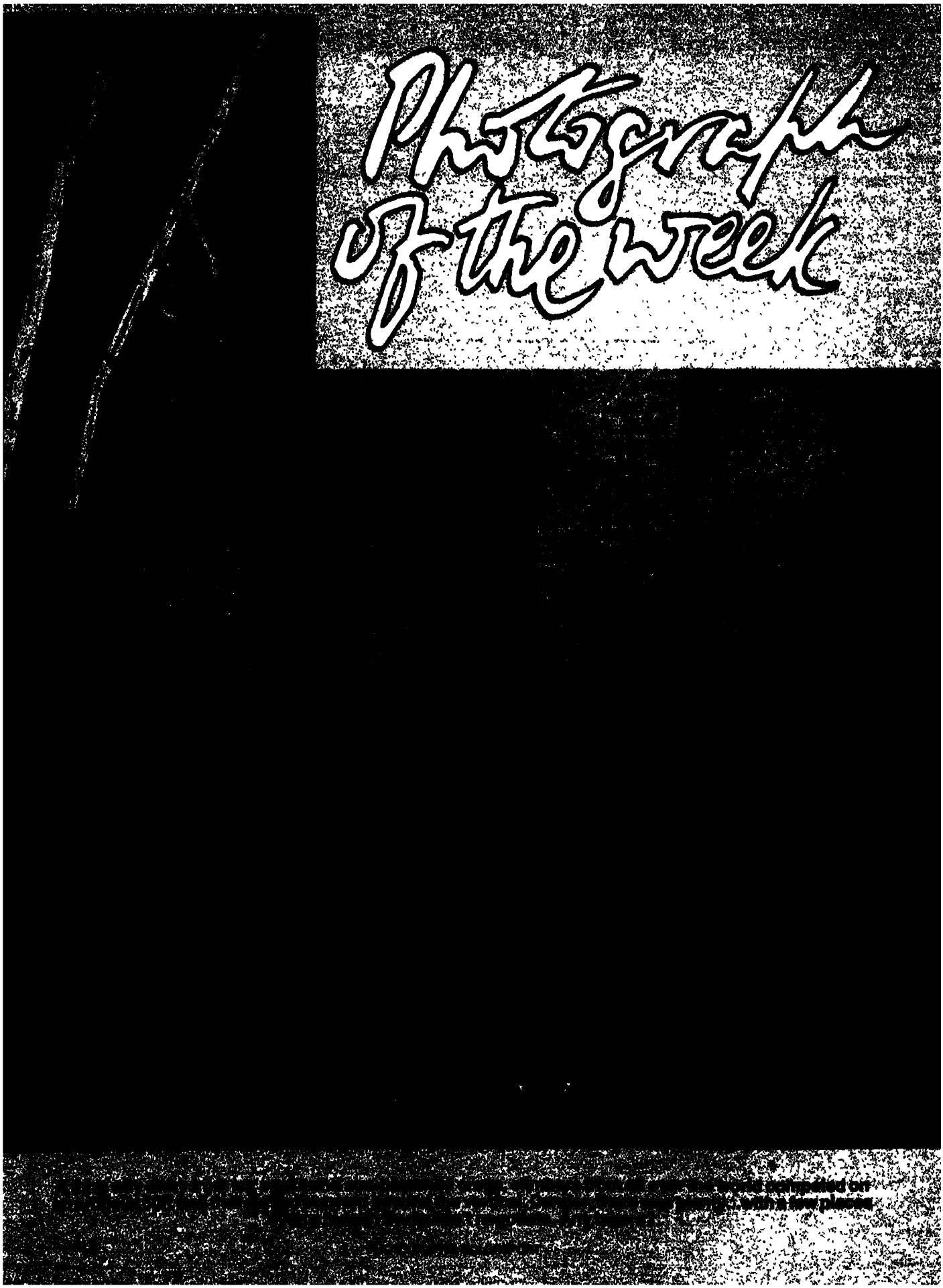
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Jaggy	P phekar	Santanu	Khare
—	1♣(16+)	1♠	Pass*
2♠	Dble	Pass	3♥**
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

*0 4pts or interest in penalising
**Lebenstention showing some values (3 4 pts)

On the normal defence lead of a low spade lead to East's ace and a spade continuation, West's king is ruffed out. Now even if West correctly ducks the king of hearts, declarer can and should make the hand by simply cashing the minor suit winners, ruffing a club, cashing a spade and then ruffing the last spade, giving West just two trump tricks.

Terence Reese, the famous British world champion of the fifties, used to say that 'blind lead is for deaf players,' and Jaggy, bless him, is far from deaf. Correctly analysing that South had some strength and length in spades for his first-round pass and subsequent forward-going move and that North was short in spades, he chose to lead the king in order to protect the defence against the sort of layout of the spade suit that actually existed. Now declarer had no chace—he could not afford to ruff the spade continuation (or else he might be down two for East would get the spade ace later and West would get two trumps plus a possible ruff). So, I won a second spade trick for my side with the ace and in the fullness of time, West got two trump tricks when I put dummy in with a minor-suit return at trick three. Down one and a free opening-lead lesson for all!

Santanu Ghose


Photograph
of the week

1975

IN 1975, cricket's first one-day World Cup was held in England. Sponsored by Prudential Assurance, the eight sides to participate were the six Test-playing nations, plus Sri Lanka (not then a Test side) and East Africa.

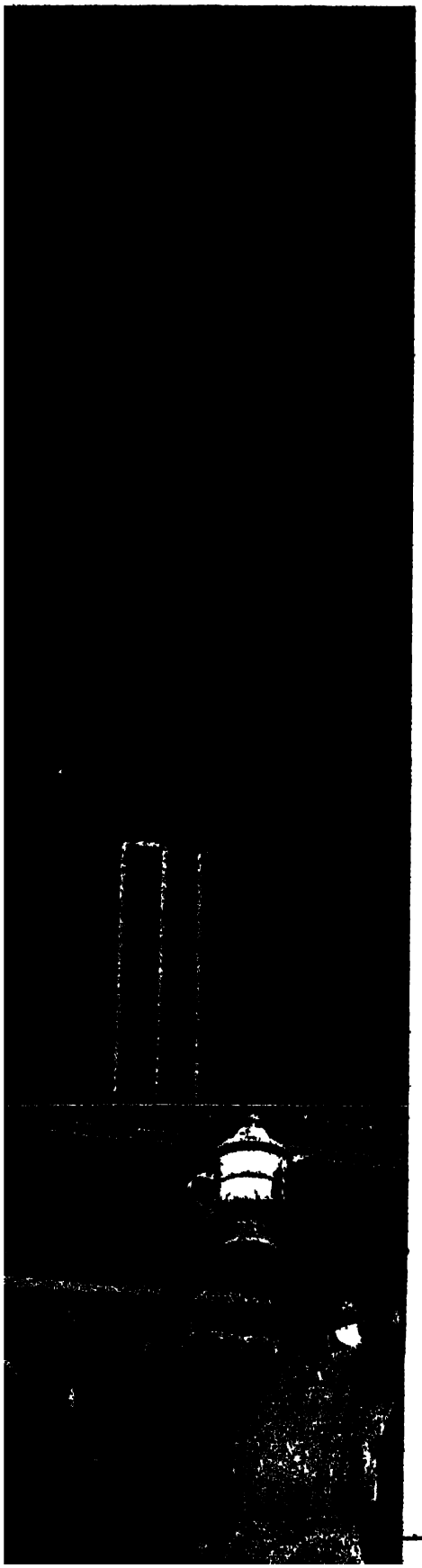
East Africa were outclassed, but Sri Lanka put up a brave show, especially against Australia. The teams were split into two preliminary groups of four; the top two teams in each group progressed to the semifinal stage. Each innings was limited to a maximum of 60 overs (this remained the limitation until the competition moved from England in 1987).

Hosts England reached the semi-finals, where they were beaten in an extraordinary match by Australia, for whom left-arm fast bowler Gilmour took 6 for 14 as England were bundled out for a paltry 93. However, in helpful conditions for the bowlers, Australia slumped to 39 for 6, and England seemed set for an astonishing win until that man Gilmour combined with Walters in a partnership which took Australia to victory without losing another wicket. West Indies easily defeated New Zealand in the other semi-final.

Naturally enough, the famous Lord's ground was the venue for the first World Cup final. West Indies, batting first, lost their first wicket in typically Caribbean style· opener Fredericks hooked the menacing, moustachioed Australian fast bowler Lillee out of the ground, only to find that he had trodden on his wicket while playing the shot. Favourites West Indies lost three wickets for 50 before former captain Rohan Kanhai joined his successor Clive Lloyd in a stand of 149, which did much to lift West Indies to their eventual 60-overs total of 291 for 8. Lloyd reached his hard-hit hundred from only 82 balls.

Australia's reply was undone by brilliant fielding from the West Indians, in particular from the young Vivian Richards No fewer than five of the Australians were run out, three of them by Richards. Despite a typically gritty 62 from skipper Ian Chappell, Australia looked to be sliding to defeat when last man Lillee joined his fast-bowling partner Thomson at the crease at 233 for 9 By dint of sensible batting, however, the 10th-wicket pair added 41, and had West Indies worried before the final run-out settled matters. Just before the end there was a moment of high farce, as Thomson hit a catch to Fredericks off a no-ball. The fielder, realising that the batsman could not be out off a no-ball, threw the ball at the stumps as the batsmen scrambled a single. He missed, and watched as the ball disappeared into the spectators, who had rushed onto the field, believing the match was over when the catch was taken, the no-ball call having gone unnoticed. Lillee and Thomson ran like hares, perhaps hoping to win the match in one hit with the ball lost, but the umpires eventually stopped them and awarded two runs while the ground was cleared again. Shortly afterwards, the final run-out ended the fun, with West Indies the winners by the narrow margin of 17 runs.





THE WORLD AT WAR

A journey into the past recapitulating the high points of cricket's premier tournament since its inception in 1975....

Clive Lloyd proudly holds aloft the trophy

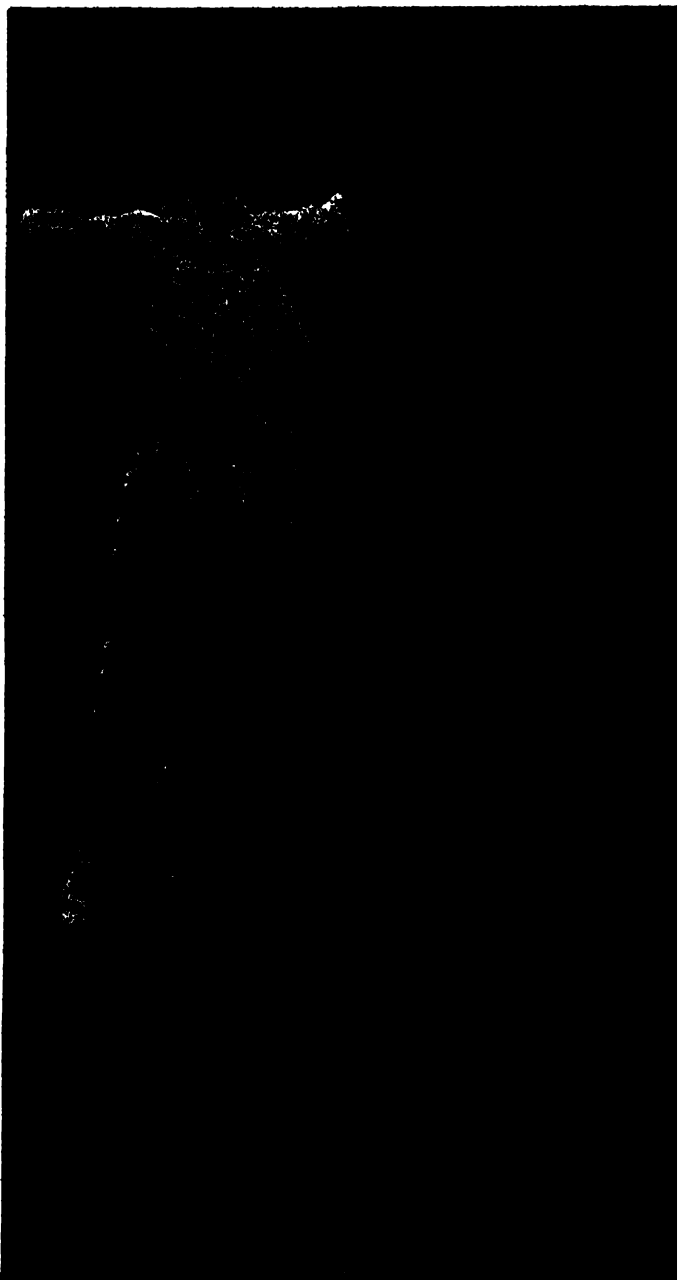
1979

FOUR years later the second World Cup was played, again in England. For the first time, the 'junior' countries played their own qualifying tournament, a process which saw Sri Lanka and Canada progress to the World Cup proper. The tournament (which was conducted along the same lines as in 1975) was played soon after the 'peace' agreement between the Establishment game and Kerry Packer's breakaway World Series Cricket: things were still rather confused, and West Indies and Pakistan included all their Packer players, while England and Australia did not.

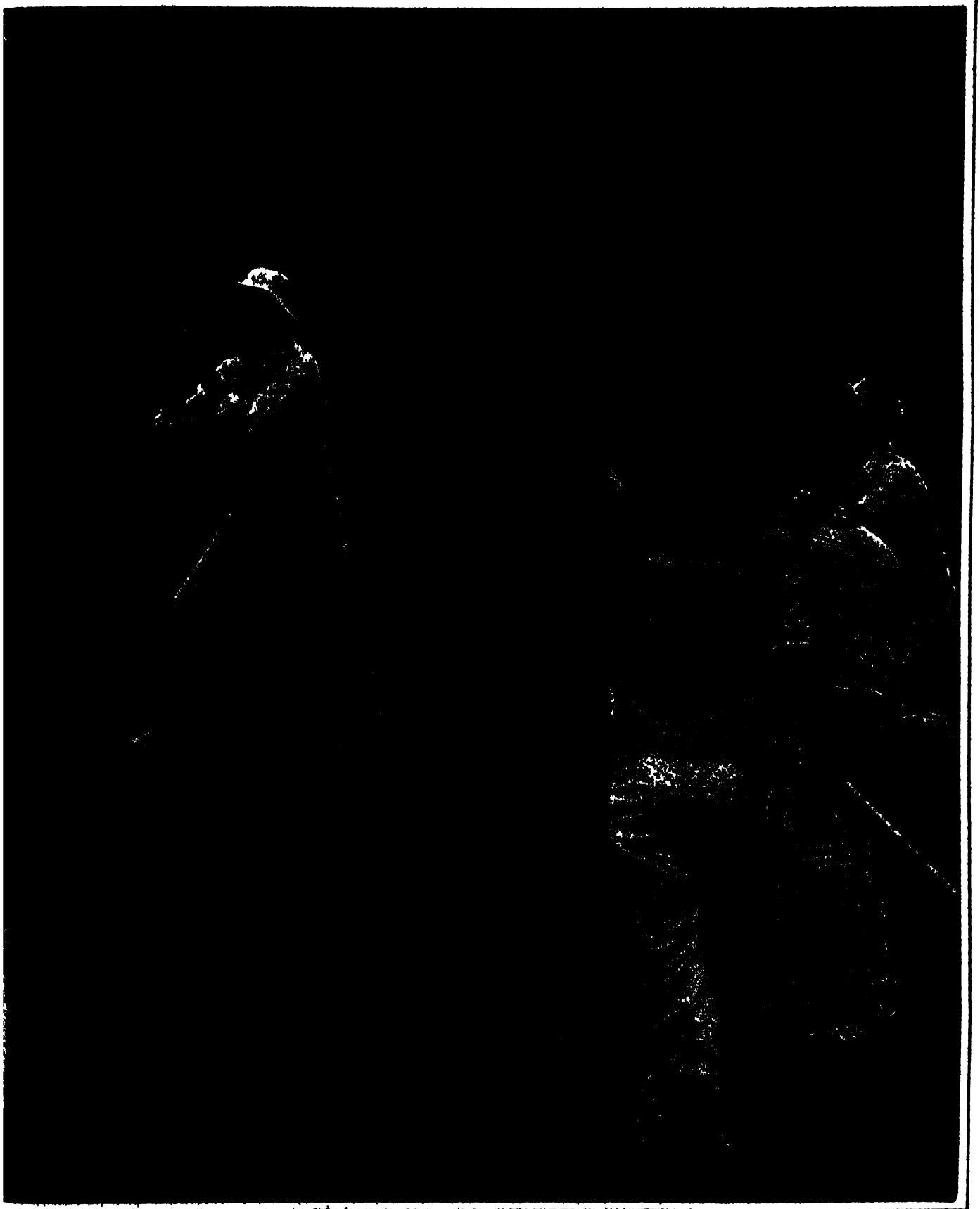
The inexperienced Australian side did not make the semi-finals, but England did: once there, they beat New Zealand in a closefought match by nine runs to reach the final. Their opponents were West Indies, who overcame Pakistan in the other semi-final despite an excellent stand of 166 between the stylish pair of Majid Jahangir Khan and Zaheer Abbas.

A wonderful innings from Vivian Richards, then at the height of his considerable powers, lit up the 1979 final. He scored 138 not out, hitting 11 fours and three sixes, the last of which was an extraordinary shot off a well-pitched-up delivery which sent the final ball of the innings high over square leg into the Mound Stand. Even Richards, though, was briefly upstaged by a whirlwind innings from noted hitter Collis King, who blasted a rapid 86. King and Richards put on 139 in 77 minutes.

In reply, England's openers Brearley and Boycott laid a solid foundation with a stand of 129. But their sedate rate of scoring put pressure on the later batsmen, who caved in against the fast, accurate bowling of Croft and Garner. The latter, a giant at 6ft 8ins, ended the match with a spell of five wickets for four runs in 11 balls: England were shot out for 194, leaving West Indies winners once again, this time by the comfortable margin of 92 runs.







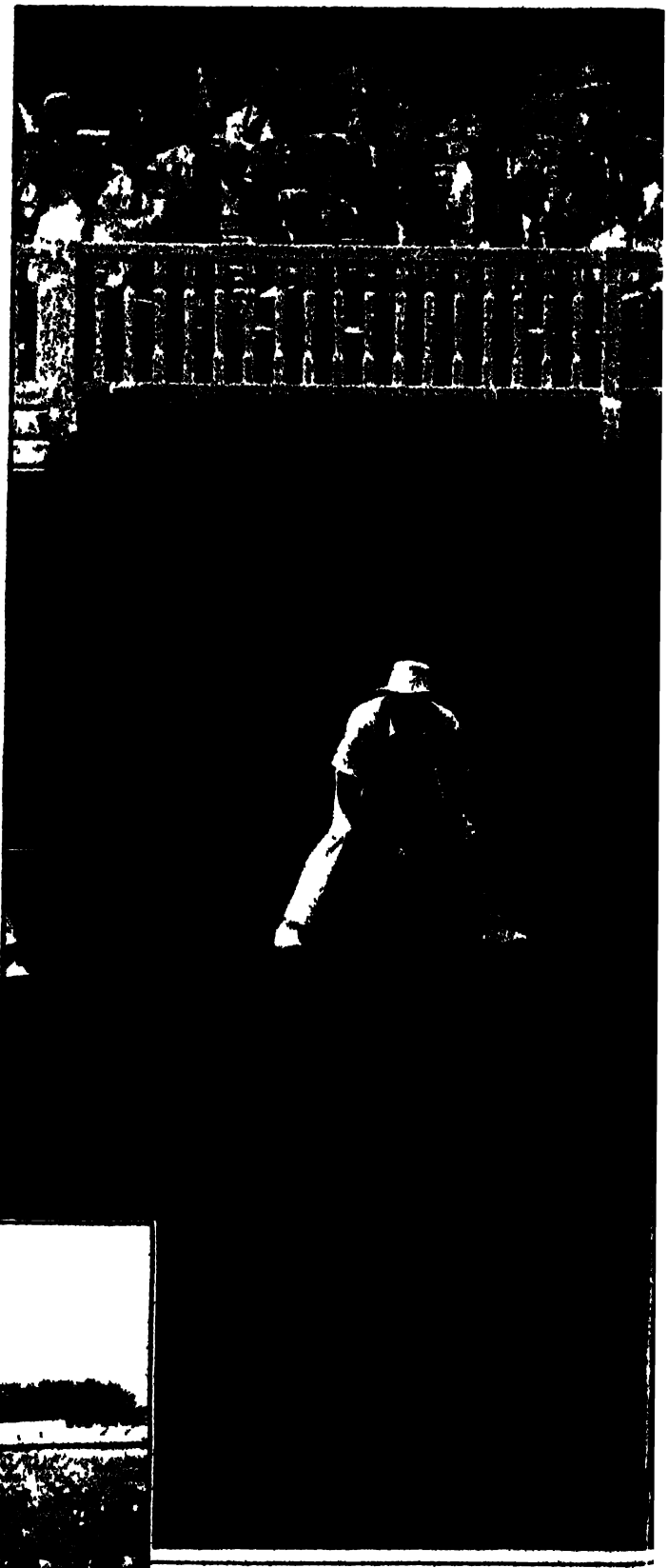
1983

WEST INDIES were hot favourites to complete a hat-trick of World Cup wins in 1983, in the last tournament to date to be staged in England. With Sri Lanka now elevated to Test ranks, only one country was able to progress from the ICC Trophy (the competition for the 'minor' nations): Zimbabwe won through, and inflicted an embarrassing defeat on Australia in their first match in the competition proper. Once again, the teams had been split into two groups off four, but this time they played each other twice each, thus doubling the number of matches played.

Australia's mishap against Zimbabwe—and another setback at India's hands—cost them a place in the semi-finals, where West Indies completed a straightforward victory over Pakistan. At Old Trafford, surprise packets India had an equally comfortable victory over England, whose disappointing total of 213 never looked enough to test a talented batting side.

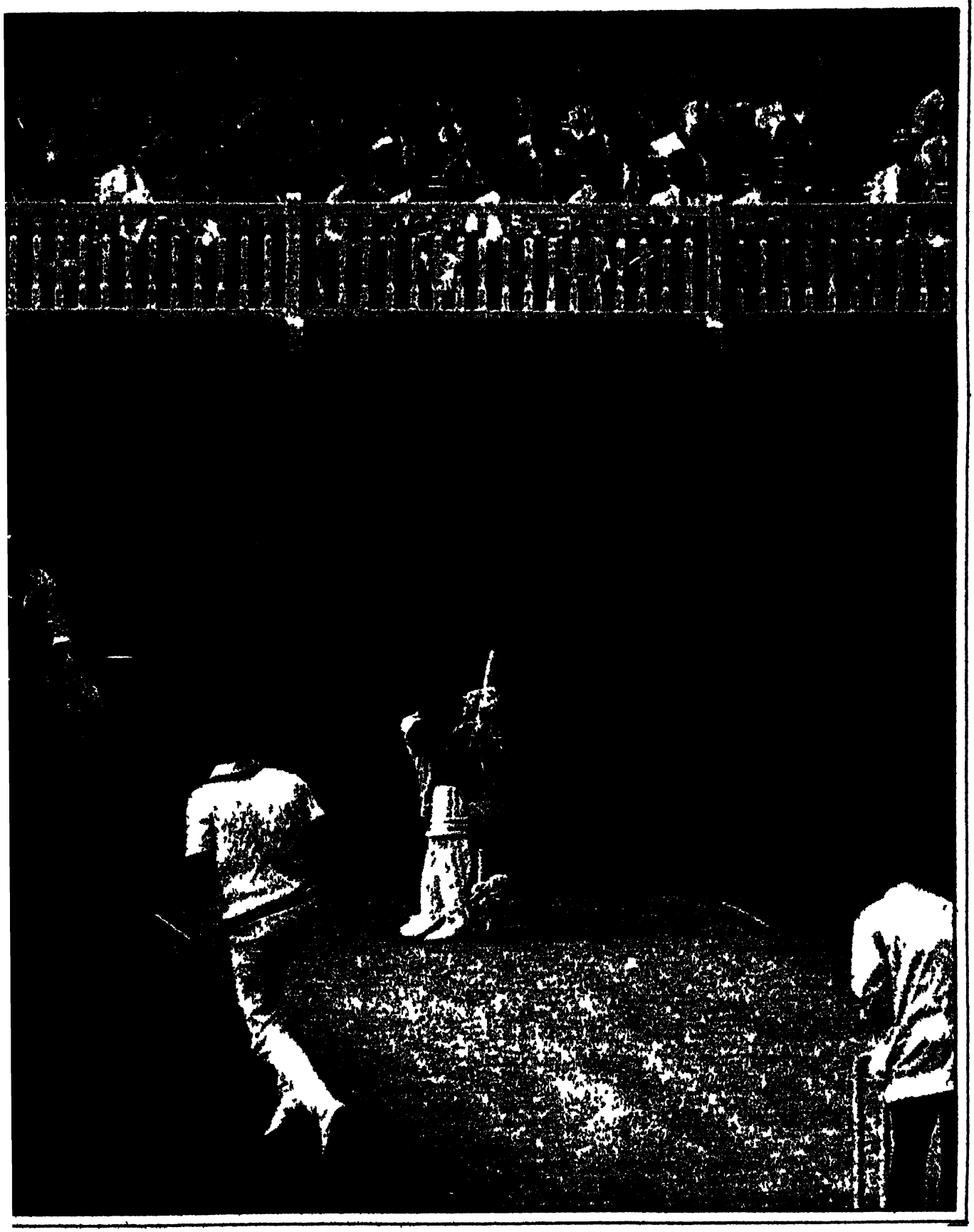
West Indies were overwhelming favourites for the final, played at Lord's on June 25. India, after all, had won only one match in the 1975 and 1979 competitions, and that against minnows East Africa. West Indies' seemed set for an easy victory when they dismissed India for 183, Srikkanth topscoring with 38. Andy Roberts, one of four survivors from the 1975 final, returned the best bowling figures: he took 3 for 32, his analysis including the vital wicket of the prolific Sunil Gavaskar for 2.

West Indies seemed to be cruising to victory at 50 for 1, but then a fine running catch by Kapil Dev to dispose of Richards, and an untimely injury which restricted Lloyd, slowed the champions down. India's eager medium-pacers chipped away at the middle order, and suddenly West Indies were facing defeat. The gentle floaters of Amarnath, the eventual Man of the Match, accounted for three late wickets, and India had won a famous victory, one which assured all the team members of celebrity status back home.





Kapil Dev and Mohinder Amarnath celebrate the proudest moment in Indian cricketing history



1987

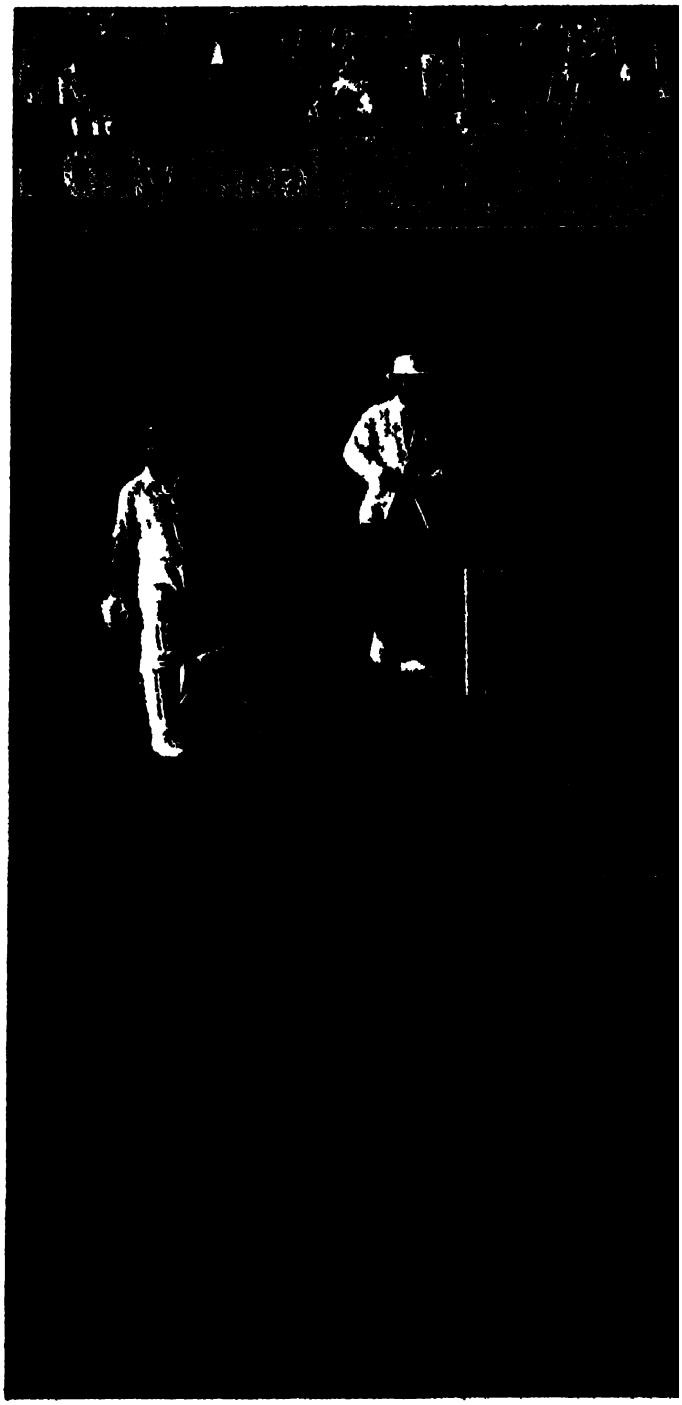
THE FOURTH World Cup saw a move away from England, with India and Pakistan co-hosting the event, which saw the same cast of teams as in 1983, Zimbabwe having emerged victorious from the ICC Trophy once again. As before, the preliminary matches featured two groups of four teams, who played each other twice.

The surprise of the qualifying stages was West Indies failure to reach the semi-finals. First England, then Pakistan conjured unlikely last-over victories against the former champions, and not even a record score of 360 for 4 (Richards 181) against Sri Lanka could save them.

The co-hosts had been praying for a 'dream final' between India and Pakistan at the vast Eden Gardens ground at Calcutta, but Australia put paid to these

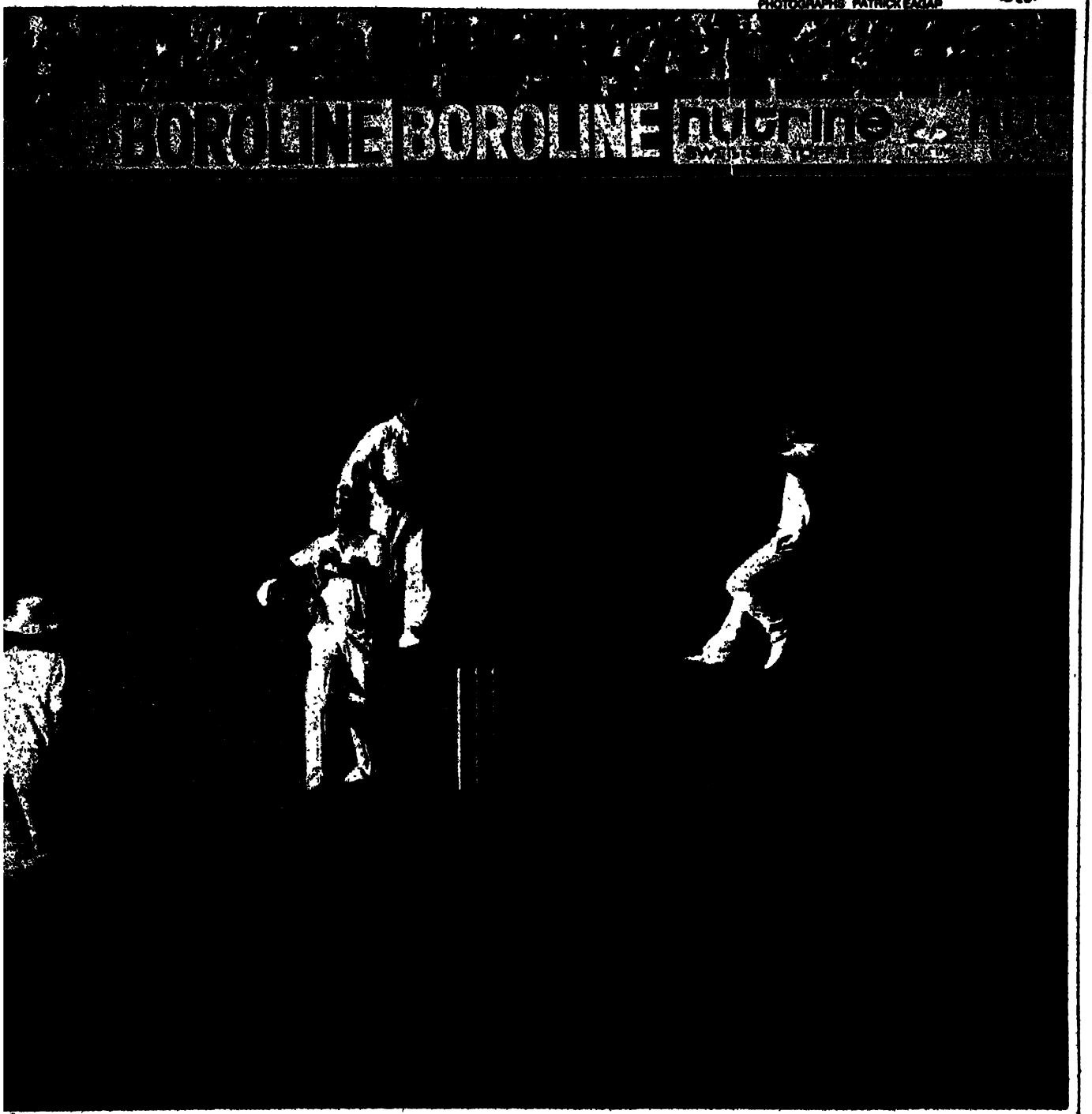
The Australian hegemony begins with Allan Border's resounding success in the Indian Reliance Cup





fond hopes by defeating Pakistan in the Lahore semifinal. With Miandad and Imran going well, Pakistan seemed set to overhaul Australia's 267 for 8, but four quick wickets from tearaway fast bowler McDermott, who finished with 5 for 44, ended Pakistan's challenge. England dealt a similar blow to India's hopes in the second semi-final at Bombay, where Gooch's 115, which featured many adventurous sweep shots against India's spin-oriented attack, was the mainstay of a total of

PHOTOGRAPHS PATRICK EAGAR



254 for 6. Despite 64 from the graceful Azharuddin, India fell 35 runs short, with the veteran offspinner Hemmings taking 4 for 52.

In the final, Australia got off to a flying start against some wayward early bowling. Boon's 75, aided and abetted by useful contributions from Jones, Border and Mike Veletta, took Australia to 253 for 5 in their 50 overs. Despite the early loss of Robinson for a duck, England seemed set fair for victory after Athey's careful 58. Gatting and Lamb both reached 40, but one rash act from the England captain cost him his wicket and probably cost his side the match. Gatting essayed a reverse sweep at the first ball bowled by his rival captain Border, and the ball ballooned up to be caught by the wicketkeeper. Border also disposed of Downton, and the tailenders could not muster quite enough runs to take England to victory. Australia's eventual winning margin of seven runs being the narrowest in any of the four World Cup finals so far. ●

FITNESS

BULK UP

LAST week we'd discussed the type of body you're looking for. Some of us are searching for mass...or quantity. Others are looking for lean definition...or quality. Either way, you're working that body. And that's the main thing.

A lot of the exercises that we are going to list now are probably part of your workout already. But the secret is to work heavy. And on more weight than you normally use. Once you've got used to that, add on even more. Only by forcing your body to get stronger will it get bigger. So, if you're already doing an exercise and not growing, then you're obviously doing it too light.

Here are 20 great bulk-builders:

• Squats: Most of us don't do this one with enough weight on the bar. Try another 20-30 pounds for starters and feel those thighs scream. They'll grow too.

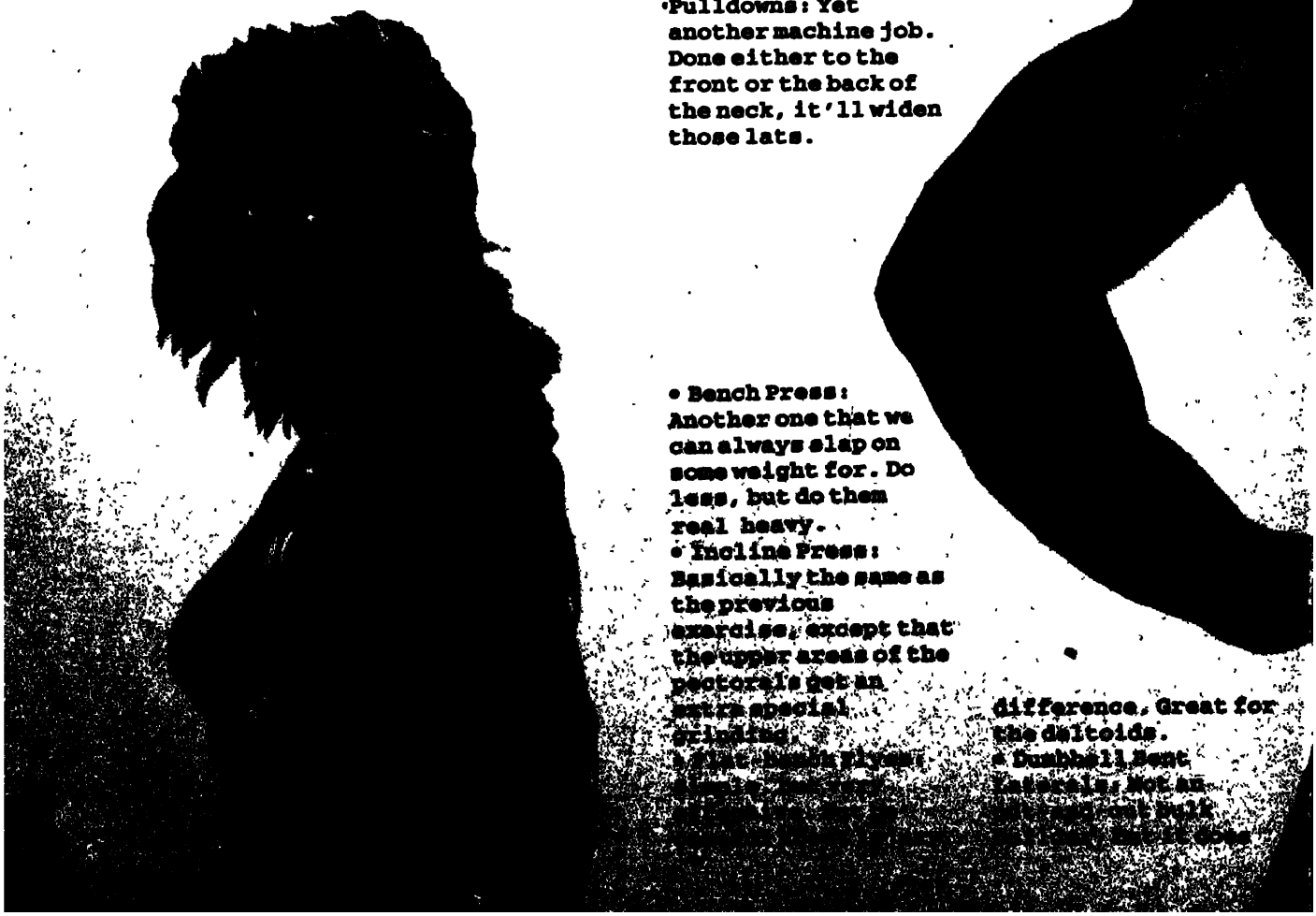
• Leg Presses: You need the machine for this, but again, it's a great workout for the thighs.

• Leg Curls: Works the hamstrings real good. If you can't get to a machine, strap weights onto your ankles and get going.

• Deadlifts: The back-builder. May seem boring, but does a world of good.

• Barbell Bent Rows: Regardless of the grip used—narrow, or wide—this one gets the upper back into action.

• Lat Machine Pulldowns: Yet another machine job. Done either to the front or the back of the neck, it'll widen those lats.



• Bench Press: Another one that we can always slap on some weight for. Do less, but do them real heavy.

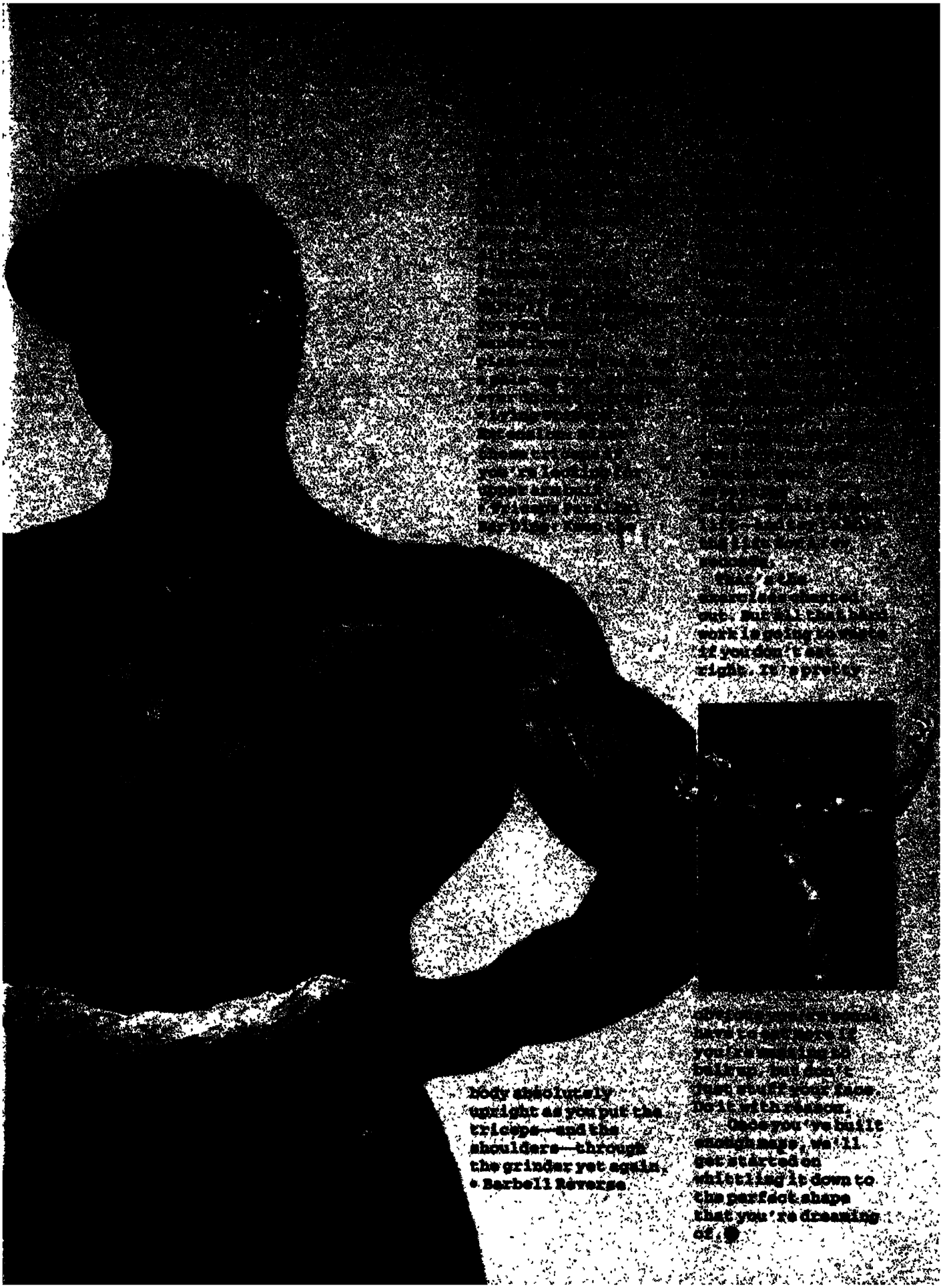
• Incline Press: Basically the same as the previous exercise, except that the upper areas of the pectorals get an extra special grinding.

[illegible] heavier.

• Military Press: The shoulder-builder that can take more weight, if you're man enough.

• Upright Rows: Think it's tough enough at the level you're at now? Try adding on another 10 pounds, and you'll hardly notice the difference. Great for the deltoids.

• Dumbbell Bent Laterals: Not an [illegible]



body absolutely upright as you put the triceps—and the shoulders—through the grinder yet again.

• Barbell Reverse

freewheeling

THE people of the State of Victoria who claim to be hours ahead in time and generations ahead in sophistication from the rest of Australia, are paying greater attention to the World Cup than any of Australia's other states, mainly because the final of a truly international cricket carnival, featuring the world's best teams is to be played in their capital, Melbourne.

In fact, Melbourne almost lost out on staging the final of the Benson and Hedges World Cup in a tough battle with Sydney. Melbourne's bid was successful apparently largely due to the building of the new Great Southern Stand at the MCG. This new stand takes the capacity of the MCG back to the original 100,000 and a full house for the final—which is almost guaranteed—will mean a new world record cricket attendance.

But to regular MCG goers, it will be a sad day because the new stand was built at the expense of the famous Bay 13, second in notoriety only to the Sydney Hill. It's like the Eden Gardens without the legendary Block D Many believe that the atmosphere of the ground has been robbed but since the beer remains the cheapest in comparision with the rest of the stadium, there will be plenty of people who will return to the erstwhile Bay 13

Tickets for the finals are already going at a premium because it has almost been taken for granted that Australia will be playing at the MCG on March 25. However, ticket demand [illegible] as desperate as that of the 'footy' match held in Melbourne the other day when one fan, desperately looking for a ticket stood with a board which said, "Free sex for one ticket". Whether the fan was male or female we don't know, but I suppose that is the question.

Nevertheless, Melbourne is all set for the tourism windfall which will come with the World Cup final. 56,000 tourists are expected to spend more than $30 million on accomodation, food, shopping, transport and tourist attractions. Most big Melbourne hotels claim to have heavy bookings for several days either side of the final. *Qantas*, the official international airline for the tournament but now reeling under financial problems, says it expects to carry more than 2,000 passengers from Britain alone to and from the World Cup. The Australian Cricket Board expects to release a report giving a detailed breakdown of the economic and tourism impact of the tournament.

The tourism department says that the World Cup would be the biggest sporting highlight in Melbourne for at least the next five years. And they say that the economic benefits don't just lie in immediate tourist dollars, Melbourne will reap the benefit for years to come from the international exposure it will receive when the tournament final is broadcast to more than 1.5 billion television viewers in more than 40 countries. Even *Star TV*, Hong Kong will be doing their bit during the World Cup and they have signed up Sunil

56,000 tourists are expected to flock to Melbourne for the World Cup



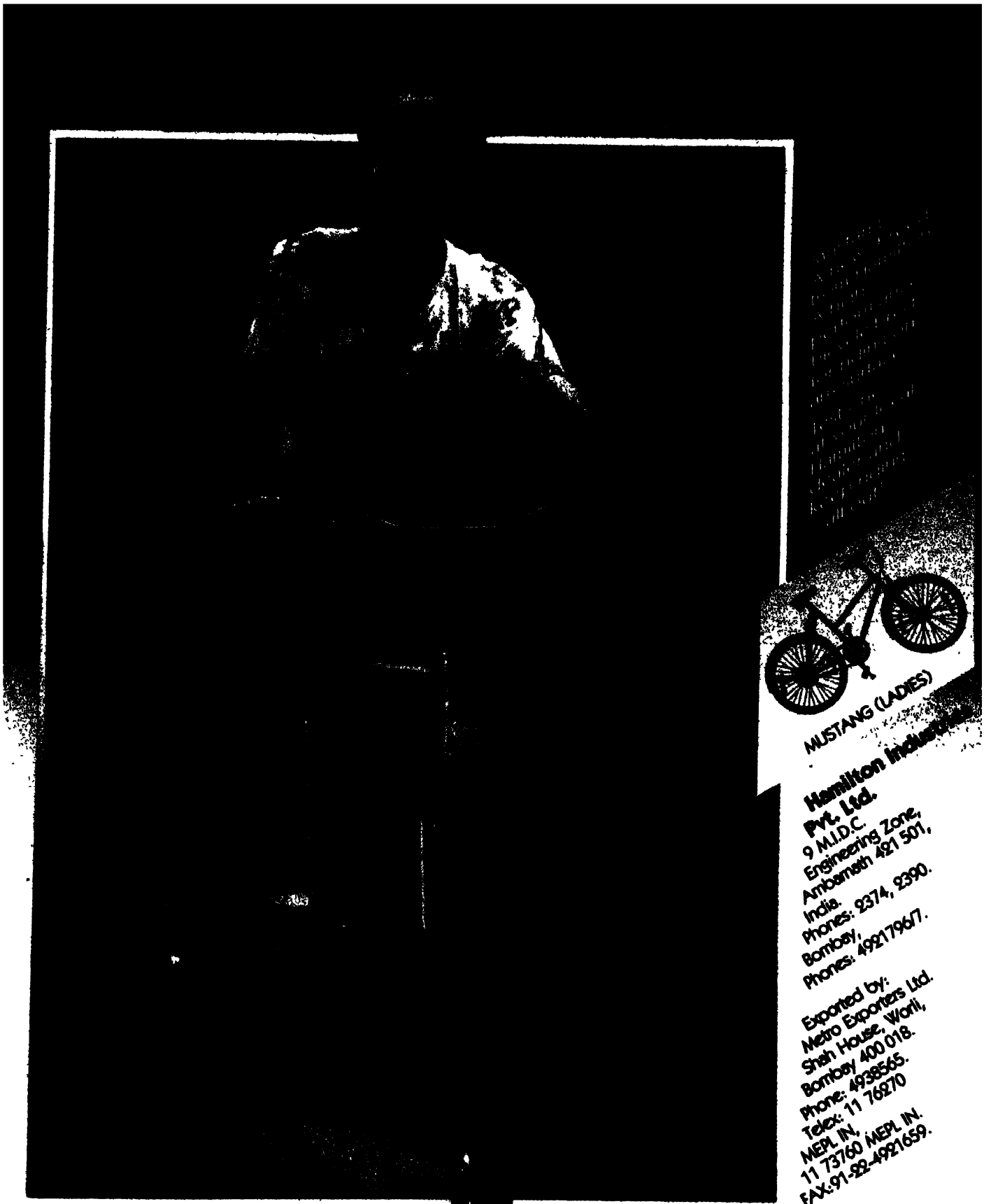
Gavaskar who has just finished a stint with Channel Nine.

But for all the politeness of the people of this State, the Victorians inhospitable treatment of touring teams continued with a 38 run win against India. Just a few days before, the Victorians had gone within a wicket of beating tournament favourites, Pakistan. It seems the teams for the World Cup are sent to play the strong Victorian one-day line-up so that the drain on the morale of the touring teams can help Australia's chances of defending the World Cup.

What was funny about the warm-up matches was that they were played in 'simulated' World Cup conditions; the umpires wore coloured clothing and the sight screens were blacked out so batsmen could pick out the ball. Even Victoria's Merv Hughes' zinc cream was black. But for all that 'realism', the players wore their customary white perhaps just to remind people that it was, after all, only a warm-up affair.

Not that the spectators cared after some time, especially when the Fosters and the Sunday sun began to take their toll.

But the joke of the month belongs to the Chinese immigrant who had come with his Aussie pals to watch the warm-up match. Irritated that his mates were ridiculing his lack of knowledge of cricket—and maybe English—the Chinaman blurted out angrily: "You think I know f... nothing about cricket. Well, the guys are wrong. I know [illegible]



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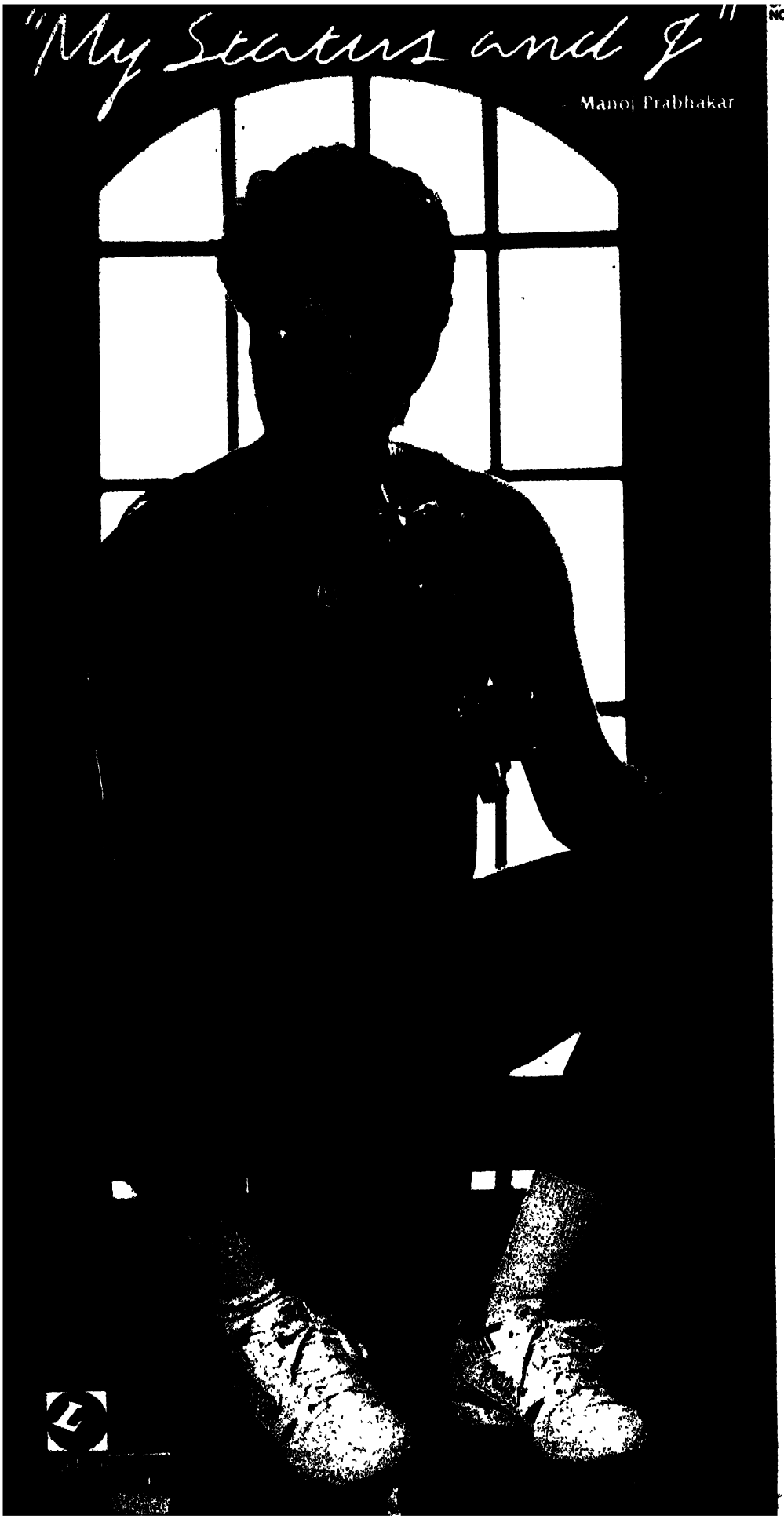
Mountain Bike. Latest craze.

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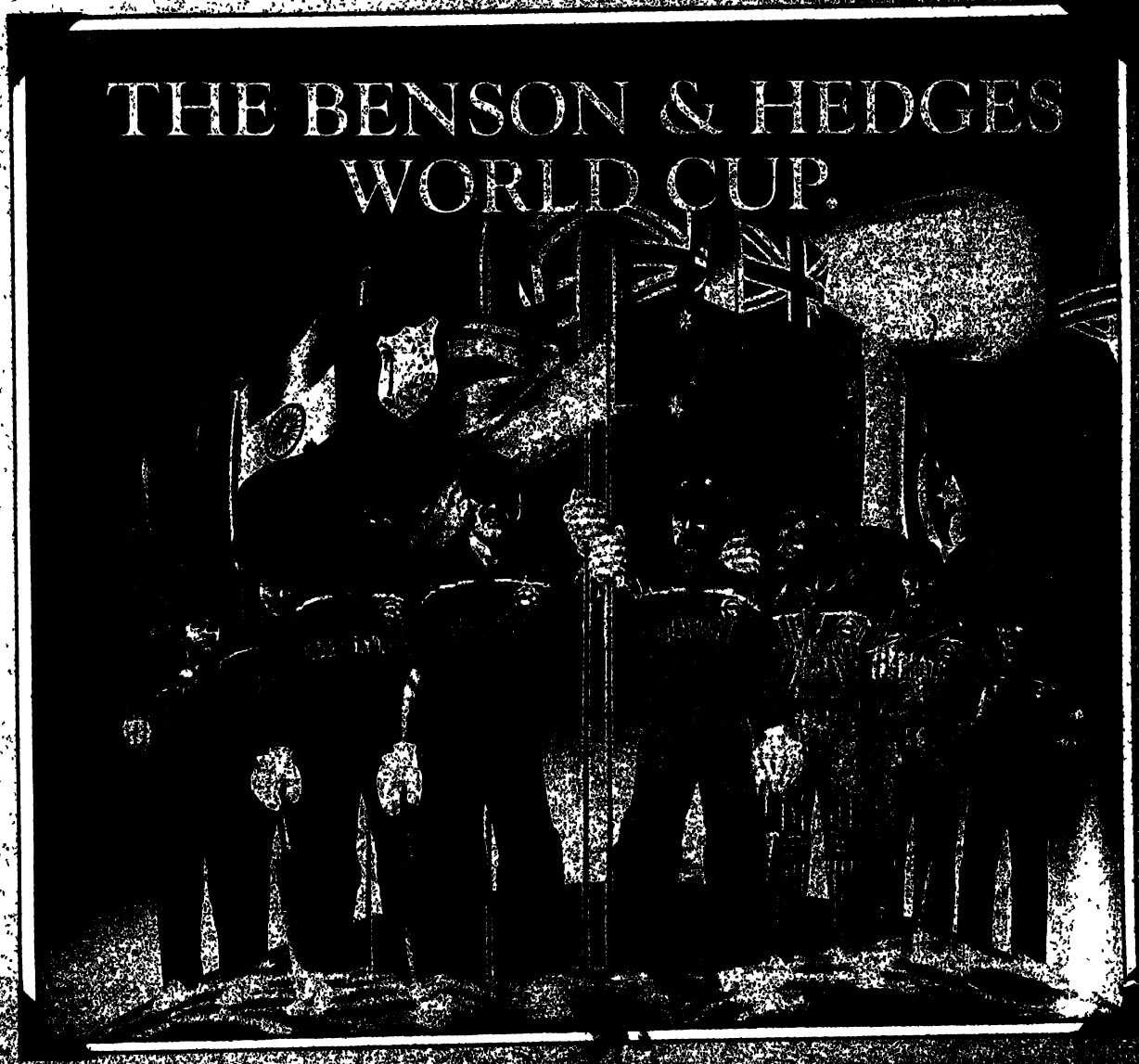
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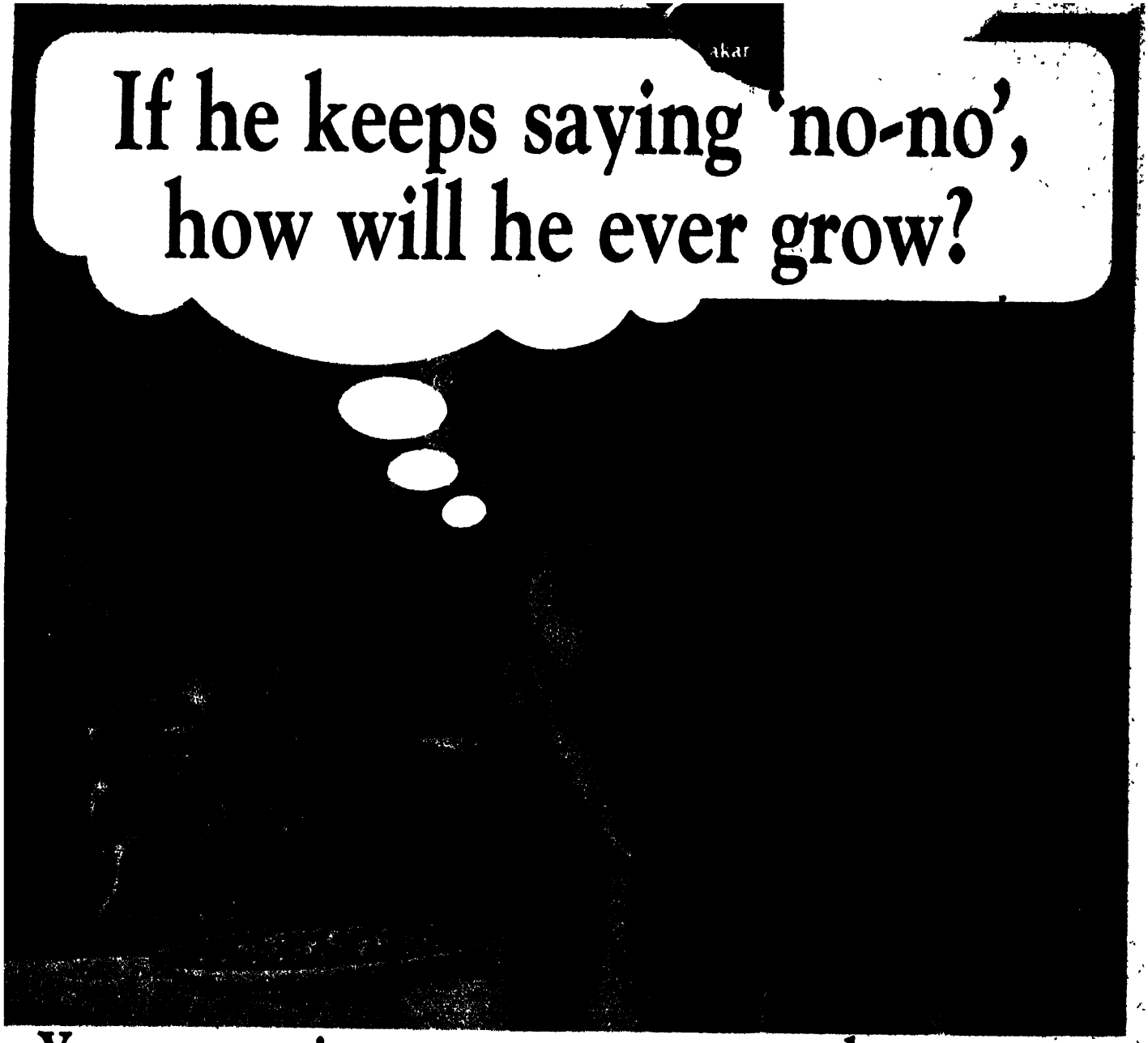
3 Brothers/LS/1879J

Sportsworld



ATTITUDE IS THERE!

WHAT DOES THE WORLD CUP MEAN TO TENDULKAR?



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Voices

THEY may stoop to any level to put me off. I have the mental strength to survive all this and much more. Everything I do results in controversy. The public must be wondering how one guy can go to such lengths to hog the headlines. But frankly all this publicity disgusts me. I would rather be left alone to play hockey, which I enjoy.

MARK PATTERSON

IF Sachin is hitting rapid centuries to bring the greatest Indian cricketer down, there is no doubt who holds the mantle. Aptly, Kapil Dev (Nikhanj is only 33, so he will not yield his position to Tendulkar easily, and that's the way it should be. For any crown has to be earned for the wearer to understand its importance, for it to fit easily, SUNIL GAVASKAR feels that teenage prodigy Sachin Tendulkar had to wait for a while more in the wings before Kapil Dev finally relinquishes the mantle to him.



FOR so long, I was fighting for attention. I had to put on a little sideshow and say, hey notice me over here. Now I don't have to fight for attention. Last year it was a challenge for me to get the record and this year it's a challenge to hold him off, get the gold medal and hopefully break the record again.

[redacted] at the World Track and Field Championships in Tokyo last year. He has trained for

MIKE POWELL



SHE said she wanted to play straight up, right? [illegible] no rules, changes to give the women an advantage. I think I'd like to see her [illegible] for one million. I'll put up my cheque for one million dollars of my own money. That's the way I want to play.

MARY JOANNE [illegible] never looked back. I love to dedicate this title to the [illegible] Steve and him.

[illegible] are important but [illegible] I'm happy to win matches and [illegible]. That's my first priority.

World No. 1 JIM COURIER still seems to have his feet firmly planted on the tennis court.

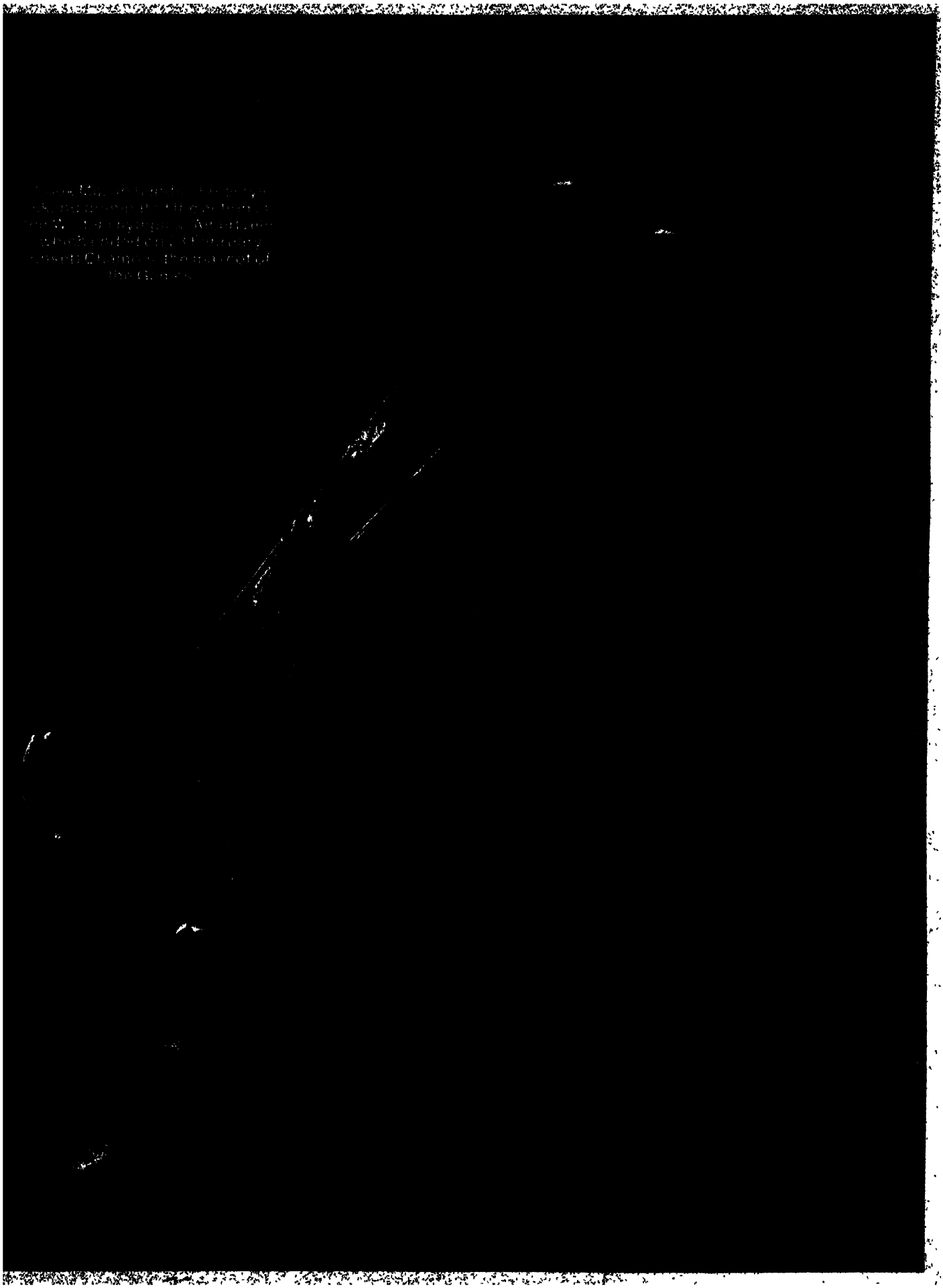
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Sportsworld



WORLD CUP 1992





EDITORIAL

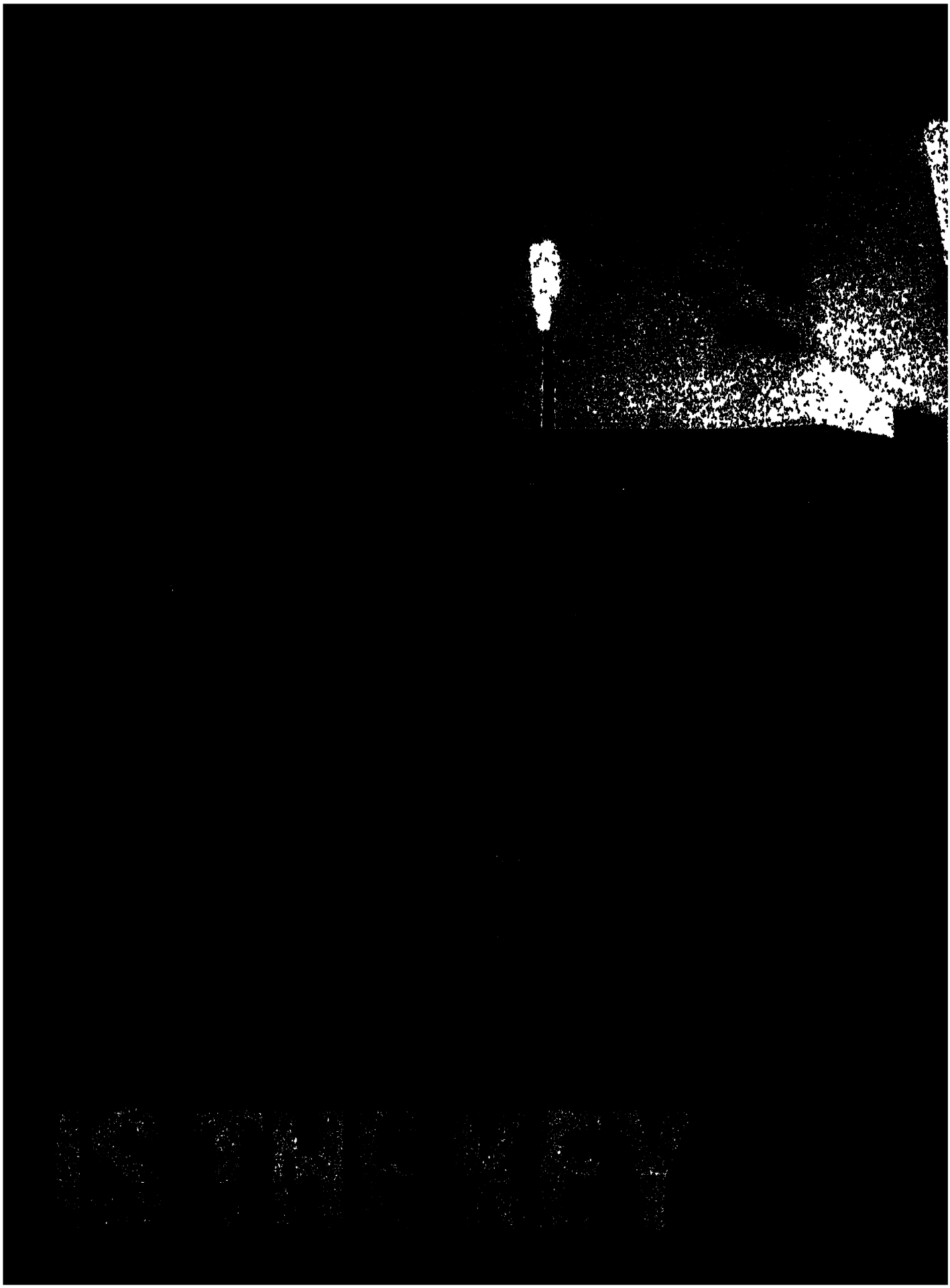
ATTITUDE

WE all know that the Indian team's performance so far has been dismal and it deserves any stricture or criticism that you and I may wish to fling at it. What we did not realise was that the situation was so desperate that a highly resourceful former Indian captain has suggested that Kapil Dev be made into a playing manager.



BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

When this was brought to the notice of the BCCI president he was as confused as the rest of us. Was it one of those tongue-in-cheek remarks that this former cricketer sometimes makes to



cause a bit of a fluster among his many fans who take all his revelations as seriously as a papal discourse? Or did he really mean it?

To make the world's foremost all-rounder into the playing manager of this team would be an excellent idea if you did not wish him to get any more wickets or runs.

Fortunately members of the BCCI who, I am informed, do take some notice of what appears in the Press realise that the Indian team's sorry performance has very little to do with the manager. The problem has been with the attitude of some of the players who seem to have forgotten that there is more to playing for India than just the money, the free dinners or the 50% discounts. And, there is very little a manager, who is appointed for one series, can do to enforce discipline among those who are quick to point out that they have played a hundred times more for their country... and erroneously presume that this makes them a hundred times wiser.

According to one statement by the manager, the Indians do not even know the basics of cricket, and if Abbas Ali Baig hopes that he can teach his team in the next few days how to run between wickets and back-up throws, all of us wish him the best. Some of us would like to be a little more pragmatic and submit that, while we do expect India to make it to the semi-finals, it is only because much of the opposition is a little weak this year.

Appointing Kapil Dev 'playing manager' would ensure that he does not get any more wickets or runs



You may recall that, a few years ago, Australia also went through a similar period, when there was no discipline on the field (there was also plenty of rowdyism off it which thankfully does not not apply to the Indians). The Australian Cricket Board came down heavily by not only putting Simpson, who is pretty sharp, in charge but encouraging Border to take an inflexible stand.

The change was almost immediate and Australia, inspite of not having all that talented a side, began to win more often. Even now they do not have a batsman with Tendulkar's ability, an all-rounder like Kapil Dev, a spinner of Tufnell's class or an



Ian Botham, a fine all-rounder who has seen better days

opening attack quite as effective as Pakistan's. But their captain manages to extract that extra bit of enthusiasm at the appropriate time and that is one reason why they are the favourites to win.

England, the second favourites, have their own peculiar problems: they have lost Lawrence and any side which has to recall Ian Botham, a fine all-rounder but one who has definitely seen better days, and Pringle who may at best be called a good university player is eminently beatable. Apart from Hick they will be relying on Gooch and Lamb, neither of whom will play another World Cup.

Their best bowler happens to be a spinner and, no matter how good an orthodox spinner may be, he is not usually a match- winner in a limited-over game. Their fielding is hardly electric but they are solid professionals who, if given an opportunity, will not let it slip out of their grasp.

Pakistan remain a bit of an unknown factor. They can no longer depend on Miandad and Salim Malik is not known for his love of fast wickets or the moving ball while most of the other batsmen have yet to find their feet in international cricket. They have a trio of well-built fast bowlers (although Waqar Younis has since failed the fitness test) and a charismatic captain who leads his team like a feudal overlord (probably the best way to do it in Pakistan).

The West Indians, with some unfathomable wisdom, have dropped Dujon, Greenidge and Richards. Haynes and Richardson are not quite as devastating The bowling depends largely on Ambrose, but it is going to take a number of years before the West Indians recover from the rather shortsighted (though in this period, highly effective) policy of overloading the side with fast bowlers to the detriment of their batting.

All in all, this is an open World Cup. Worse Indian sides have beaten stronger opponents. It's a bit like waiting for spring, knowing fully well that there is no lack of flowers in the garden.

So far it has been a thoroughly frustrating experience, and the thought that most of India's matches are going to start at some unearthly hour is not going to add to the pleasure. ●

WORLD CUP CRICKET '92



If Australia are favourites, Border is the man responsible

IT ALL DEPENDS ON....

...WHO'S IN

ANDY O'BRIEN contends that the ratings of each team's chances at the World Cup, are almost totally in sync with their respective skipper's capabilities



Imran Khan: selector, captain, motivator and star player to boot

IT is no coincidence that the prospects of the nine teams at the World Cup are, in ascending or descending order, in-keeping with the efficiency and the calibre of the team captains The ratings of each team's chances are almost in sync with the skipper's personal identity Australia are hot favourites, followed by Pakistan, England, the West Indies, India, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. Take a look at the nine captains and you would, at this point of their careers as captain, rate them in similar order.

It is no coincidence, for one-day cricket is now a game of tactics in which captaincy and strategy are all important Since the early Eighties, the balance of the game has swung more to the fielding side More often these days it is the fielding side which will dictate the terms of play with tight bowling, clever field placements and aggressive captaincy

If Australia are considered the hottest team in the tournament, then Allan Border is the best captain in the business. He has become a brilliant one-day strategist He has his field placings down to a fine art and there's rarely anything approaching a sense of panic in his captaincy, even when opposing batsmen are on the rampage

Border is fast approaching national hero status in Australia Perhaps, he's already there. He did not want the captaincy, but it is largely through his efforts that Australian cricket has won back respectability, his dynamic leadership being the primary reason for Australia's revived cricket image When Border goes out to bat, in his usual purposeful manner, one can almost see the Australian flag billowing behind him. No wonder, considering his best moments have come when leading the Australian team or when getting them get out of a spot of bother.

CHARGE

"As he has grown in cricketing stature, so has Border's acceptance of responsibility", notes Phil Wilkins, reputed Australian cricket writer."When he inherited the captaincy, he offered the team honesty and stability as a man and as a batsman. He offered the team professionalism and he offered the team an attitude neither discoloured by emotion nor promises.-From a reserved personality and reluctant captain, he has matured into one of the most direct and intelligent leaders Australia has had in years". And one supposes that includes Bob Hawke and Paul Keating.

If Border has a hero among current cricketers, it is the England captain, Graham Gooch. "He's nearly 40 years old and in my mind the best player in the game", says Border.

Richardson says he's enjoying being captain and that he likes the way he is progressing. And he says that he has intentions of getting around the apparent West Indies disdain for this form of the game

Over the course of the Eighties, the English team has been like a man whose hiccups just won't go away, and even the most ardent Pommie admirer would have to admit that there have been more bad times than good. Certainly that was the case in Test cricket, but perhaps not in one-day cricket. Indeed, the English have always had the tactical aspects of the game sussed out, simply because they play so much of it. In fact, many would argue that this has been one of the reasons for their steady and continuing decline in the longer game. But in all this turmoil, the captaincy appears to be stable, now that Gooch has proved that he can lead the side without losing form. He knows the short game inside out and is an excellent tactician. Though Gooch recently claimed that his "petrol tank was nearing empty" and that he might be quitting soon, his game has improved since England settled for him as captain in 1990.

A big, shambling man with a hangdog-like expression, he likes showing up the youngsters. "It's a big motivation to try to play better than them. I get a kick out of it. And if they want to take my place on merit, they'll have to be bloody good" he says. Gooch loves nothing more than leading from the front, and since the English have never been slouches at one-day cricket, no-one is writing them off in the World Cup.

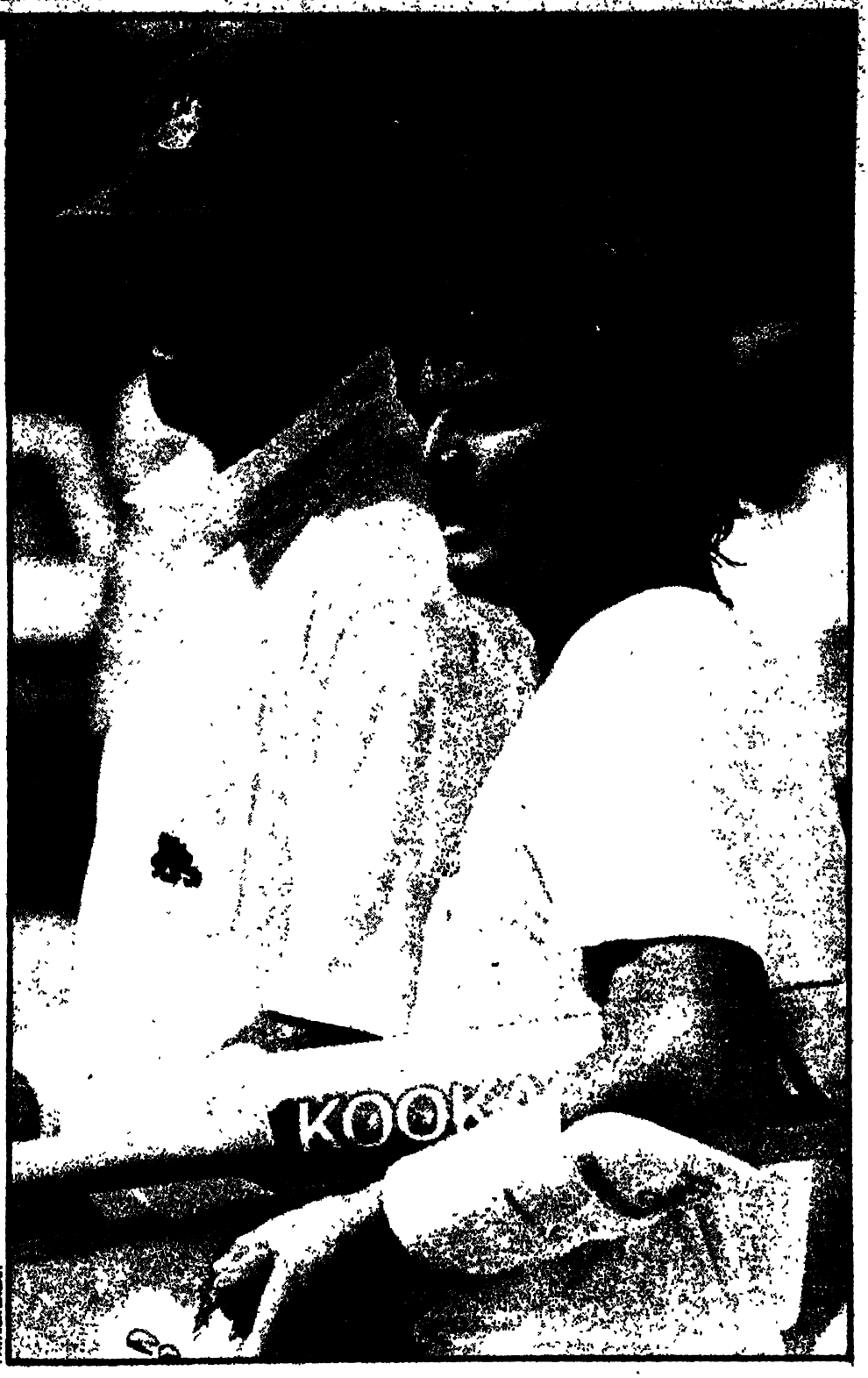
If winning the World Cup would mean the climax of Border's almost single-handed resurrection of Australian cricket, then for Gooch a win in the World Cup would mean putting English cricket right back where it once belonged, oh, so many years ago: at the top! And it won't be a shock if Gooch happens to announce his retirement from international cricket, if he lays his hands on the Cup at the MCG on March 25.

No Richards. No Dujon. No Greenidge. No Bishop. Does Richardson have a chance in hell?

PAKISTAN captain Imran Khan isn't making any such promises about retirement after this tournament. Imran had dreamt of saying goodbye in style by winning the last World Cup in 1987, but after his team was knocked out in the semi-finals, he decided to continue. Imran thinks he will go quietly next time. "I think it's all too dramatic," he says. The first time he tried to retire, Imran found himself confronted by General Zia-ul-Haq. Aside from that, Imran's personal mail rose above a hundred letters a day, his phone rang incessantly and one group threatened a hunger strike if he didn't return to the game. In the February of 1990, after losing 0-1 to Australia in a series once again marked by umpiring



PATRICK EAGAN



PATRICK EAGAR

Gooch (here with Lamb) is busy keeping English honour intact

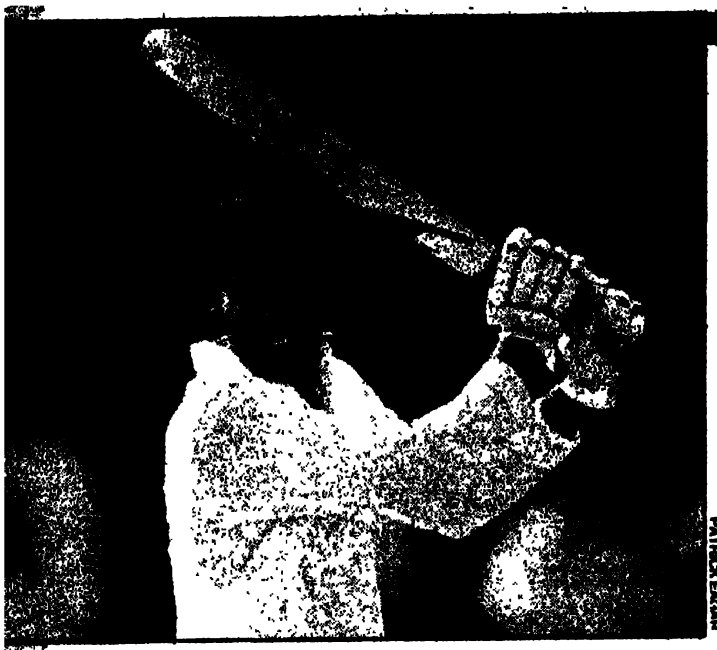
controversies, Imran resolved to retire this time with no fanfare.

The baton was to be passed on to younger men, many of them personally drafted into the side by the captain. "The worst thing about it was that I even gave my boots to Waqar," recalls Imran. "I was so sure that was the end of my career, but one lesson I have learnt is that you don't have command over life."

Like Allan Border, Imran has come to signify all that is good in his country's cricket. There are very few with his qualities as a captain, and as a man. Imran recently told a story that illustrated the quality of his background and what it is to be Pathan of the Niazi tribe. A great uncle of his, a policeman, when attacked by a leopard near his village, rammed his watch down the leopard's throat. They rolled on the ground with Imran's uncle shouting, "If you are the son of a *sher*, I am the son of a Niazi". His orderly stabbed the leopard, prompting the animal to kill the orderly, which in turn gave the policeman time to kill the leopard. Imran's uncle was in hospital for six months but eventually lived to be a 100 years old. Imran tells the story as if he lives his life with this as his motto. Well, one things for sure—Pakistan cricket will be hoping that Imran lives to be a 100 years old, and if he can play till then, all the better.

"Gooch is nearly 40 years old and in my mind the best player in the world"
Allan Border

Adopting a strategy which he describes as 'arbitary selection from training camps, hearsay and so on', he has built the Pakistan tean into one that could claim to be the most exciting in the world. And if Australia frequently describe Simon O'Donnell and Steve



PATRICK EAGAR

A simple equation: if India fail, Azza's captaincy goes

Waugh as "the pefect one-day all-rounders", then they ought to be reminded that neither has figures to match Imran. His batting average in one-day cricket is above 33, and he has taken close to 170 wickets at an average of little over 25. And if that isn't enough, he's also a master tactician and inspirational captain, who leads by example and seems to know just how to manipulate the occasionally suspect temperament of some of his countrymen.

The Indians are being quoted at 6-1 by the bookmakers, the same price as Richardson's team and that would seem a little flattering to both teams, since the Aussies are at 2½-1, Pakistan 3½-1 and England 5-1

His teams attitude has a tendency to get frayed around the edges when the pressure is really on, but Imran's discipline curbed this to a large extent.

He once denigrated one-day cricket as a 'lottery', but has since softened his stance and perhaps would like nothing better than to win the 'lottery' this time.

ANOTHER captain who would consider this tournament as something of a 'lottery', is West Indies captain Richie Richardson. Taking over from Vivian Richards must be like, as they say in the trade, following Bradman to the crease. Yet, he too, under his trademark maroon hat, has the power to turn a game upside down with his bat.

Perhaps the Windies' greatest drawback over the last few years is their apparent unwillingness to adopt special tactics for the one-day game; a factor which must account for their comparatively poor record in recent years. The West Indians just generally play their Test side and tend to approach the game as a shortened Test. Evidence of this is seen in the lack of good all-rounders in the side, and their over-reliance on tearaway fast bowlers, which at times can be very expensive. Perhaps because of their failure in recent times, Viv Richards repeatedly gave the impression that the Windies regarded one-day cricket, simply as a sideline which had to be worked around their Test ambitions. Now a great deal of their hope for success



PATRICK EAGAR

If Martin flops, the Kiwis will eat Crowe

in this World Cup will depend not only on their brilliant individual players, but on whether new captain Richardson will be willing to take a close look at just what's required for one-day success. Could he alter the team's tactics accordingly, particularly by getting their more wayward quicks to slow down a little, outthink batsmen and stop giving them so many runs?

Richards says he's enjoying being captain and that he likes the way he is progressing. And he says that he has intentions of getting around the apparent West Indies disdain for this form of the game. In fact, that seems to be slowly changing with the new era their selectors have encouraged. But the fact still remains that the West Indies do not know how to win these games, especially the tight ones.

The other captain who has to do a lot of soul searching for himself and his team is Indian skipper Azharuddin. Azhar can only hope that his side's fault-ridden World Series performances has prepared his less-experienced players for the pressure of the 'big one'. That he and his team do not rate highly on the list is entirely through their own fault. In fact the Indians are being quoted at 6-1 by the bookmakers, the same price as Richardson's team and that would seem a little flattering to both teams, since the Aussies are at 2 1/2-1, Pakistan 3 1/2-1, and England 5-1.

Not for a long time have the cricketing hopes of so many depended on so few. These nine gentlemen (the captains) embody the aspirations of entire nations and peoples. And especially the 13 men who stand behind each of them

Following the West Indies and India are co-hosts New Zealand at 33-1. Post-Hadlee cricket was always going to be tough for the Kiwis, but with their captain Martin Crowe in some personal strife, it seems that the World Cup has come around a year too soon for New Zealand cricket. Crowe is a driven man and is conscious of his position as a captain of a national sporting team in a small nation. Not only is he injured, but he is also a disgusted man after getting out in the Test against England last month when only four runs were needed to save the game.

The Kiwis, as a cricketing nation seem to fall somewhere between two worlds. While they are capable of upsetting the more fancied teams sometimes, they are not quite of the first rank. So, for Martin Crowe, it is a difficult position to be in. Supporters, and indeed the players themselves, are always looking for big things and when they don't come off there is bound to be disappointment.

EXPECTATIONS are also high for South Africa. Before the Indian tour, some brave—and probably sentimental—souls were predicting an

MEET THE SQUADS

WEST INDIES

PAKISTAN

SRI LANKA

SOUTH AFRICA

NEW ZEALAND

ENGLAND

INDIA

ZIMBABWE

Aussie-South Africa final. The South Africans have found that no matter how strong their domestic competition appears to be, it is no substitute for international competition. And now with Jimmy Cook and Clive Rice out of the side, the team will be lacking the little experience it seemed to have.

New captain Kepler Wessels has had a long and unpredictable international career, having played for, the Rest of the World in the WSC Series, the Aussie Test side, Kim Hughes' rebel team against against South Africa, and South Africa against Mike Gatting's rebels. But no-one could ever have imagined when he left his adopted country that he would return as captain of an official and internationally accepted South African team. Wessels who said recently, that his whole career seemed to have been a battle against adversity of one kind or the other, was given the captaincy in typically challenging circumstances.

There was an uproar in South Africa when Clive Rice, Jimmy Cook and Peter Kirsten were dropped from the World Cup team. Petitions were collected even one claiming to have 30,000 signatures, calling for their reinstatement, and though Kirsten was recalled Rice and Cook stayed at home. Rice, was scathing in his criticism of the chairman of selectors, Peter van der Merve, with whom he has had a long running personal clash, calling the selection 'idiotic' Rice has since been signed as a commentator with Channel Nine.

The circumstances therefore provide a tough test for Wessels' team and his captaincy: the eyes of the world will be focussed on his team, and the eyes of Australia, in particular, will be on him.

Wessels left Australia under a cloud six years ago after a disagreement with the Australian Cricket Board (ACB). He was even called a traitor and a double crosser. But says Wessels, "I have no ill feelings about returning" as South African captain. "I was very grateful for the opportunity to play here and I enjoyed it tremendously". The ACB signalled its conciliatory intentions towards Wessels, when they granted him



Wessels (inset) leads a team(right) high on hope but critically short of experience

permission to play for South Africa against Australia, which he needed under the ICC rules. But the question is, have the people forgiven him?

Wessels is very optimistic about his team but is also realistic enough to look at this tournament as "part of the learning curve in international cricket". Two other teams, and their captains, for whom this tournament will also be more a learning experience than anything else are. Sri Lanka and Aravinda de Silva and Zimbabwe and David Houghton.

The honour of being national captain was thrust upon de Silva in 1990 when Arjuna Ranatunge was not considered to tour England. "There was no other alternative but to let Aravinda led", says former batsman and now World Cup manager Duleep Mendis. "He was young but there was no-one else. He now has to prove himself as an inspiring leader just as he has proved himself a world class batsmen". And, if de Silva can improvise with his captaincy like he has done with his batting then he could soon make it up





Wessels is very optimistic about his team, but he's also realistic enough to look at this tournament as "part of the learning curve in international cricket"

the captains list.

Like Sri Lanka, there is no denying that the Zimbabwe side too have the potential to annoy and perhaps even upset the odd team. And their captain David Houghton is yet another leader on trial during the World Cup. In a team packed with experienced players, Houghton has been given the burden of captaincy in his third World Cup. Houghton's importance to the side, apart from being captain, lies chiefly in his ability to play match winning knocks against the best bowling attacks in the world. Formerly a wicketkeeper cum batsman, he will only don the gloves if Andy Flower is injured, no doubt more concentrated on establishing his role as captain and Zimbabwe's presence in world cricket.

Last week when the 126 cricketers involved in the World Cup gathered in Sydney for an official photograph, you tended to indentify each team by the man who stood in front of the single file rows. Not for a long time have the cricketing hopes of so many depended on so few. These nine gentlemen embody the aspirations of entire nations and peoples. And especially the 13 men who stand behind each of them.



PATRICK EAGAR

SACHIN TENDULKAR

The Jewel Cro

By DAVID McMAHON

SACHIN TENDULKAR, star of the Indian squad that is contesting the 1992 World Cup, has only vague memories of the day India won the 1983 World Cup

I was too young at the time to know exactly what was happening I was only 10 years old My elder brother Ajit was jumping around and getting worked up as the match unfolded. I tended to mimic his actions I was hazy about the precise details of what was happening, but his excitement filtered through to me I just knew that India was going to win

At that stage, he conceded, the thought that he would be playing for his country two World Cups hence, alongside some of the stars of the 1983 triumph, was furthest from his mind Why, I ask Because, he replies, with disarming simplicity, he had not started playing cricket at that age.

Not cricket in its strictest sense. With other youngsters in the Bombay suburb of Bandra, he played impromptu games with a tennis ball. It was not until he was 12 that he began playing the game with a cricket ball. His dreams always involved playing for India, yet at that stage it might have seemed like a pipe dream.

But his rise was meteoric. At 14, he became the youngest cricketer in Bombay's 14-member squad for the Ranji Trophy, an inter-state competition.

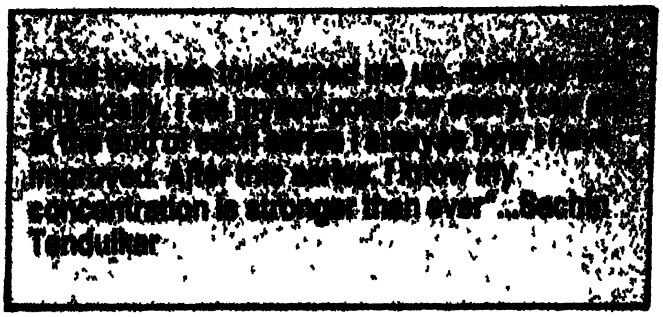
That year, in the Harris Shield inter school tournament, he played five innings and scored an astounding 1028 runs, including a century, an unbeaten double century and two unbeaten triple centuries Because he was dismissed only once in that tournament, he ended with a Harris Shield average of 10 28.

One of the highlights of his year was when Dilip Vengsarkar, the stylish Bombay batsman who was also, at the time, captain of the Indian side, gave him a new Gunn and Moore bat. Another memorable moment came after Tendulkar was overlooked for the state's award for the best junior cricketer.

Former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar, the only batsman to score more than 10,000 Test runs, learnt that the youngster was bitterly disappointed at being overlooked. Gavaskar who had already retired from the Test arena, was on his way to Bombay airport to board a flight to London, where he was to play an exhibition match at Lord's. When the car reached the departure terminal, Gavaskar, leaning on the bonnet of the vehicle, scribbled a quick note to be delivered to the teenager.

Gavaskar congratulated him on his performances over the season saying, "What was most impressive was the way you batted alone when the others around you were not contributing much."

In The wn



The note exhorted him not to neglect his academic career and ended with the postscript, referring obliquely to himself, "don't be disappointed at not getting the award for the best junior cricketer. If you look at the (list of) past winners you will find one name missing—and that person has not done too badly in Test cricket."

There was never any doubt that fame awaited Tendulkar, who set his first world record when only 14. He and Vinod Kambli combined in a 664 run partnership, a record for any wicket in any class of cricket. Tendulkar scored 329, not out, his partner 348 not out.

The lad who outscored him was Vinod Kambli. Kambli made his one day debut for India at Sharjah last October, was a notable omission from the Test squad to tour Australia, but has rejoined the touring team for the World Cup. Kambli has been philosophical about the fact that his friend has had a three year head start on him in international cricket. Last year, he told an Indian journalist: "Sachin took the lift up: I'll take the stairs."

The cricketing bond between the two Bombay youngsters is unique. Gavaskar notes, with a wry smile, that Tendulkar, normally quiet and reserved in the Indian dressing room, comes out of his shell when Kambli is at hand. For a lad who scored his first Test century while was still too young to apply for a driving licence, Tendulkar is remarkably level headed. For a player who is so effervescent on the field, he is remarkably quiet off it, happy to be listening on his Walkman to Phil Collins or Sting. Every breath he takes, every stop he makes is followed by literally millions of fans in his homeland.

He admits that he enjoys the fame and status, but remains remarkably unaffected by it. He still lives with his parents and brother. His father Ramesh, a retired university professor, is a published poet who has not yet watched the most famous 18-year-old in India play a Test match. His mother Rajani said in 1989 the year he was capped for his country, "He was always such an excitable boy, always running around the house, but now he is so much more serious and composed".

His elder brother, Ajit, is one of two people to have had an influence on his early career. The other, his mentor, is Ramakant Achrekar, who began coaching him just before his 12th birthday. "He has taught me many aspects of the game," said Tendulkar. "But I think the most important piece of advice he ever gave me was never to throw my wicket away. He

instilled in me the notion that a bowler would have to earn my wicket and that is something I have never forgotten.

"Another very valuable thing about working with him when I was so young was the amount of opportunities he gave me. It was not just the advice, not just his presence when we were in the nets, but the fact that he gave me a lot of match practice. That was how I developed my cricketing temperament. There's a world of difference between playing your shots in the nets and playing them out in the middle in a match situation.

"He never tried to change my style or my approach to the game. He never tinkered with my grip or technique. All along, he told me to play my natural game and not to worry about anything else. He would simply tell me, 'Everything will be all right'. His encouragement never wavered."

While Tendulkar was still blazing a trail for himself in school cricket, Bombay captain and Test veteran Vengsarkar heard of his high scoring feats. "I heard a lot about him, but hadn't seen him in his school matches," said Vengsarkar who was shortly to captain India. "Everyone said I should play him in the state side, but I said He's only 15: and if he gets hurt everyone would blame me."

"At the Cricket Club of India, I once asked Kapil and the boys to bowl really quick to at him. He impressed me playing them very well, so then there was no question about his ability."

Tendulkar was picked to play a Ranji Trophy match against Gujarat and scored an unbeaten century on debut. By this time, he was being spoken about as a 'possible' for India's 1988 tour of the West Indies, but was not even selected for the pre-tour training camp. Among those aghast at his exclusion was former Indian captain Ajit Wadekar, who praised his 'perfect' technique, and said, "I do not understand the logic behind his exclusion." Coach Achrekar was disappointed, too, "He learnt a lot when he was a reserve for the Bombay team. In the same way, I think he should have gone to the West Indies, not to play the Tests but to watch and learn and to use that experience in the other tour matches."

Tendulkar has no regrets about missing selection on that tour, but says, "I would have certainly learnt a lot even if I had not played any of the Tests. Just being in the Indian squad would have been a valuable experience." He speaks without any apparent sense of awe of the time he was named in the Indian squad to tour Pakistan in late 1989. On the fourth day of a domesitc match, a cricket writer told him that he had been included in the side. "Looking back on it now, I can't recall exactly what my emotions were. I just didn't know what to say. The first thing I did was ring my parents to break the news to them." The excitement filtered through gradually, but the moment was probably more overwhelming than you might think, given the laconic manner in which Tendulkar narrates the incident: he cannot remember who the cricket writer was.

He says he cannot quantify the lessons he has learnt on this tour of Australia. There is an amazing aura of self confidence about this young man, yet his ego is in harness. He feels he has matured as a batsman, a fair understatement given that he was the only Indian batsman to score two Test centuries on tour.

"This tour has toughened me up, mentally and physically. I set myself goals for every tour and at the end of each series I try and analyse how I have



ALOKE MITRA

improved. After this series, I know my concentration is stronger than ever. Mentally, I am more resilient too. A year and a half ago, I tended to slash outside the off stump. But I have curbed that while I have not compromised on aggression."

It is not just his aggression, but his technique as well that wins singular praise from Indian tour manager Abbas Ali Baig. A former Test cricketer and a batsman of renown, Baig admits that Tendulkar is quite 'astonishing'. Though he is not the man who habitually uses superlatives Baig sums up Tendulkar's talent as 'incredible,' which in turn he says leads to high expectations everytime he walks to the crease.

"He is the answer to a captain's prayers. I can't see anyone emulating his feats or achieving what he has achieved at this age. He has great cricket brain, which is adequately matched by his powers of concentration. Of all the Indian cricketers I have seen, only Vijay Manjrekar, the late father of current Test cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar, had the same combination and concentration and talent but even he was more defensive than Sachin. This is a lad who is completely unspoilt by fame. Because of what he has achieved, though, one tends to forget that he is still only 18".

Australian pace bowler Michael Whitney who played against Tendulkar in three of the five Test this summer, echoes that sentiment. "You sort of struggle to come to terms with the fact that this bloke is only 18. In the Sydney Test, he knew he was running out of partners and he just went for the bowling. It was unbelievable batting. The century he scored against us at Sydney was just sensational. He is so confident, so mature, yet off the field he is so shy.

"The most amazing thing about the way he played in this series was that he just kept scoring runs while the rest of the batting just kept falling down around him. The way he dominated proceedings, you tended to forget that there was a man of Vengsarkar's talent in the batting lineup.

"I didn't bowl to any particular plan against him, but at Brisbane I got him with an inswinging yorker, which was very pleasing. I remembered an incident in England in 1990, when he was on 99 and I bowled him with a similar delivery, but it was a no ball".

Tendulkar, thus reprieved, reached his century off Whitney's next delivery and reacted instinctively, saying, "I'm terribly sorry, Mr Whitney". The bowler chuckles at the memory.

Gavaskar cautions that the real pressure will come when—and if—the Indian side comes to rely solely on Tendulkar's considerable talents to pull it through every crisis. Already Tendulkar is being spoken of as the person most likely to inherit the Gavaskar mantle of greatness, but he shies away from the comparison. Being spoken of in the same breath as Gavaskar, to him, is akin to blasphemy.

"One should not even think in those terms," he says hastily, deflecting the topic. "He is another class altogether. There is no question of comparing my career with his."

You can just picture the scene if he surpasses Gavaskar's Test tally of 10,122 runs and 35 centuries. Tendulkar would be the first to arrive at the great man's doorstep, wringing his hands in consternation, to say 'I'm terribly sorry, Mr. Gavaskar.'

You can just picture the scene if he surpasses Gavaskar's Test tally of 10, 122 runs and 35 centuries. Tendulkar would be the first to arrive at the great man's doorstep, wringing his hands in consternation to say, 'I'm terribly sorry, Mr. Gavaskar'



This article was written by David McMahon for *The Sunday Age*, Melbourne, to introduce Sachin Tendulkar to Australian cricket fans

'JESUS IS COMING' screamed the bold heading of the full page ad in every Sydney newspaper on the morning of February 19. In small type, at the bottom of the page, was written as Australians grow disillusioned with the outmoded attitudes of Christianity, eastern religions are becoming increasingly popular.

But, I tell you, even if Jesus had descended in his full glory at the bay around the Sydney Opera House that dull and cloudy morning, He wouldn't have had too many people to greet

After attending a very low-key opening ceremony, ANDY O'BRIEN feels the recession isn't reason enough for the tight-fisted attitude of the organising committee

DOES AUSTRALIA DESERVE TO HOST THE WORLD CUP?



Cup opening ceremony. The Press, so used to being fussed over, were not even offered a cup of coffee during the entire proceedings. I guess that's the price you pay for recession.

And just in case anyone at Sydney Harbour that day, underestimated the level of recession in this country, then he was probably convinced the next day when the Navy, claiming it couldn't afford the upkeep of three frigates, decided to dock the HMAS Canberra, the boat which received worldwide fame because of the World Cup photograph.

What was also noticable was that it was the Australian side of the organising committee who were laying out their nets more desperately to rake in money. The publication of books, souveniers etc were mainly the work of the Aussies. Even at the Press briefing, it was the Aussies who indulged in hard-sell while the Kiwis just extended a warm welcome to New Zealand with a promise to "look after you".

The Australians had not arranged any faxing facilities for the Press at the various venues, saying anyone requiring such facilities should contact the media liasion

Which one of these nine men will hold the trophy aloft a month from now?

[illegible] simply said all facilities were available for the media. Did the Aussies seriously believe that the entire world Press would make their own arrangements to get their copies back to their respective countries? Restrictive budgets are one thing, but this is going so far that one wonders if the 'C' stands for 'cash' and not 'cricket'.

In fact, everything in the organisation seems to be leaning more towards the Aussies than their neighbours across the Tasman Sea... much as they claim it to be a joint venture. It's very obvious that Australia are the greater of the two equals. Apart

[illegible] the fourth placed team and the second placed will take on the third placed team. Australia will play their semi-final at Sydney regardless of where they qualify, if they qualify. Even a semi-final clash against New Zealand will not budge the Aussies to Auckland where the first semi-final is scheduled a day earlier.

No wonder skipper Allan Border is apprehensive of the pressure of being host nation weighing down his side. Speaking after



Bonnen autographs a bat for a crew member of the HMAS Canberra while chatting to Border





The World Cup... the looks might change every four years, but the symbolism is very much the same

the opening ceremony, he said "In India and Pakistan the crowds don't like it when things go wrong with their teams but I'm really hoping our crowds stay behind us". The organisers though couldn't be too interested in what the crowds feel now, because the World Cup Committee Chairman Malcolm Gray stated: "We are assured—through sponsorship, successful sales of international and national television rights—that before the first ball is bowled it will be a financial success."

It makes one wonder what the reaction of the international media would have been if a similar claim had been made by tight-fisted organisers in the sub-continent. It makes one wonder how on earth people can criticise facilities in the sub-continent when similar facilities don't even exist in their own countries. To paraphrase Border's comment on the spectator attitude in the sub-continent: "In India and Pakistan the foreign Press don't like it when things go wrong. Yet they remain mum when things go wrong anywhere else".

It would have been interesting to see the faces of the organisers had Allan Border dropped the $15,000 crystal World Cup trophy when he held it during the photo-session. In fact, he almost let it slip through his fingers, muttering to each

sitting next to him "shit!" after he managed to grasp it firmly again. Yes, that's what the organisers would have been in, had the Cup been lying in pieces at the bottom of the Sydney Harbour.

At present, though they are on the right side of the cash equation, they certainly aren't on the right side of the Press covering the tournament. And if anyone needs the results of the tournament more than they did in the opening ceremony, it would be the organisers. Otherwise it would be a life. For between the main heading and the line in smaller print, was added the word 'LAST'.

No sir, it isn't Jesus who's coming last. Judging by the opening ceremony, He might be slightly ahead of the fifth World Cup cricket tournament... and it's organisers.

IF TEST CRICKET DIES, IT WILL BE...

MURDER OF THE FIRST DEGREE

Former Australian captain Ian Chappell talks about cricket then and now

Do you think you could still be playing Test cricket in the modern world?
I don't have any desire to be playing anymore. Physically I don't think I could play anymore at 48. If you mean whether I could play today's game when I was at my peak, then yes. If you have been a good player in one era, then you can be a good player in another era.

But would you fit in temperamentally? The kind of cricket that you practiced as a player and captain is dying out. There's a lot of percentage cricket today. Do you think you could still fit in?
I think we'd win one helluva lot of games because of the way we'd play. Given that you've got the players to play attacking cricket, I think we would be extremely successful now because half the teams don't know that style of playing.

Does that mean that they don't play attacking cricket these days ?
No, I think percentage cricket is the right term. Even I played percentage cricket. You try to take a game absolutely. You always go to win a game from the first ball and then, if you get into trouble, you play for the second option that is a draw. At least then you would have to fight another day. But I think there are a lot of teams who go in there to get into a position where they can't lose first, and then they try to win the game. I don't think that's a successful way of playing unless everyone is playing that way.

Is this because of the growing mediocrity among the players? Also, there's been a lot of change in the attitudes of the captains, the officials as well as there's lot of money involved...
Going back to my era—which is 15—20 years ago—the captain ran a team those days. Now you've got a lot of cricket 'hangers-on', who are being well paid and they are planning their tactics to retain that position. And they think that at least if we don't lose, it doesn't look too bad. There are too many people involved in modern cricket and its overall planning and, with all of them trying to justify the payments, it promotes conservative strategy. Yes, there's a lot more money in cricket generally, there's long-term contracts and therefore players are playing more for statistics to keep themselves in the team.

Are you still convinced that the captain of a cricket team should be like the captain of a ship, because there's so much to be done in modern cricket? Or do you think that it's the job of the manager? We seem to have reached a point where the captain is the subordinate of the manager and the Board...
Well, that's ridiculous. I will go into my grave believing that only a captain can run the team. Certainly the requirements of the media are far greater than they were in my time. But that you cannot control. But then again I don't see the necessity of having a press conference after every day's play. It annoys me that some cricket writers want to fill their columns with quotes from the players. I always thought the journalists' job was to watch what went on and then convey his opinion. I mean, if a player like Tendulkar or Srikkanth was off the field then his job was to find out why. But quotes on 'when you're going to declare', 'what are your chances in batting' etc, I don't think that's important. And if there is too much onus on the captain, then you've got to drop off the less important jobs—you've got to get your priorities right.

The running of the cricket team is the most important and the captain must be responsible for ensuring that the players are giving their best. If a player has a particular problem, then it's upto the captain to go up to him and find out what the problem is. Then the captain could go up to the manager and tell him about the problem. That is part of the leadership task and, to me, if you're not doing that, then you're not doing the job properly.

Do you think the captain is leading 11 lives? Leading a team on tour not only means interacting with the team, you are also deeply involved with them. Would that hold good even today?

It's got to be the only way to develop team spirit. If I, as captain, expect the boys to give me 100% on the ground, it is my job to give them 100% off the field. If there is a fight to be fought against the Cricket Board, you have to stand up and fight for your players. They are going to give you everything on the field if they know that they will get the same response off the field. The best way to get to know your players is to talk to them, to spend time with them, and maybe have a drink or dinner with them occasionally. Also show some interest in what they are doing. Tell the bowler what you expect him to do on the field and the part that he will play in the team. When there is a pressure situation, the player will think of what the captain has told him to do and the fact that they are doing the job; that will take some pressure off them. It gives him something to focus on. I once had a guy playing his first Test match—Geoff Hammond. He came up to me and said "I want to bounce Alvin Kallicharran out". No, I said,he's a pretty good hooker and I'm not too sure, but he said he could bounce him out. And he bounced him out in the very first ball... and he was playing his first Test!

You've got to build an atmosphere that is receptive to the ideas of the players. If one player comes up to you and says that 'Look I want to try this strategy', listen to him. And if your idea is different, tell him 'Look I'm trying out this strategy, but if that doesn't work then I'll surely give it a try.' This attitude can be developed off the field and this can make the differences between winning and losing matches.

So how would you weigh strategy vis-a-vis leadership of men?

If you have any sort of cricketing background, if you've played first class or Test cricket, then planning strategy of cricket isn't all that difficult. Modern captains are better at containing. The captains in my time were good at attacking and this change has come about because of the amout of one-day cricket. The leadership part is very important It's probably greater than 50% maybe it's 60-40%. Strategy is just logic and common sense Probably the most difficult part for the modern captain is what to do with spin bowling, where to put the field placings etc.

You ended up with a very strong image as a captain. Besides your own team, is it very important what signals you send to the opposition? Is this 'ruthless' image cultivated or is it part of your persona?

I don't think I was ruthless. I was very competitive—hotly competitive. You know we were labelled an arrogant team, but we were never really arrogant Between 11 and 6 O'clock we played very hard but I believe we played very fairly. It annoys me when people say that we did a lot of things that we never did. We were called arrogant, but actually we were very confident. We believed in ourselves, we believed in each other.

Even today anywhere in the world I go, there are people with whom I can have a drink with. So I don't think that we were really doing anything all that wrong. I like to think that I've a lot of good friends on the other side. I was delighted when I read Clive Lloyd's quote that both the Australian teams under Greg and myself played extremely hard, but were very quick, and that they learnt a lot from our competitiveness.

But I certainly don't appreciate some of the comments that Viv made about us. Not that I was the captain in '75, Greg was. This was regarding things we supposedly said to Viv regarding colour. I really got annoyed reading these. I was very lucky to have been brought up by my parents into thinking that everybody was equal, unless someone gave you the reason to think otherwise. And I said to the team

"I don't think I regret too much of what I've done. If I had another chance I would probably change a few things but not too much."



before the Pakistan tour in 72 73 that if one bloke calls a guy from the opposition a lucky bastard that s okay with me But if one bloke prefixes that with black then there s going to be trouble with me because you don t say to someone you lucky white bastard so why say you lucky black bastard

Colour has nothing to do with it I didn t have any trouble with any one of my players From there we went to the Caribbean and there too the guys were impeccable so I get a little annoyed when I hear about some of the things we supposedly said

Most teams touring Australia are warned about hard cricket and sledging in the country, and people hold Ian Chappell responsible for that How do you react to this?

That s rubbish A lot of people say that this started in the 70 s But I answer to that by saying that how come when I was 14 years old playing at school the blacks used to say to me You little college pooter ? If that did not get them anywhere then it was you are here because your grandfather played in the Australian team ' I played against a lot of blacks who had something to say to me when I was a kid What annoys me most is that we were supposed to be yelling at batsmen from fielding positions That s the biggest joke of them all because if you are doing that then the batsmen are going to say Hey hang on I m trying to bat here Can I have a bit of peace and quiet? And if that doesn t work then the umpire will step in But not once was I spoken to by any umpire saying that there was a problem with any one of my players

I get very annoyed when people like Bobby Simpson say things like this But a couple of things about Simpson first Firstly he should know better because he s played so much of cricket himself The other thing is that he s got a very poor memory I ve played against him and under his captaincy He forgets a certain match in South Australia when he had an awful lot to say (and a lot of that was not complimentary) to my batting partner who then complained to the South Australian captain, who then complained to the New South Wales's captain Then Richie Benaud had to speak to Simpson and tell him to keep his trap shut

'Yes, I could play today's game when I was at my peak A good player in one era can be a good player in another era."



Coming back to the West Indies tour in '75, it was the turning point in modern cricket. The Windies were blanked out 5-1, Though you were not the captain of the team, you had developed a team that you had passed on to your brother. Were you blessed with great players? Or did you pick and choose the team?

I did not have any say in the selection of the team at all In fact during the time that I was the captain of Australia I asked for one player for the tour of New Zealand and he wasn t picked so that shows how much of say I had Yes, I had some good players and then I had some great players When I took over the captaincy,Rod Marsh had played only four Tests Greg Chappell had played three and Dennis Lillee had played only one They still needed developing People say that we won matches when I was the captain because I had Lillee and Thompson in the team But the fact remains that I captained Australia in 30 Tests and of those Lillee and Thompson played only in nine! In 73 74 we won the series against New Zealand when both Lillee and Thompson were not there In 72 73 we went to the Caribbean and Lillee did not actually get a wicket Then out of our attack were missing Lillee Massie and Mallet but we still won 2 0

A lot of people overlook the fact that we had a very good batting line up We could make 350 runs on any pitch conditions We had a very good all round cricket team Part of the reason for Australia s abysmal performance record overseas particularly since 76 77 is because we are not a good all round team anymore

To me a lot of problems for the Australian team started under the captaincy of Kim Hughes The team never looked into the mirror it was blaming everything the play the hotel the umpires everything except themselves I ll cite the example of when you get me out Obviously when you get out in a Test match you re very annoyed In my case for half an hour afterwards I wasn t the same person Then after standing in the shower, you start to think Well that wasn t a good shot And once you start to think like that then you ve a chance of improving Once you admit to yourself that you didn t play a very good shot—you are already starting to correct the mistake You make sure that you don t do it again That is the only way you can improve

This is missing in the team now and that is the greatest contributing factor for the abysmal record of Australians overseas Rather than put smokescreens up you should do something positive We ve got a very good pace attack but how long is it since Australia had a good spin bowler? You ve got to go back to Bruce Yardley Batsman against good spin bowling Border? Boon is okay but he s not going to take you apart and he takes a long time getting runs Outside of that, we ve got a lot of weaknesses and I think we are in great danger against good spin bowling

Coming to your own batting, your's was always an aggressive style. Do you feel that batsmen are too defensive nowadays, especially when you consider that wickets are friendlier and attacks not as balanced? Is this because of limited-over cricket?
I think limited-over cricket has brought in a lot more front-foot technique than there used to be. I, for one, was always a back-foot player. And that's because from the time I was 14, the school and college team I represented used to participate in a second-grade competition and I was always playing against adults. I found that I could stay in but found it hard to score runs because I didn't have power. Therefore, being a natural back-foot player, any boundaries I got were off pulls or cuts.

Now, this new experimental law with bouncers is going to ensure that the front-foot technique stays around a long time. Let's take Merv Hughes as an example: someone who can pull—and pull very well—is going to reduce his effectiveness a hell of a lot. He is nowhere as effective if he's got to pitch the ball up. Bowlers like to pitch short, and the only way to make them pitch up is to make runs off them.

Players from the sub-continent always find it hard to play against the Australian pace attack. I don't know what the answer is, but I was talking to Sanjay Manjrekar and he was telling me that he doesn't pull. And it's not the sort of shot you can suddenly start playing. I think the problem is that we have too many coaches—most of them educated through books—running around trying to stop players use the pull or cut shots, which they see as risk factors. That's the conservative strategy again.

I think that's absolute rubbish. I think what a good coach will do is to teach the player all the shots and then the player can choose which shots to play depending on the conditions. That's what the better players do. Sachin Tendulkar is a perfect example. He summed up the WACA pitch in about two minutes. Tendulkar is an instinctive player but a lot of thinking also goes into his game. That's a good cricketer to me. The other thing you have to take into account is the nature of the person. You've said I'm aggressive, and well, I used to think that if the bowler's going to bounce me, I'm going to try and extract some retribution. That means going for the hook shot: Sure, I got out a lot of times to that shot, but I also scored a lot of runs from that shot.

It's not only the amount of runs you can score. It's also the damage you can do to the bowler. I played a lot with batsmen who could take on the fast bowlers and I've seen the damage done. You can very quickly impose your will on the game by taking it to the opposition. And really, that's what the game of cricket is all about...it's a battle of will power.

At some stage or the other in every match, there's going to be a psychological moment when it's right to get at the opposition bowlers' throat. And once you've got your foot on his throat, you've got to keep it there. And you can do it in so many ways...by aggressive batting, aggressive bowling. That's one of the things I used to love about the game of cricket—this battle of wits. I just laugh when I hear talk about motivation; I think it's a load of rubbish. I just want to go out and play. It's the competitive spirit in me. His brain versus mine...that battle gets me going. I don't need anybody to play me with any bloody film like *Rocky*. That's rubbish. As for motivational speeches, all I've said to the team was 'Okay, guys, up and at 'em'.

Getting back to one-day cricket, is it harming modern cricket? And if so, how come you end up supporting USC which I think is creating havoc in Test cricket?
Well, I don't necessarily agree. I just thought players deserved a better deal. I didn't think as much one-day cricket would be played, and I don't think that was the idea originally. But suddenly, the crowds turned up. That's when they started emphasising on one-day

Chappell was always an inspirational leader and here he gives Lillee the due credit for claiming his 200th Test wicket





"I will go into my grave believing that only a captain can run a team. The captain must be responsible for ensuring that the players give their best."

cricket It's a very fine balance that you've got to hit the right number of one day games, or too many

But I believe there are certain things wrong about Test cricket that need fixing first The administrators work on the ostrich theory — that they stick their head in the sand and the problem will go away — rather than face up to it and say "okay I'll fix it Overrates are the biggest problem There has to be a balance between the ball and the bat Earlier, the balance favoured the bat but now I think it has gone the other way It s too much in favour of pace bowling Even making teams bowl 90 overs a day isn't enough I think 100 is nearer, because batsmen have to be getting enough balls for it to be a fair contest between batsman and bowler

The World Cup will be the perfect time to get the captains, coaches and umpires in And someone with cricketing credibility will have to go up and say We've got a problem with Test cricket, the people are not coming in. Why? And then you discuss it Many professional players will say they play for a living And my answer to them would be that if they keep playing the way they are, very soon there will be no spectators, no Test match and you won t have a living So take your pick I like to think that the cricket we played brought people to the ground That was my duty and if people thought I had done it well that was terrific So obviously I don't think one-day cricket is the problem.

Both can co-exist, and there's no reason why people will not watch Test cricket, but they've got to be given value for money Test cricket needs a bit of fine-tuning and I believe it can be a very strong game. If Test cricket dies, it will be murder of the first degree, and it will be an inside job If Test cricket dies, so will one-day cricket But I don't think that will happen. Cricket is too strong for that. It's just that the patient is a little ill and needs treatment

You have this image of being an anti-establishment man. A strong individualist. Were you a man just passionately involved with cricket?

I loved and enjoyed the game And a lot of people thought that I was anti-establishment for the sake of being anti establishment But that is not true I gave praise when I thought it was due I did want things fixed 'now' and that created some problems I also thought that the players were not getting a fair deal When you looked at the gate receipts in the 74-'75 Test in Melbourne, it was a quarter of a million dollars and what players got was 2,400 dollars a Test match 2,400 dollars out of that is not a great ratio, is it? So we said let's rectify the situation

So it was partly this and also that I m a black and white person, with very little grey in between I m not the sort of person who will play your little political games Well I'm a little like a bull in a china shop I sort of charge in and break all the bloody crockery You know what Richie (Benaud) once said, Sometimes he makes it very easy for his enemies and makes it very



Aug. 19, 1975. Captains Ian Chappell and Tony Greig expected a fierce battle at Headingley on the fifth and final day of the Test, but arrived to find the pitch dug up by vandals. The Test was abandoned



"I don't think I was ruthless. I was competitive-hotly competitive. We believed in ourselves, we believed in each other."

difficult for his friends I don t try to be what I'm not With me there's Ian Chappell and that's what you get And I don t think I regret too much of what I've done If I had another chance I would probably change a few things, but not too much

What about the incident about you changing your trousers on the field?

Well, that's another thing What happened was that I had a thigh guard that had a velcro clasp and the velcro had become undone And that was sticking into the back of my leg I think we were trying to set or were chasing a target and I thought I did not want to waste time by getting people to stand around me So I thought I could change it by undoing my trouser and getting my hand to it, and while I was doing that, my trousers fell down to my knees and some bloke took a photo from behind They published that in the front page of the newspaper He was working for the advertisers, and he came the next day and apologised on behalf of the newspaper and said, 'I couldn t believe that they would actually publish a picture like that on the first page '

But then some guys actually said that I pointed my backside deliberately to the committee I mean I'm in the middle of an innings if these dodos think I have nothing else to think about! What was on my mind was Thomson and Gilmour and not where the committee was sitting or anything like that So that's what happened, but everyone says that I dropped my trousers.

The interesting thing is that Sunny did exactly the same thing at Lord's. And somebody took a picture too. Yet nobody says Sunny dropped his trousers at Lord's. He was telling me the other day, he was doing exactly the same thing—trying to fix his thigh pad. All I had was a jockstrap underneath, maybe Sunny had boxer shorts underneath, so it was different, but Sunny actually took off his trousers Yet people say that I took off my trousers and I say I didn't. But I guess that's something I just have to live with.

You have a very candid approach. Even when one listens to you on television, you shoot from the lip. Does it get you into trouble even now, outside the cricket field?

Obviously a lot of people do not like what I say, but I don't shoot before I think Yes, I do sometimes get letters that are abusive, especially from Victoria and that's the price you pay for taking over from a Victorian captain. but they basically agree with my opinion I always say that 50% of the people will like you and 50% won't, so there's not much you can do to change that Some people go out of their way to please people but that's not me That's what I think and that's what I say. I only had a couple of players write to me and say that they weren't happy with what I had to say For starters I don't think they were listening to the television But my answer is always the same. There's a switch on the television that starts with V. Just turn it down or better still,just turn it off.

Interviewed by Ayaz Memon



"I always say that 50% of the people will like you and 50% won't, so there's not much you can do to change that. Some people go out of their way to please others but that's not me."



Syed Nayeemuddin's

CROWN GLORY

IT was an opportunity that others in the trade would not have let go without some pompous rhetoric But, for the reticent Mohun Bagan coach Syed Nayeemuddin, it was nothing more than a regulation all credit to the boys

But deep down, he must have felt grateful to his boys for demolishing East Bengal, the club which had quite unceremoniously shown him the door late last year

After two full successful seasons with the red-and golden camp, Nayeemuddin was forced to resign when their executive body imposed the humiliating terms of a watchdog committee to oversee his activities Thus, while success in his first assignment with the arch rivals was poetic justice it could not have been better timed for the Mohun Bagan team itself

Even after putting together the most expensive team among the Big Three of Calcutta last season Mohun Bagan had only the Rovers Cup triumph before this to write home about Nayeem was their third coach of the season after Subhash Bhowmick failed to bring them luck and then, Amal Dutta floorcrossed with the skill of a politician

The players, officials and more importantly, the fans were almost despondent as the team began their campaign for the mantle of the champion club of the country But as the nearly two week long meet wore on, it was

ING

Coach Nayeemuddin who was ousted unceremoniously by East Bengal last season, has had his sweet revenge, giving Mohun Bagan their seventh Federation Cup title

apparent that Mohun Bagan were looking the most cohesive side and one of the best bets for the title. The final afternoon at the Salt Lake Stadium saw a fitting climax to their performance as never in recent memory, did Mohun Bagan have such a one-sided outing against their traditional rivals. They struck once in each half through Debasish Sarkar and Cheema, but the scoreline hardly reflected the trend of the proceedings

The success of Mohun Bagan was, in a way, a pointer to a salient feature of the 16th edition of the tournament (sponsored by Officer's Choice)—that of the resurgence of the Calcutta giants in the Federation Cup It was five years ago in Cuttack that Mohun Bagan were the last Calcutta team to have won the prestigious trophy, while the 1986 edition of the tournament saw two city teams (Mohun Bagan and East Bengal) last play the final The four intervening years had two emergent footballing forces in the country—Salgaocar and Kerala Police.

Cheema seals East Bengal's fate bringing down their defence for the second goal



This time around, there were quite a few outstation teams in the fray with strong reputations preceding them Holders Kerala Police deserved respect in their own right, Salgaocar are known for their flair, and the two Punjab regulars– BSF and JCT had a few talented players This apart, there were the league champions from two other major footballing forces in the country—Titanium (Kerala) and MRF (Goa)

However, the most impressive showing came from two unexpected quarters. Rank outsiders Sesa, Goa, with a starless team, began quite uninspiringly, but grew in stature in every match till East Bengal stopped them in the semi-final, albeit with some indulgent refereeing from Mamu Koya of Kerala.

The success of Mohun Bagan was in a way pointer to a salient feature of the 16th edition of the tournament—the resurgence of the Calcutta giants in the Federation cup. It was five years ago in Cuttack that Mohun Bagan were the last Calcutta team to have won the trophy

BSF looked quite compact with an all-win record in the group league (1-0 against last year's runners Mahindras and 4-1 over MRF, Goa), till they were shocked by Sesa in the quarter finals.

Last two years' champions Kerala Police showed they were yet to recover from the loss of Vijayan and Sharaf Ali to Mohun Bagan. The team, which had its nucleus in a handful of players much superior to the rest, were thus greatly handicapped. Their intelligent striker C.V. Pappachan had his movement restricted by a recurring ankle injury and thus the job of carrying the team alone was too heavy even for the competent shoulders of the experienced central midfielder V.P. Sathyan. They could have still made it beyond the last eight, had not Pappachan made a hash of the opportunities he got against JCT. The millmen ultimately forced the issue in tie-breaker before running into an in-form Mohun Bagan in the last four stage.

However, barring the tenacious Sesa, most of the outstation teams showed they were incapable of holding their own in unfamiliar conditions. Granted that the proximity of the playing arena to the somewhat hostile crowd at the Mohun Bagan ground (where all matches till the semi-finals were played) was a disadvantage, but they must learn to cope with such situations to keep their reputation intact all over the country.

SANTOSH GHOSH



A moment of Samba rhythm in Calcutta after Debashish Sarkar scores the first goal

The resilience of the Calcutta teams, when judged in this context, thus seems admirable. The Big Three have had a long, long season all over the country before the demanding fans.

The never-say-die spirit of Mohammedan Sporting also was really heart-warming. With more than half of their regular eleven missing, their coch Shabbir Ali still marshalled the extremely limited resources at his disposal admirably. Their most stirring performance came in their league clash against Salgaocar whom they beat by a solitary goal to move into the quarter finals. There also, they held Mohun Bagan past the regulation 90 minutes before falling to extra-time goals by Cheema and Vijayan.

East Bengal, the most consistent performer among the Big Three this season, cut a rather sorry figure for themselves in the tournament. However, in all fairness to the players, a portion of the blame should be shared by the officials for their short-sighted policy in recruitment. First during the league, and then in the knockout tournaments, they plugged the loopholes in the side by hiring the Bangladeshis and then the British trio of Peter Maguire, Neil Edmonds and Steven Prindiville.

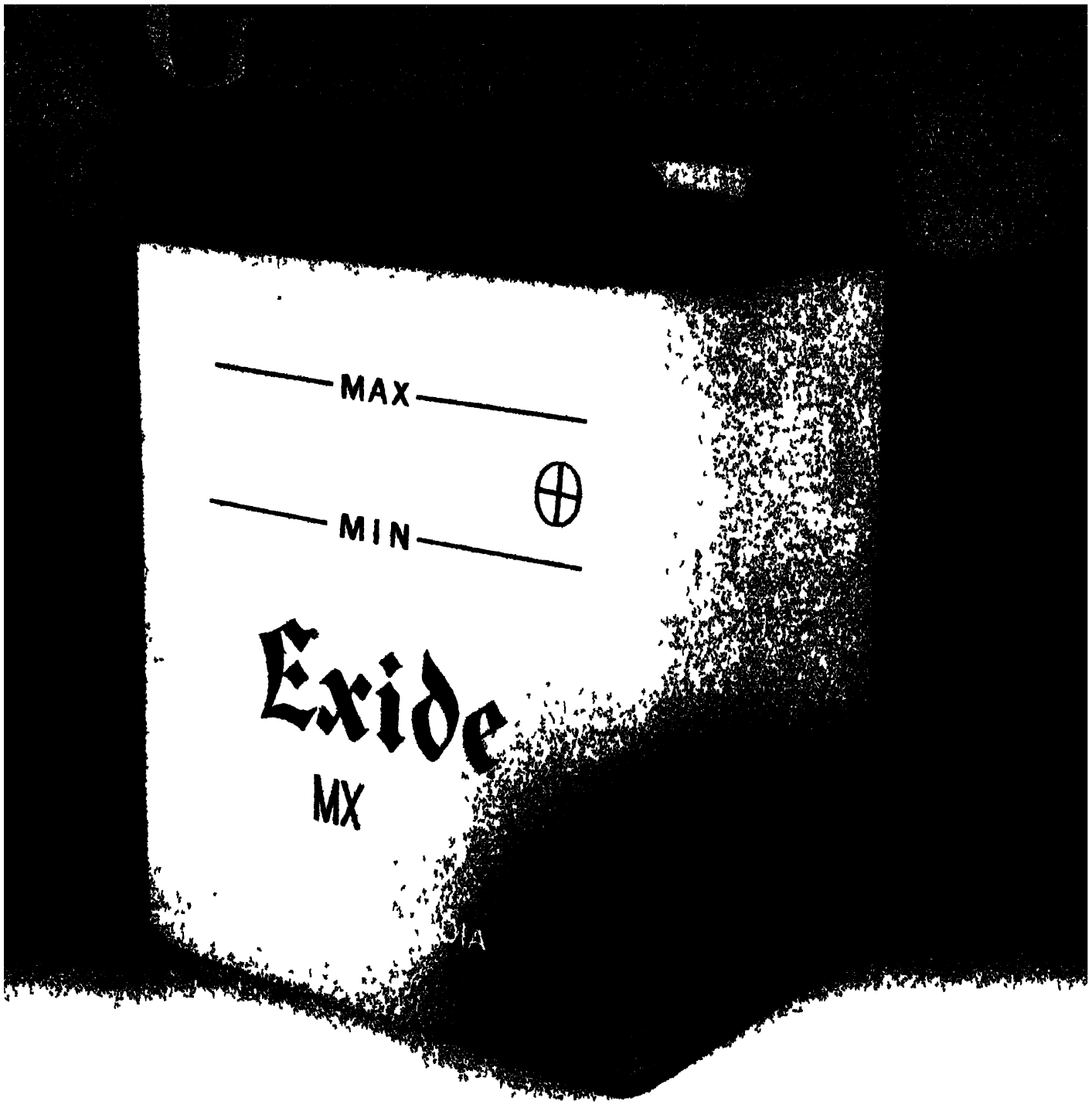
Now, in their absence, the team looked sadly out of depth in the forwardline as also the midfield. The wily Krishanu exposed his limitations in the face of some tight-marking. To add to their woes, captain Bikash Panji suddenly looked jaded and the team's game choked.

Mohun Bagan, on the other hand, seemed to have a player ready for each position. They were enjoying the services of their full arsenal and the addition of Sudip Chatterjee and Debasish Sarkar, who were out of action for the better part of the season, provided the three-member halfline with tremendous strength.

The vacuum of a gamemaker in the central midfield position was filled in by Sudip, Debasish played the snatcher (he also came up with a brilliant goal in the final) while Satyajit Chatterjee regained his touch as the attacking medio.

If their defence looked slightly suspect under pressure, it was more than made up through the variety and punch of the forwardline.

Gautam Bhattacharya



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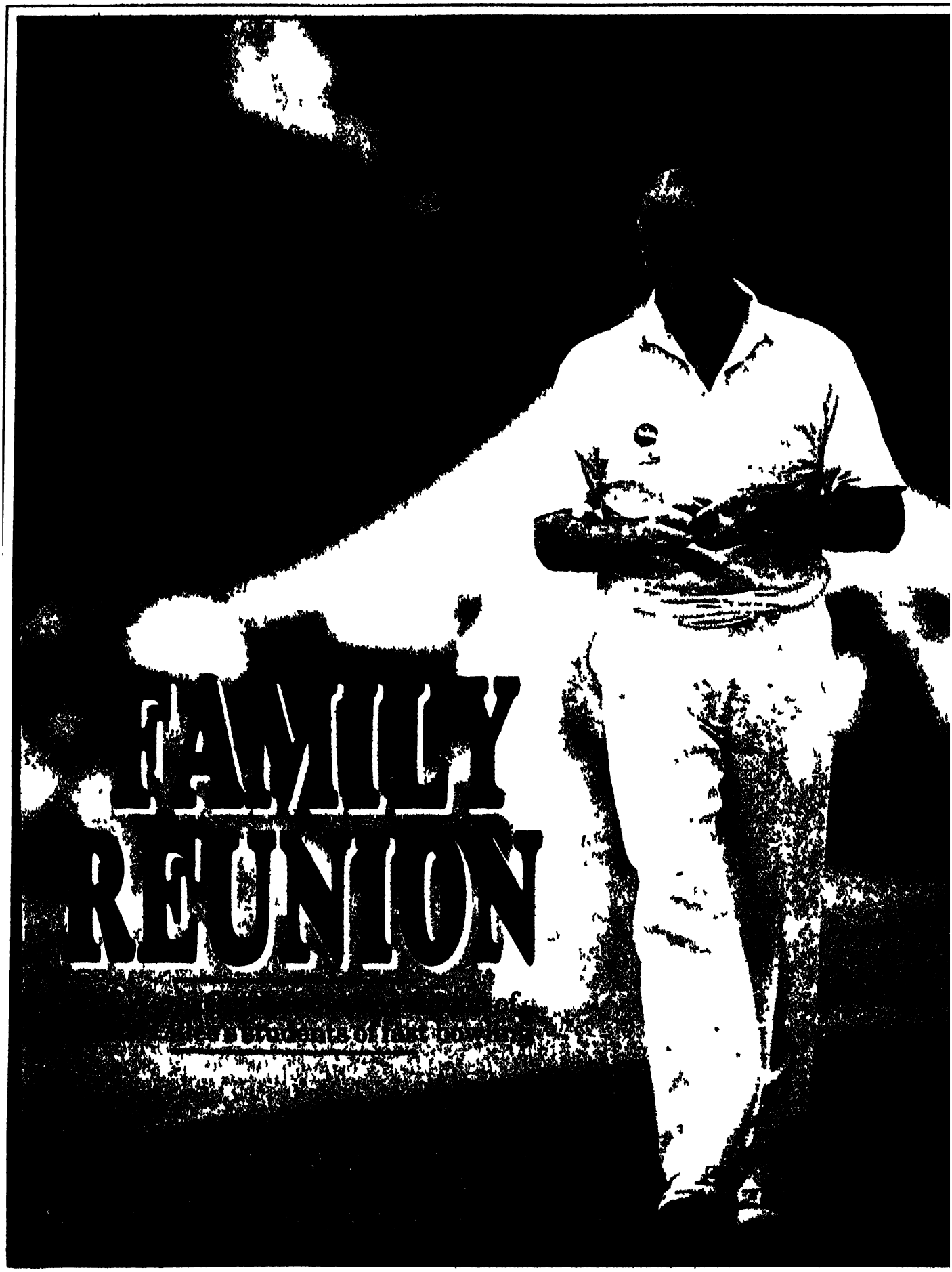
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FAMILY
REUNION

THE beard and the hair might be greying but the face and the attitude haven't changed. The World Cup will be in part some sort of a reunion of Dennis Lillee's adopted family. Srinath and Banerjee from India, Morrison and Watson from New Zealand and nearly all the Australian fast bowlers have been overseen, at some time or the other, by the great fast bowler.

In Melbourne recently, making his annual check of Victoria's fast bowlers, Lillee provided some thought-provoking tips to young bowlers. "When you are bowling you do as much with your left arm as you do with the right. It's so important." Or about what to look at while bowling: "When I was bowling well, really well, I didn't see the ball going to the batsman or to the stumps. I used to imagine the ball going through to the keeper. That's where you have to project."

Lillee himself did not always have a reasoned and reasonable attitude to fast bowling. When he was young enough to belong to an institute, there were none. All he knew—and wanted to do—was bowl as fast as he could, without regard for technique, injury or his future well-being.

"Then when I played in the Lancashire league, I was expected to show some of the lads how to bowl, and I started to think more about it," he says. "When I hurt my back I had to go more into technique than ever before. I learned a lot from reading books and right through my career I was often asked by my teammates and even my opponents, to have a look at them and sort out their problems. So when I finished it was a natural progression to coaching."

"I don't try to make everyone a Richard Hadlee clone. I don't try to change a guy who's front-on to side-on. I don't believe in over coaching"...Lillee

"Everyone's a bit different," says Lillee, "and I don't coach one way. I don't try to make everyone a Richard Hadlee clone. I don't try to change a guy who's front-on to side-on. I don't believe in over coaching."

If you possess as much skill as Dennis Lillee, you don't have to 'over-coach'. A few tips, and his sheer presence, is enough to inspire any aspiring fast bowler in the world!

Andy O'Brien, Melbourne



Srinath: Loads of potential and an able tutor in Lillee to learn from

PICTURES KAMAL JULKA

NUMBER of the last 64 clay-court tournaments on the women's tour that have been won in singles by European players: 54.

NUMBER that have been won by a U.S. player: 1.

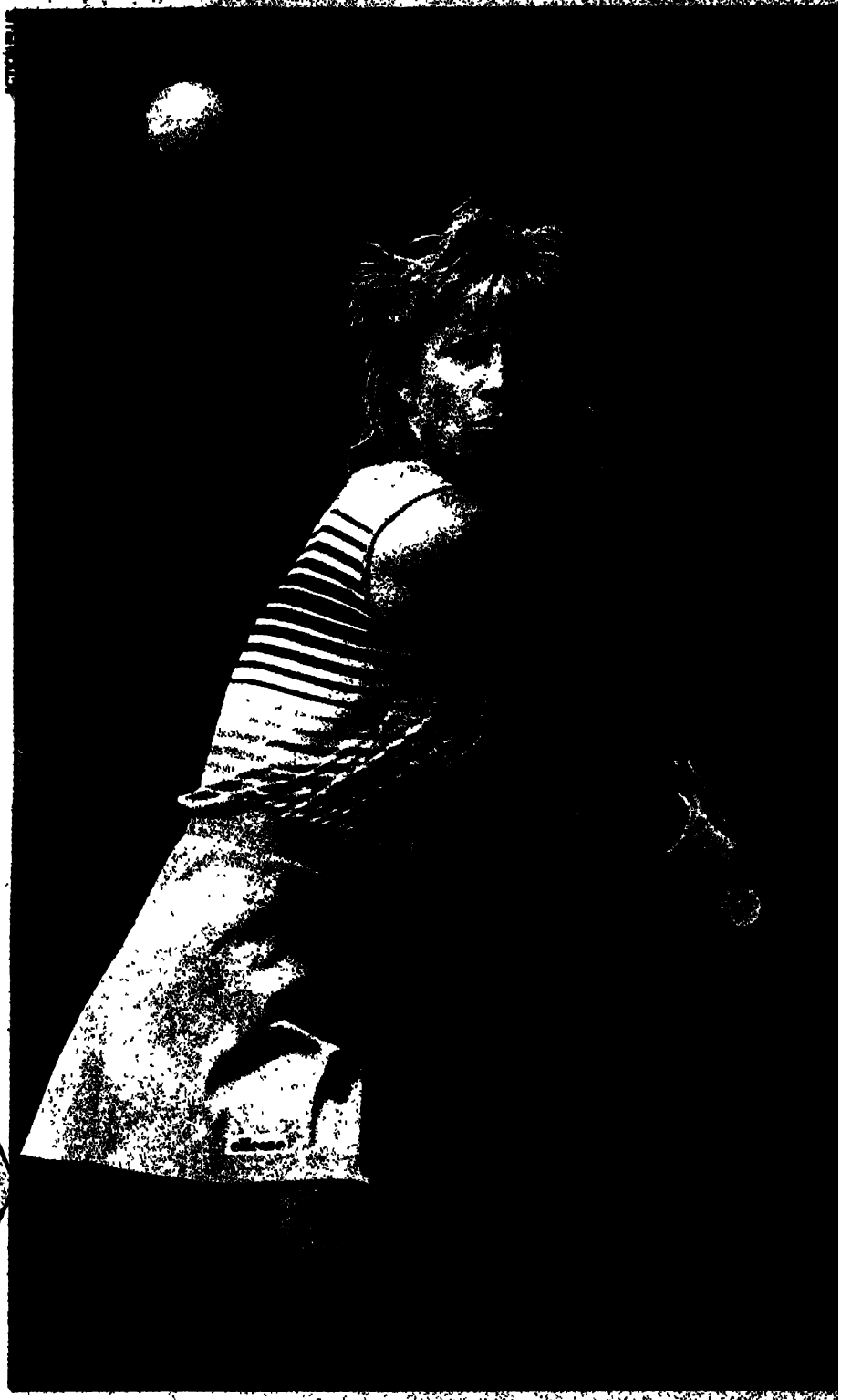
WHAT sociologist Jay Coakley, in "Sport in Society," calculated the odds were of a white male having a professional tennis career: 1 in 285,700.

WHAT Coakley calculated the odds were of a black or hispanic female having a professional tennis career: 1 in 20,000,000.

ALL-TIME great that Boris Becker calls "the tennis god": Rod Laver.

PERCENTAGE of Americans over 13 who recognise Magic Johnson and Joe Montana: 89.0 and 88.8.

PERCENTAGE of Americans over 13 who recognize Chris Evert, according to American Sports Data Inc.: 91.8.



TENNIS

HOW former ATP Tour chief executive officer Hamilton Jordan used to refer to the top 10 ranked men players: "Those selfish assholes."

NUMBER of black turtleneck sweaters that Monica Seles bought on one shopping trip: 7.

SCORE that Emperor Akihito and Crown Prince Naruhito beat President George Bush and U.S. Ambassador Michael Armacost in a doubles match at Tokyo's Akasaka Palace court during the state visit in January: 6-3, 6-3.

MOVIE star who referred to Jimmy Connors in an Academy Awards acceptance speech: Tennis buff Dustin Hoffman:

ONLY man during 1988-91 to win pro tournaments on four different surfaces in the same year: Michael Stich (1991).



TRIVIA

PLAYER who visits the local children's hospital in Cincinnati every day when he competes at the ATP Championships: Jim Courier.

APPAREL that was listed by Tennis Magazine as a "must-have" item for women in 1992: Wild-coloured tennis panties.

NUMBER of players in the U.S. since 1970 who have been admittable to Stanford University, who were offered full tennis scholarships and didn't enroll there, according to veteran coach Dick Gould: "Four or five."

PERCENT increase in fines from 1991 to 1992 for top women professionals (Nos. 1-8) who violate the Kraft Tour's "exhibition rule"—by playing an exhibition the same week as a tour event: 400.

HOW Andre Agassi says he gets his highs now: By reading the Bible with his girlfriend, Wendi Stewart.

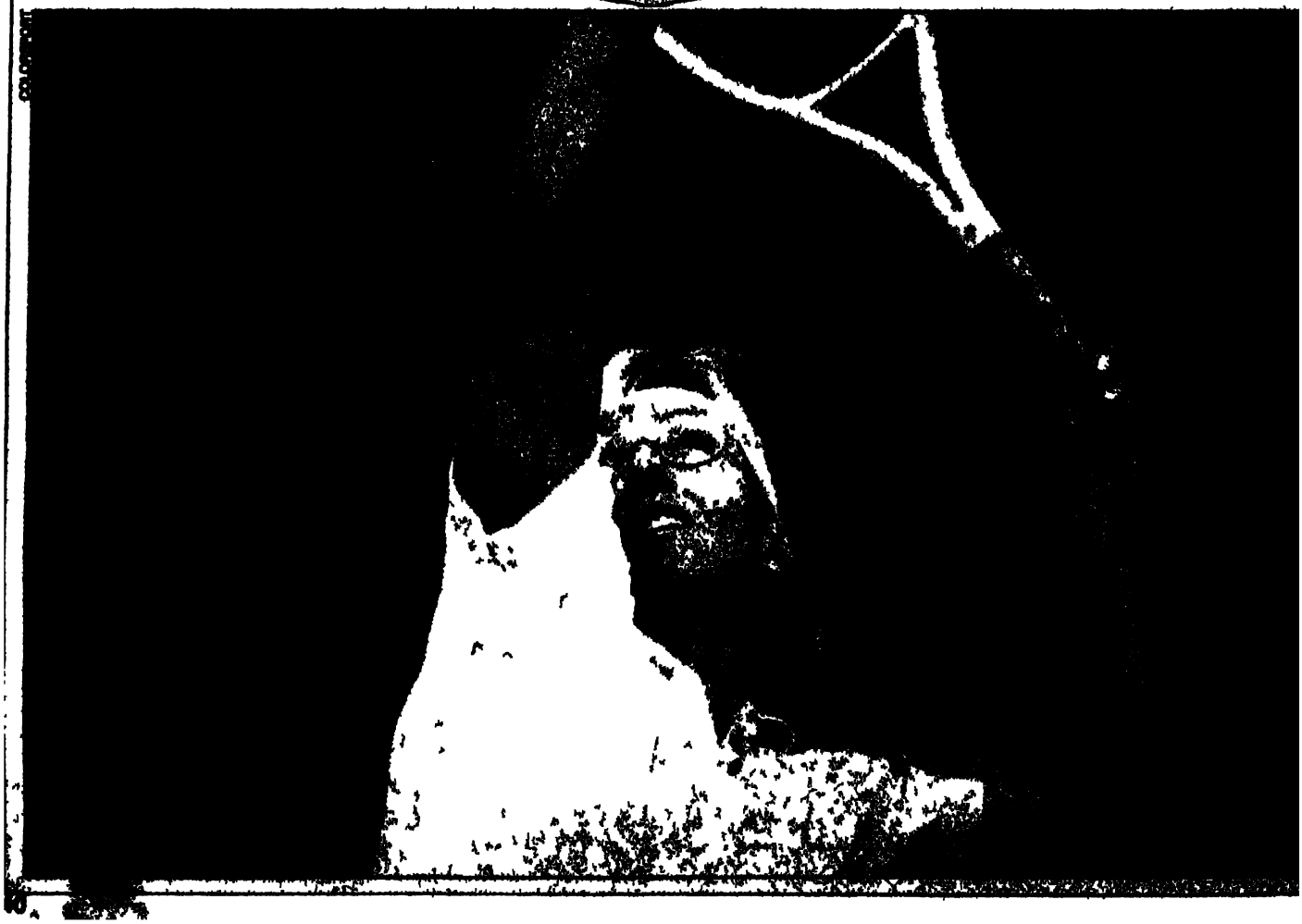
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ONE of the most damaging things a coach can do, according to noted coach and author Peter Burwash: "Not to teach a player a one-handed backhand volley."

NUMBER of consecutive years that the U.S. Open title has been won by Ivan Lendl or the man who beat him: 10.

PLAYER that 1938 Grand Slammer Don Budge predicts will be the next to win the men's Grand Slam: Pete Sampras.

SPORT that Monica Seles plays every day: Basketball.

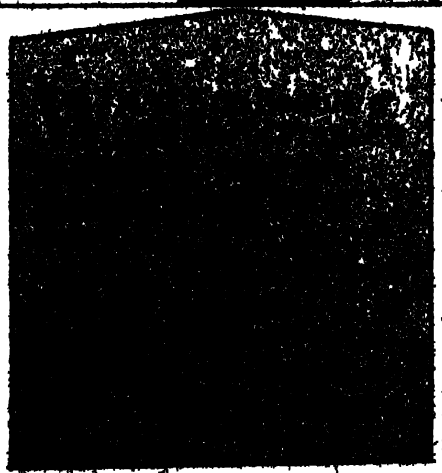




PERCENT of the pros at the 1991 U.S. Open who used gut strings and nylon strings, as estimated by Technifibre, the tournament's official stringing service: About 50 percent each.

ADDRESS of Ivan Lendl Fan Club: Claire Cena, Via Don Minzoni 47, 41043 Formigine (MO), Italy.

ONLY one of 50 tennis questions who, after receiving an imploring letter from Dennis Rodman in 1977 after she [illegible]



NUMBER of rackets that champion Stefan Edberg had strung during the 1991 U.S. Open: 38.

WHAT Centre Court at Wimbledon was called by many English fans in the 1940s and [illegible]

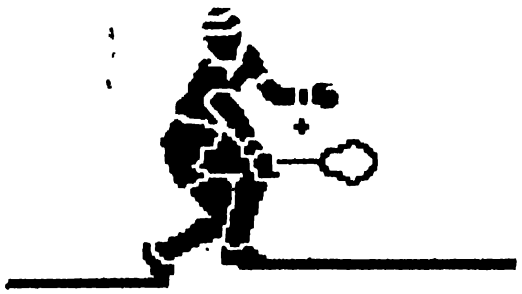
WHAT Jennifer Capriati's parents gave her to diminish the pressure of junior tournament competition: A prize when she did not win the tournament.

GUARANTEE at the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida: Bollettieri will meet any student within two days of receiving a written request.

POPULARITY ranking of tennis among sports for doctors, according to a poll reported in a recent issue of "The Physician and Sportsmedicine": [illegible]

ROD LAVER

His Master's Voice



In both 1962 and 1969, ROD LAVER won all four Grand Slam tournaments. The demands of modern tennis make such domination improbable, and not surprisingly four different men won Grand Slam titles in 1990 and 1991. To separate the champs from the chumps and the contenders from the pretenders, PAUL FEIN spoke to the legendary Australian to get his assessment of today's stars

LAVER on EDBERG

"He's a throwback to past eras because of his attractive, classical style of play and his gentlemanly behaviour. He has all the shots, the best volley in tennis and plays aggressively. He's definitely one of my favourites. Against Courier (in the Australian Open final) though, Edberg's game plan was lacklustre, too inflexible. I think he should vary his serve more because sometimes he lets opponents get into a groove returning it. He should have occasionally served at three-quarter speed to get more serves in and kicked a few serves wide to Courier's forehand. And when he got consistently passed off Courier's backhand (service return), he could have stayed back a bit more. Edberg is not that far above anyone. The No. 1 spot is going to change hands a bunch of times this year."

LAVER on COURIER



"HE'S a very strong individual and a powerful player His strokes certainly aren't the most attractive-looking I've seen But like Monica Seles', they work Courier uses great footwork, and at the Australian (Open), his timing was perfect At the moment he can get away with his highly unorthodox strokes But I do feel that somewhere along the line, there'll be some more chinks in his armour because of his lack of fluidity and the great effort his game requires When you re playing a lot and you're young and your adrenalin is up, that's fine, perfect But when you're down a little bit and you try to blast these unorthodox shots, you're forcing everything That means you're going to make a lot of mistakes So I see some trouble ahead for Jim, until he can get his whole game under control





LAVER on BECKER

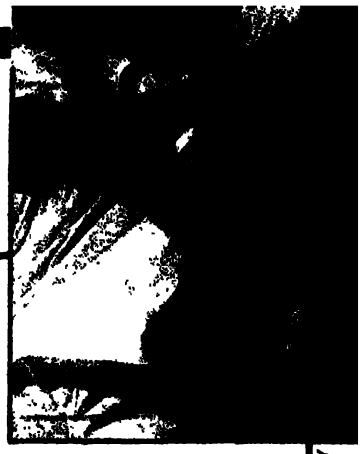
"WINNING Wimbledon at 17 shows he is just a terrific talent. I feel there is no power game stronger than Boris'. Yet that sometimes creates a problem. He's going to lose matches he shouldn't lose because he won't change his game Sometimes he's stubborn and plays his opponents' (baseline) game when he could knock off a few volleys and just get off the court with a quick win. Still, he always gives his best and he's a great sportsman. He's got a great place in the history of tennis because of the fact that he's been a pressure player and performs best at the big championships and especially Davis Cup where his record is phenomenal. I think Boris has been a wonderful ambassador for his country and the sport."



COLORSPORT

LAVER on AGASSI

"BEFORE he had been too aggressive and impulsive with his youthful personality. His talent was there to amaze everyone. But at 17 and 18 Andre should have shut up and let his racket do the talking. Last year he said he was starting to view competition as a challenge instead of an inconvenience. Today you have a more mature Agassi. Before, if he was losing the first set 5-1, he'd throw the next game. He just didn't care. That attitude has changed tremendously. His decisions not to play the Australian (Open) and often skipping Wimbledon are suspect. But as he gets older, he'll have better judgement."



TOMMY HINDLEY

LAVER on SAMPRAS

"I LOOKED at the last couple of tournaments he played late last year, and he played some great tennis. His future is really bright. He's got a game that is so fluid and relaxed. He plays well under pressure. His lack of 'getting into' a match—getting off to slow starts sometimes—seems to be his biggest problem. His game also has to be tighter, less

LAVER on CHANG

"MICHAEL'S biggest problem is that he's just a little bit too small in a big man's sport. He's got to realise the big weapon today is the serve, and since Michael is what, 5'7" or something, he has no ability to do much with the serve. So the net is taken away from him to begin with. He's got to fight and be his very fastest around the court in every match he plays. He's got a lot of [illegible] But is it enough to [illegible] seven-match [Grand Slam] tournament? He played some wonderful tennis, winning the 1989 French Open, but I don't see him winning another Grand Slam event."



ACTION PLUS

LAVER on LENDL

"LENDL is aloof until you know him. And how many people can know a champion? So he unfortunately brings some of the press criticism on himself. There's some unfairness though when a *Sports Illustrated* article comes out (headlined) 'The Champion Nobody Cares About.' That's a little cruel. Lendl is certainly going to be recognised as a great player, but not in the same light as a Becker or an Edberg. They're more approachable: they have softer features. The look that Lendl gives you almost gives you the feeling that he's not approachable. It's like: don't come anywhere near me."





COLORSPORT

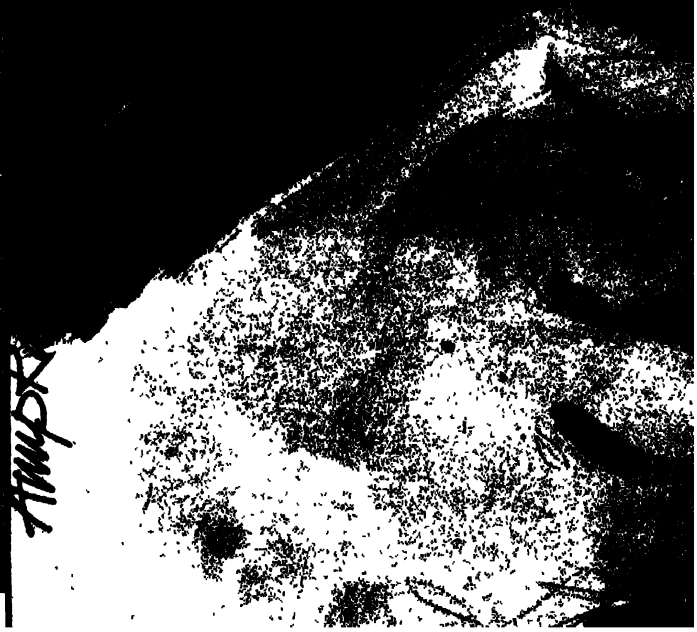
LAVER on STICH

"HE rose through the ranks rather rapidly when it came to winning Wimbledon. To me, that was a surprise. He certainly has the shots to win Wimbledon, but they all just happened to jell in one fortnight. I saw him play two or three weeks later in some events, and he wasn't the same player. It's going to take a while before he's consistent. I just see him hitting balls at huge speeds, and if they hit, they hit, and if they miss, they miss. His choice of shots is sometimes suspect. I'd be surprised if Stich won a Grand Slam title this year."

SPECIAL FEATURE

MIKE TYSON IS NOT ABOVE THE LAW

By SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL





But the big man sat unperturbed, staring vacantly into the surrounding gloom, as if lost in a dream. And then he spoke, almost apologetically, reassuringly. "Don't worry, pal, come next year, at this time we're gonna have Rolls Royces, we're gonna have limousines...Don't worry."

"Shut the F....up, Mike, I'm freezing my ass off." snapped the other man, angry at his wicked joke and then for one long moment laughed secretly at the poor man's sad pretentions, his helpless misery.

Rolls Royce cars and limousines. He had heard this before. He had seen these guys before. Hundreds of them They all cluster around all over the neighbourhood, his office, his home, the dark alleys, looking hungrily at the gleaming cars passing by, the fashionable men, the women, the girls, almost in an endless longing for life's best rewards. And then they creep into some murky, unknown world. Dissolve for ever Rolls Royce like hell he thought.

But sure enough, within a year since that chilly morning, the big American stopped riding any cars anymore . except a Rolls Royce and limousines, in real life

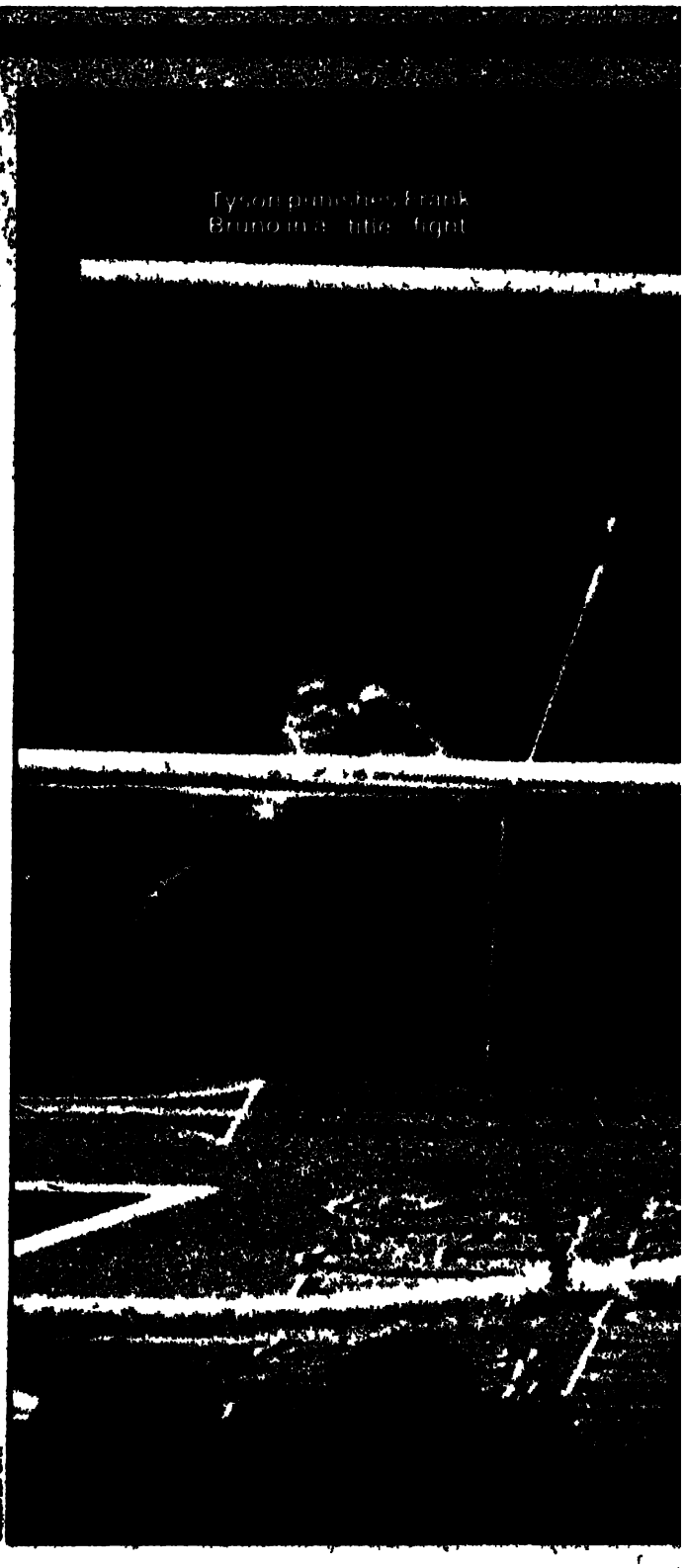
But this isn't the essential Mike Tyson story. This is only the theatrics of the sudden rush to fame of a ghetto youth whose name should more naturally have been found in the criminal archives of the New York police

THERE was a streetfight in Brooklyn's tough Brownsville neighbourhood when one riotous afternoon a young, shy, black youth, suddenly revolted against the harsh demeaning, intolerable realities of slumlife. His mother detested violence, and he was shy, almost effeminate shy, spending most of his time with his kid sister Yet they never spared him—the bullies—coming in hordes to take away his sneakers, his clothes, of which he didn't have too many.

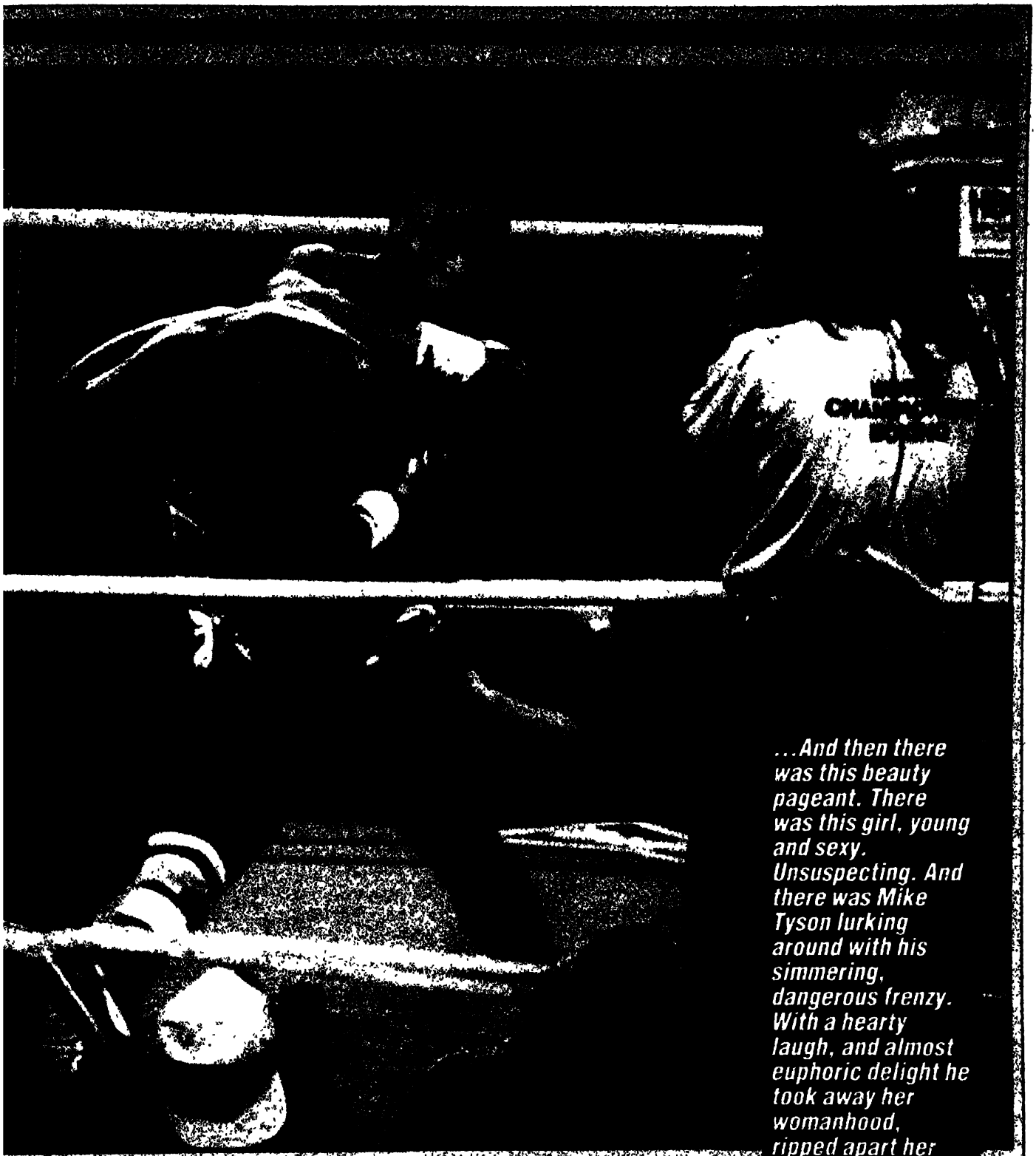
And then even his pigeons And in the fading glare of that bleak, afternoon, Mike Tyson suddenly exploded in a rage he had never known before In one brief murderous fight, the young man rediscovered himself, waking up to the enormous potential of his mighty muscles, and to a spontaneous, unfamiliar outpouring of crude animal instincts that rejoiced in the crushing of a fellow being's essential manhood. Honour. Just for the sake of it.

And at one stroke, destiny had Mike Tyson's life in firm control, launching him towards a murky world of crime where his raw physicality came in handy, while at the same time opened up a whole new horizon where his hungry impoverished life was fated to flourish.

Flourish it did. For, in the world's prime boxing rings, the Brooklyn strongman found a new dimension, a new lucrative significance to his unbridled, destructive passions. "When I fight someone, I want to break his will. I want to take his manhood. When I fight I want to rip out his heart and show it to him"...So, as the millions kept pouring in, Mike Tyson kept ripping out the soul of his hapless opponents, taking away the manhood of fellow human beings...



Tyson punishes Frank Bruno in title fight



...And then there was this beauty pageant. There was this girl, young and sexy. Unsuspecting. And there was Mike Tyson lurking around with his simmering, dangerous frenzy. With a hearty laugh, and almost euphoric delight he took away her womanhood, ripped apart her entire faith in human relationship and showed it to her in all its naked malevolence

him. People say that's primitive, that I'm an animal. But then they pay $500 to see it..."

So, the millions kept pouring in, in an unending avalanche that threatened to bury all of boxing's financial past. And Mike Tyson kept ripping out the soul of his hapless opponents, taking away the manhood of fellow human beings.

AND then there was this beauty pageant. There was this girl, young and sexy. Unsuspecting. And there was Mike Tyson lurking around with his simmering, dangerous frenzy. With a hearty laugh, and euphoric delight he took away her womanhood, ripped apart her entire faith in human relationship and showed it to her in all its naked malevolence. If Mike Tyson could speak his mind after his conviction, you can almost bet, he would have confessed that



"I never liked sports. Sports are social events. What I do is an obsession. If I wasn't in boxing, I'd be breaking the law. That's my nature"...So, boxing was Mike Tyson's way of breaking the law. Raping was Mike Tyson's way of boxing – out of the ring...

while raping Desiree Washington he derived the same pleasure as he gets while flooring his boxing opponents. A demonic force must have all along been fueling him, and the demons were bound to catch up with him when the nemesis came. Taking away someone's manhood, ripping out his heart. This guy could not have been a sportsman.

"I never liked sports. Sports are only social events. What I do is an obsession. If I wasn't in boxing, I'd be breaking the law. That's my nature."

So boxing was Mike Tyson's way of breaking the law. Raping was Mike Tyson's way of boxing—out of the ring.

There have been athletes, boxers, and other sportsmen who have gone to jail on various charges of violence. Historically speaking, many American athletes have made their appearance in courtrooms too. In 1921, in the so-called Black Sox scandal, eight baseball players were tried and acquitted on charges that they had accepted bribes to throw the World Series. In recent years, many athletes have stood before the bar to answer charges ranging from drunken driving to assault to involvement with illegal drugs. And of course Pete Rose recently served five months in prison for tax fraud.

But no athlete of Tyson's celebrity and stature has ever faced criminal charges of such gravity as those confronting him in Judge Patricia J. Gifford's courtroom: one count of confinement (for restraining the victim on a bed) two counts of deviate sexual conduct and one count of rape. Not since 1943, when actor Errol Flynn was tried on charges of statutory rape of two teenage girls, has an American entertainer of such magnitude been accused of so repugnant a crime.





"I said, 'please, you're hurting me. Please stop, get off me.' I tried to fight. It was like hitting a wall," said the poor rape victim in her testimony. And now walls, cold and bleak will be closing in on this man who thought the power in his muscles had made all societal rules irrelevant

Tyson hitches his pants while leaving the courtroom after the guilty verdict

he really treated them the way you treat the wretched insects.

He loved to hurt them. Always. Especially in bed. "You know something, I like to hurt women when I make love to them," he once confessed to a friend. "I like to hear women cry with pain. To see them bleed. It gives me pleasure."

Then in the room the poor rape victim testified before the jury giving all the gory details.

The woman said that Tyson had overpowered her in his hotel room, pinned her on a bed, stripped her, raped her and laughed while she cried in pain and begged him to stop.

"I said, 'please, you're hurting me. Please stop,

Boxing After Tyson

WILL the exit of Mike Tyson spell disaster to a game that has experienced the biggest outpouring of cash known in sporting history, and has over the years had the most frenzied fan following too?

Without a doubt, Tyson has been the greatest single attraction in boxing since the phenomenon of Muhammad Ali. And boxing, like any other sport, has thrived on the heroics of its shining idols. Tyson has been one of them and now that he has fallen, the sport faces a strange vacuum that may leave it virtually bankrupt.

Boxing, of course, has suffered many such crises before, and survived them all in very much the same way as its die-hard gladiators, who have come from hopeless backgrounds, and pulled themselves up from the despair of the ghettos to become some of the world's greatest icons

History suggests that in times of such void, lesser mortals creep into prominence and the game endures them till the messiah comes. Smaller fighters did, in fact, star between the title loss of Jack Johnson in 1915 and the championship victory of Jack Dempsey in 1919; from the retirement of Dempsey in 1928 until the rise of Joe Louis in 1936; and from the retirement of Louis in 1949 till the rise of Rocky Marciano in 1951

"So, the exit of Mike Tyson will mean nothing to boxing, said Bob Arum, the celebrated boxing godfather "There's enough big fights. George Foreman-Holyfield is big enough, and there will be enough big combinations in the year's ahead. So, Mike Tyson's exit is no catastrophe."

Obviously, Arum was trying to underplay the significance of Tyson's absence from the boxing ring, for he, as the arch-rival of Tyson's promoter, Don King, seems to hate the convicted boxer too and so much so that he, in fact, welcomed his ouster, saying, 'In some way, it helps boxing, because it eliminates someone who is perceived to be a bad apple in the mix."

Others, however, are deeply concerned. Says Seth Abraham, the President of Time-Warner Sports, the parent company of HBO, who were expecting to telecast the Tyson-Holyfield prestige bout, "The profound effect, obviously, is on the heavyweight championship, and that connects with other divisions. As the heavyweight division goes, so goes boxing."

So, what about the future?

"Well, it's open season without Tyson," thinks Larry Holmes, the 42-year-old former champion who was knocked out by Tyson in 1988 and who admittedly wants no more to do with him

But Holmes does offer some alternatives, including his own renewed effort to take a title shot against anybody in the field. And, no denying, Holmes and the 43-year-old Foreman are attractive fighters, especially against one another. To a nostalgic crowd, as well as those lamenting over Tyson's exit, the duo may bring at least some excitement back.

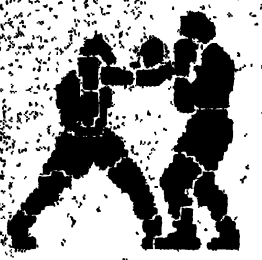
Among other possibilities are Riddick Bowe and Lennox Lewis whose potential as big-time stars may not yet have been well-known, but experts believe they might raise a storm on an empty stage.



COLORSPORT



Tyson pulverises Larry Holmes in the '88 title fight



And he started laughing, like it was a game," she said.

The woman said she went to the bathroom, and when she emerged Tyson was sitting on the bed in his underwear.

"I was terrified," she said. "I said it's time for me to leave'. He said, 'Come here' and grabbed my arm. I said, 'Stop. Get off me.' I tried to fight. It was like hitting a wall."

Now walls, cold and bleak, will be closing in on this man who thought the power in his muscles, his raw beastly brutality had made all societal rules irrelevant. Who thought he could do anything that came into his mind, at any time, and people would, if not love him, accept him for it.

Well, he had his reasons. For, till the day he received the jury's verdict everything about him was heroic. A kid who pulled himself up through the ghetto life of Brooklyn, making a huge $100 million a year, a champion adored by the world, and a succession of stunningly beautiful women (according to him most civilised) decorating his luxurious life. And the fortunes still seemed to have no limits.

But none of that was enough. That same beastly [illegible] that exploded in his teenage years, turned him from a victim to a victimiser, to the fastest [illegible] in the worlds most lucrative game, is now [illegible] him to his ruin. His nemesis.

[illegible] and limousines. Shut the f....up. [illegible] all so meaningless now. ●

OPINIONS

■ **"In some way it (Tyson's exit) helps boxing, because it eliminates someone who is perceived to be a bad apple in the mix"...boxing promoter Bob Arum**

■ **"The state athletic commissions will lift his licence. No hotel chain will sponser it(a Tyson fight). You just can't see the announcer saying, 'And in this corner, the convicted rapist, Mike Tyson"...Bert Randolph Sugar, publisher of *Boxing Illustrated***

■ **"Tyson is a wolf in sheep's clothing who wrapped himself in the cloak of Christianity"...one of the prosecution lawyers**

■ **"This beautiful honest kid came to town and got deceived by a professional deceiver"...a boxing fan**

QUEEN ELIZABETH II CUP, CALCUTTA

REVENGE FOR DANCER

Romantic Dancer's ability to move into over-drive in a few strides won him the prestigious race

WHEN two top class athletes meet in any field of sport, they provide spectators with fare fit for the Gods. On Sunday, February 16, 1992 the two best horses in India at the moment—both champions in their own right—clashed for the second time and once again they held the crowd spellbound.

Every time Romantic Dancer and Star Contender—the horses in question—have met, the outcome has been a close affair. The Queen Elizabeth II Cup was no exception to the rule and just half a length was all that separated the Dancer from the Contender.

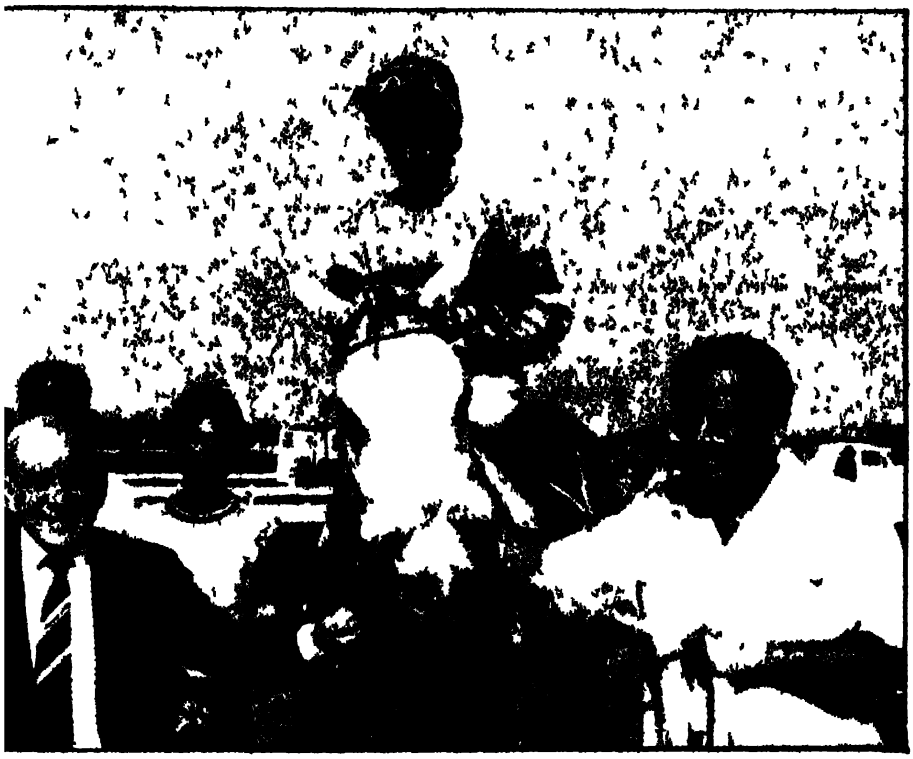
It is almost reminiscent of those remarkable Wimbledon finals among men like Borg, McEnroe and Connors. Each of their matches were absolute cliff-hangers which seemed to swing either way before one eventually emerged the victor. Trying to decide who was going to win before the match was really pure guesswork, and the crowd invariably left the arena with the feeling that while it was great for one of the champions to have won, it was sad that the other had to lose. So the score between Romantic Dancer and Star Contender now stands at one set all. The first set was the Indian Champion Cup where Star Contender prevailed by just half a length, virtually winning it on the tie-breaker. The second set was the Queen's Cup where Romantic Dancer came back from the brink of defeat and once again it was the



Romantic Dancer, Aslam Kader up, swooped in for the kill and beat Star Contender by half a length

tie break which was resorted to in order to decide the outcome. It is unfortunate that the final set between these two remarkable horses will not take place in Calcutta and we will have to wait till March 1 when they clash once again in Bangalore for what promises to be the decider

The Queen Elizabeth II Cup, a grade II affair, is historically one of the most important terms races (with penalties) in the country It is steeped with a heritage that goes back to the days of the British in India when it was called the Viceroy's Cup, and Calcutta under the auspices of the Royal Calcutta Turf Club is one of the only racing centres in the world which is allowed to have a race named after the ruling monarch of England





H. David, trainer,and the owner, Dipak Khaitan leading in Romantic Dancer after winning the Queen Elizabeth II Cup

In 1990 Reckitt & Colman (of India) Ltd stepped in as official sponsors and from that day the race became worth a lot more than just the congratulatory telegram to the winner from the Queen

A field of six lined up to face the starter They were made up of a pair of 5-year-olds, a pair of 7½-year-olds and a pair of 4-years-olds On the terms of the race, it was obvious that Romantic Dancer and Star Contender were conceding chunks of weight to the two 4-year-olds in the race, it was unlikely that the outcome would prove to be an upset

Sure enough in the event it was the two 5-year olds who fought it out, but Silver Sovereign who finished third was by no means disgraced and he turned in quite a performance himself

Considering the fact that he had run the St Leger just one week earlier, Romantic Dancer (ridden by Aslam Kader) was sent out for the race by trainer Haskell David looking a lot better than he had in the Indian Champion Cup Star Contender too could not have been faulted with the Corner brothers, Philip and Robin combining to see if they could make it two love in their favour

With about 800 metres to run Robin Corner had Star Contender trying to steal a march He pushed Star Contender in an attempt to take over the running and as a result had to take the turn two to three horses wide At that juncture Silver Sovereign was in front, Zara Shah was in second place and Star Contender had to go around them to try to hit the front Kader on Romantic Dancer opted to take his chance by trying to get a run along the fence and suddenly found himself pocketed with nowhere to go With a furlong and half to run Star Contender hit the front and he was at least a length and a half the good of Romantic Dancer when Kader managed to convince Zara Shah to give him room in order to make his run After that Romantic Dancer produced the acceleration that only a champion can produce and he swooped down on Star Contender to win by half a length

It was a magnificent performance indeed because in the Calcutta straight to make up that sort of ground against Star Contender is like trying to get an interest-free loan from a Shylock, but Romantic Dancer proved that he had become the leading State money earner in Indian turf history because of his exceptional ability to switch from cruising speed into overdrive in a matter of strides That was what won him one of the most exciting Queen Elizabeth II Cups in the last few years

Cyrus J. Madan

PHOTOGRAPHS SUBHOJIT PAL

ROAD TO HELL

German sprint queen, Katrin Krabbe and two others were charged with 'cheating' during a dope test. The sentence, which is a four year ban from athletics, could effectively end their illustrious careers

The German Athletics Federation has imposed a ban on German sprint queen Katrin Krabbe—and two of her training partners Grit Breuer and Silke Moeller—regarding a controversial dope test

The suspension was revoked after Krabbe Grit Breuer and Silke Moeller obtained a court injunction

The trio was tested for possible doping at their South African training quarters and the urine samples of all three appeared to be identical, implying manipulation

The Federation ordered the tests following allegations that Krabbe has been using steroids or other banned performance enhancing drugs

German athletics star Katrin Krabbe and fellow sprinters Grit Breuer and Silke Moeller were suspended for four years by the National Athletics Association (DLV) for doping

THE weather in South Africa is generally bright this time of the year Sunshine coexisting happily with a friendly nip in the air Partly as a rule, crazy things do tend to happen on nice bright, sunny days

Like take for instance Katrin Krabbe Krabbe was in the very short line up of contestants who were vying for the crown of the 'most outstanding woman sprinter for this decade It wasn t long before the mantle was going to fall on her All she had to do was wait for Barcelona But no

What did Krabbe do?

She stepped out of line and along with a couple of her compatriots decided to show us all over again that the world of athletics is nothing but a sham

Krabbe, Grit Breuer and Silke Moeller have been accused of tampering with their urine samples following a routine drug test Now why would anyone want to do that? Unless they were trying to hide something The trio's urine samples proved to be identical As they all came from the same person, according to Germany's world expert on drug testing,professor Hanfred Danike The verdict? Suspension for four years

Oh yes, there will be the usual rounds of appealing protesting



Katrin Krabbe (left) and Grit Breuer (right) go through the formalities in a relay. Breuer could yet make a comeback



Golden Girl? Katrin Krabbe only went on to prove that she was a cheat

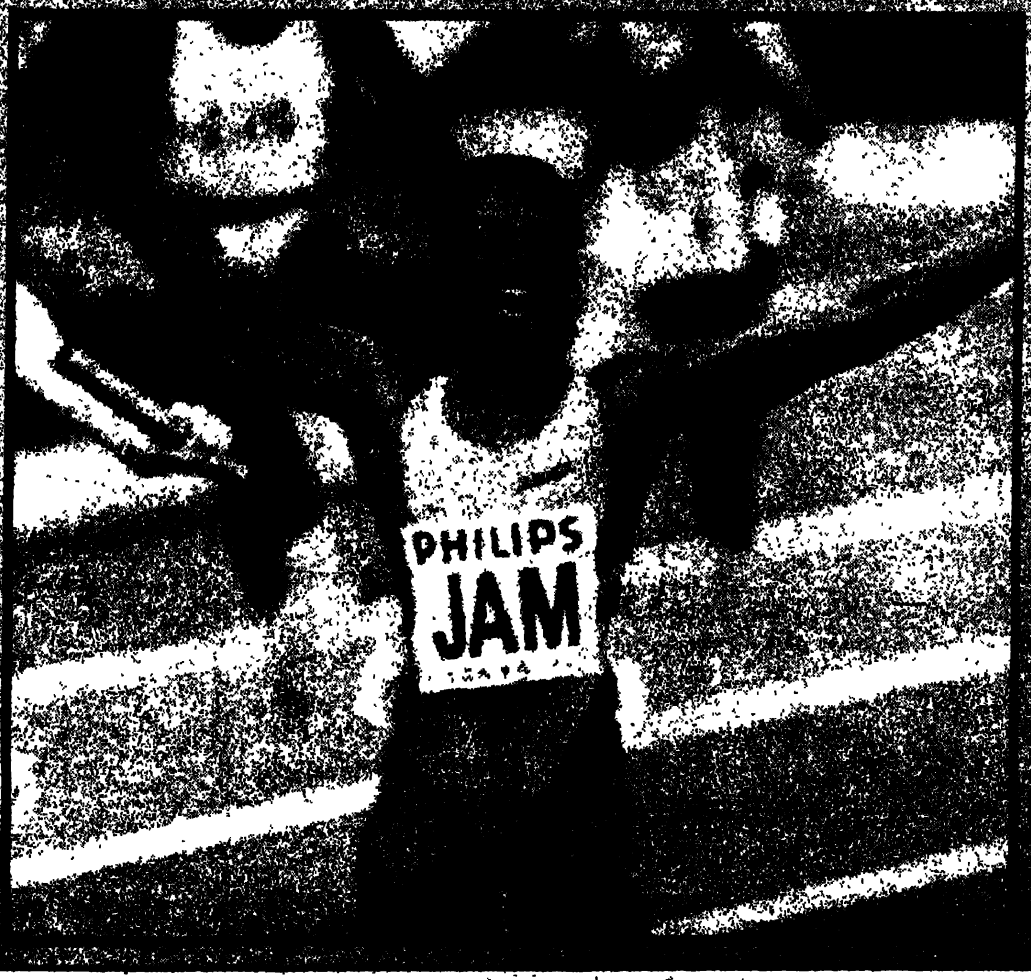
and suing once—and if—a court of enquiry is set up. Despite whatever truth the enquiry may reveal the authorities as a rule will try to hush things up. The E.German sports factories have for long taken and digested their share of blame for steroid use and will continue to try and tone down the magnitude of this disaster. World sport has withstood scandals of all shapes and sizes and the authorities have hardened themselves to accepting one fact: the show must go on and the box office must be kept ticking.

But the authorities need to have someone who can be a box office draw. With Krabbe's suspension, world sport will receive another dent to its now crumbling boundary walls. The Olympics are the prime time of sport; track and field holds centrestage in the Olympics; Katrin Krabbe by virtue of her awesome performance in Tokyo would have proved to be a box office hit in Barcelona. There would have been some who would prefer to see her run and others who would have settled merely for her good looks. Krabbe's attractive features proved to be an effective back-up system to her—already exposed—mediocre talent. And as she would crouch on the blocks, her 'cold blue' or 'mesmerising green' eyes (the press hasn't decided as yet) totally focused and unwavering, the agents of Nike International (Krabbe's sponsors) would stare up at giant TV screens and nod at each other appreciatively...sure that they had backed a winner.

There was lots of money to be made as well and Krabbe was a dream product. A symbol of the

BUSINESS AS USUAL

Kaarin Krabbe's suspension may have come as a shock to the athletics fraternity but it hasn't stopped them from breaking world records





new united Germany. Long legs, blonde hair held back in place, a face to inspire Yves St. Laurent and a light, almost elegant style of running! Krabbe was on her way to becoming incredibly rich. Maybe even a multi-millionaire (her golds in Tokyo had assured her of that). With DM 800,000 tucked away in German banks,

Silke Moeller, a veteran athlete, has brought a shameful end to her career

her sprint victories in Tokyo could have enabled her to gross a further DM one million. To make things easier, she had an expensive endorsement with sports giants, Nike. Needless to say, that with the announcement of the ban, Nike is going to drop her like a hot potato.

Four years of suspension from the highly competitive and exclusive circuit of top class world athletics is going to take its toll on Krabbe and her teammates. The youngest among them is Grit Breuer and she might yet be able to pick up the broken pieces of her life and put them together again. For Krabbe, a comeback is going to be next to impossible. It is not her fitness that might bother her but her broken spirit and her will to win after four years in the wilderness."Too often banned sportsmen announce comebacks only to face the ignominy of defeat. Then there is the age factor. Krabbe should be around 25-26 years of age, if—and when—she returns. It is an age at which most top class athletes have found it difficult to be consistent. As for Silke (Gladisch) Moeller, perhaps a new profession awaits her: that of housewife. All three by crossing the line of fairness have reduced themselves from famous personalities to unwanted cheats.

But for all these events and their justifiable conclusion, we have a certain Mr. Ben Johnson to thank. Through his fall, he has only managed to show us the way Sports bodies all over the world have tightened up their stance towards performance inducing drugs and clamped down heavily on their users, in spite of their world stature.

One might feel sorry for Krabbe and her teammates: they could be victims as much as villains, but through all this,it is right that a remorseless and nagging inquiry continues. For watching, not athletes but 'fixed up' junkies perform at the highest level of world sport is not logic: it is nonsense.

Robin Chatterjee



If your bike refuses to start, change your boots and read on.

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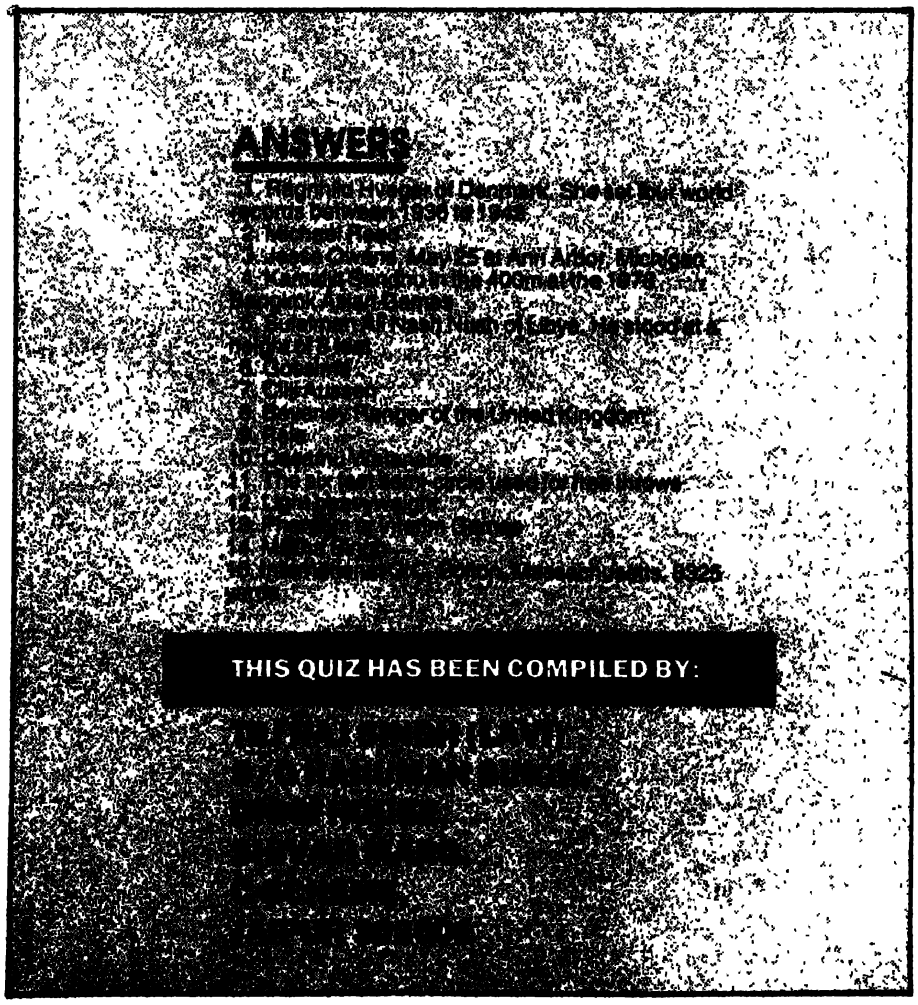
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READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was called the 'Golden Torpedo' in swimming?
2. Name the swimmer who swam the English Channel six times in a year?
3. He broke five world records in one afternoon despite an injured back. Who did this and when?
4. Who was the first Indian woman athlete to win a gold medal in the Asian Games?
5. Who was the tallest player to have played international basketball?
6. By what name was table tennis first known as, when it began?
7. Before Becker and Graf who was the only German to win the Wimbledon singles title?
8. Who was called the female 'Pele' in football?
9. Who was the only football player to have been a member of the World Cup winning team thrice?
10. Name the 1964 Olympic freestyle champion who remained unbeaten in 187 consecutive bouts?
11. What area is called the 'key' in basketball?
12. Which boxing division is called cruiserweight?
13. By what name is the 1906 Games more popularly known?
14. Which Indian athlete has been the winner of the Helm's award?
15. Where in the world is the longest golf course situated?



Interesting snippets from the world media that we don't get to hear about....

SPORTING TRIVIA

ONE TOUGH LADY

MARIA ANGELES GARCIA believes in living dangerously. At the age of 18, she is refereeing in a men's soccer league in Spain. This season has already cost her a broken nose—the work of a revenge seeking centre forward who sought her out at a night club and punched her.

"Being a woman referee in a country as macho as Spain is dangerous," Garcia said, but she has managed to ignore the pressure from her parents and fiance to quit.

But she is one tough lady as goalkeeper Tomas Martinez can testify. Having been booked in a match, he grabbed Garcia round the waist and kissed her. The furious Garcia pulled out the red card and Martinez was off the field. Very soon three other teammates followed and they lost the match 10-0.

Garcia's reaction to the incident was, "I would have liked to have kicked him below the belt, but that would have landed me with problems."

After that incident, most players are keeping their distance as well as behaving themselves when she is around.

BETTER THAN THE BOYS

JUDIT POLGAR thinks that 'anything boys can do she can do better'—at least in chess. The 15-year-old Hungarian has already surpassed Bobby Fischer's record as the game's youngest Grandmaster.

She achieved this feat at the age of 15 years, five months—one month earlier than Bobby Fischer. Her next ambition is to become world champion, i.e., take Gary Kasparov's title.

According to Maxim Dlugy, president of the U.S. Chess Federation, "She's already ahead of the competition. It's a question of how much she wants it."

Coming from a family of chess players she is desperate to come out of the shadow of her elder sister Szuzsa, 22, who is a GM. Her other sister Zsofia, 17, is an International Master, so being the youngest of the lot she has a point to prove.

Left: The 15-year-old GM Judit Polgar with her elder sister, Zsofia, discussing strategy



BUBKA THE CAPITALIST

SERGEI BUBKA, the record breaking pole vaulter from the former Soviet Union, was a first-rate capitalist even before the empire started breaking up.

According to track and field promoter Al Franken, Bubka—the only man to clear 20 feet in the event—has an arrangement with his sponsors, Nike, whereby he gets a cash bonus every time he breaks his world record.

Naturally, being a smart operator he chose to do it a little at a time. Not only has his strategy worked, his bank account has grown and so has his popularity with the sponsors because he is constantly in the news and what more could they ask for?

INSTANT REPLAY IN GOLF

THE first PGA Tour tournament of 1992 has established that the controversial use of instant replay in golf has come full circle and one way or another is here to



stay.

Seen at one point last year by the tour players as an unnecessary, integrity-impugning device, instant replay underwent a resurrection at the Infiniti Tournament of Champions held at Carlsbad, California, arguably keeping a player from being disqualified. And the key figure was Paul Azinger, the man who started all the fuss in 1991.

Pole vaulter, Sergei Bubka, has very good business sense

Last year, at the Doral Ryder Open, Azinger was knocked out of the tournament after a television viewer—and apparently no one else—noticed him break a rule by kicking away rocks before playing from a water hazard on the 18th hole of the second round.

Because the replay of the violation was irrefutable, Azinger was assessed a two shot penalty retro-actively and disqualified for signing an incorrect scorecard.

To avoid similar incidents, the PGA Tour has begun to assign a rules official to monitor tournament telecasts in an effort to notify players of possible rule violations before scorecards were signed.

JOHNSON'S NEW BUDDY

BEN JOHNSON is once again exuding the self confidence that had been his trademark before he was banned. Johnson in a meeting with the press before the start of the Canadian indoor season predicted success,although he is only at 90 per cent of his top speed.

Still not recovered from tendinitis in both knees, the usually gregarious athlete appears to be somewhat withdrawn but was not hesitant about discussing his return and his performance so far.

The latest addition to Johnson's pack of followers is Azan, a retired businessman, who has taken up the role of his agent,as well as that of Greek chorus, explaining the meaning of what Johnson says.

In other words putting 'words into his mouth'.

ENDPIECE

ATLANTA will taste Olympic glory in 1996, but Boston wants to be the next U.S. city to host the Summer Games in 2004. Organisers met with senior government officials to outline their vision and plan for their bid.

"Boston has more assets than Atlanta", said U.S. Senator, John Kerry, "and fits the profile of the Olympics to a T".

Stiff competition is expected from Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Miami, New York and Seattle. ●

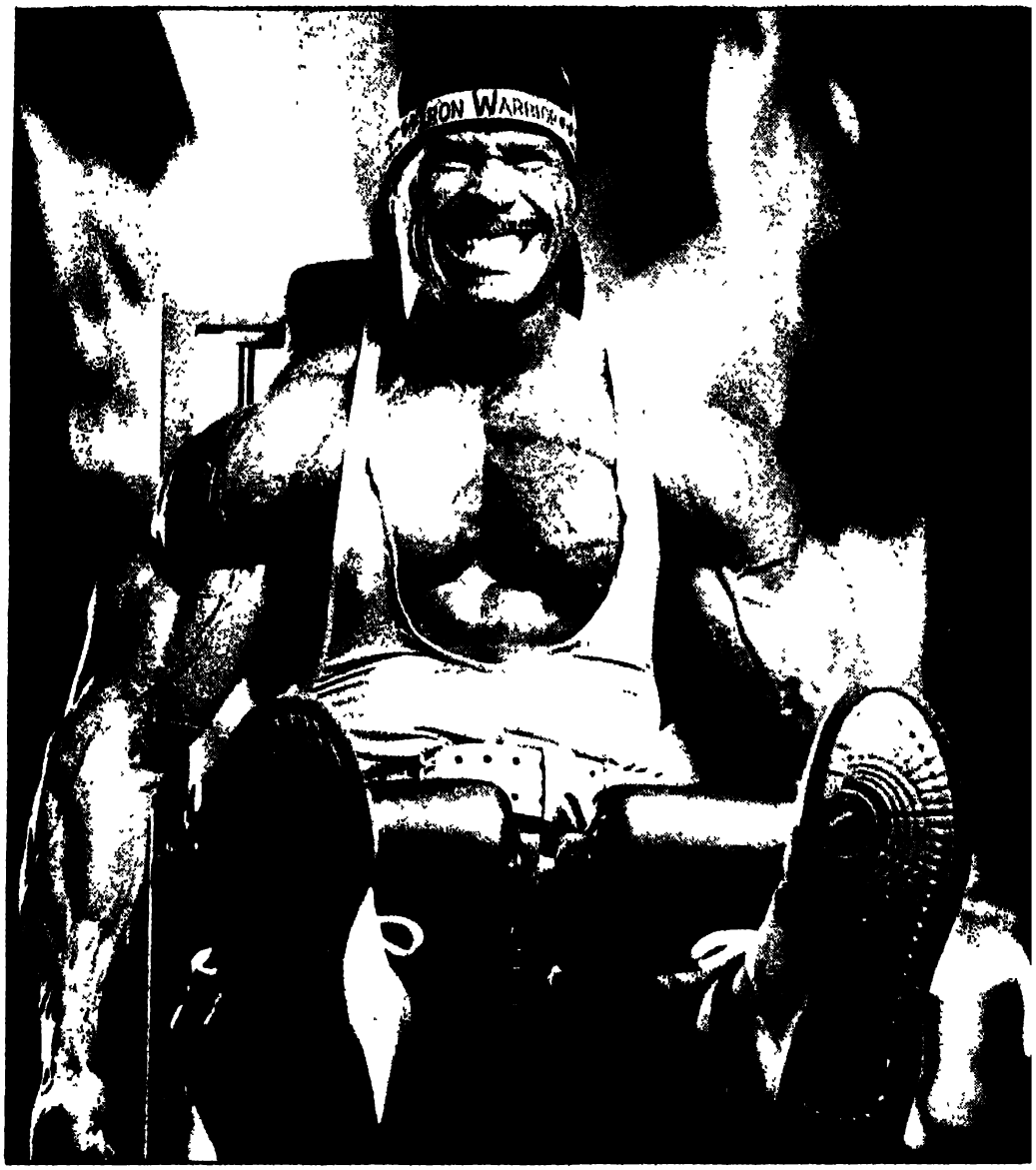
BLAST YO

TIME and time again, in the fitness column as well as here, we have given you enough reasons to start working out. We have talked about the benefits of staying in shape. About how you can stave off the kilos that deposit themselves on you if you are not into fitness. We even talked about the havoc that cholesterol can wreak on the system and how exercise can counter this.

But if you suffer from some maladies then this column is dedicated to you. Here we are going to tell you why backaches, diabetes, high blood pressure or excess cholesterol should keep you away from the gym.

Anybody who is into fitness (at whatever level) knows the serenity, the sense of growth, and the feeling of accomplishment that follows a workout. You can then eat with gusto, play with abandon, love with passion.

But what happens to the guys with some medical problems? A bad back, for example. You're going along nicely, skin and bones still holding together, when suddenly your back goes out while tying your laces. This phenomenon is very prevalent, especially among middle aged persons: 90% of the middle aged people in this world experience backaches at one stage or another (not that the younger guys are way behind, in some cases they are more chronic sufferers).



You've got a good thing going. Don't let health problems keep you off for long!

If you have a back problem then you might have been under stress, perhaps sitting for long hours at a stretch in front of the computer terminal or may be your job requires you to do a lot of standing, which can increase the curve of the spine and in the process compress the discs. But under medical supervision (please do not get in to exercising without consulting the doc) and depending on the nature of the problem, exercise will create a greater blood flow to the affected area and thus promote healing while building strong, flexible muscles to protect the spine.

What happens if you are inflicted with the 'silent killer', blood pressures? This problem

UR WAY 'THRU LIFE

has no symptoms, no pains and yet it afflicts a vast majority of people. Half of the people suffering from this disorder do not even know that they have the disease and why they are so seriously ill. It contributes directly to most heart attacks and strokes. This condition can surface at any age and is a primary risk factor for kidney failure, vision loss and a host of other problems.

If your blood pressure exceeds 140/90, you're in for trouble. By getting it under control you can save your life, very often you can do it without drugs. Exercise alone can bring down pressure in some individuals. Researchers have found that a ten-week exercise regimen that included both aerobic and anaerobic exercises, in people who have high blood pressures, have considerably reduced the pressure. Other studies have shown that exercise coupled with a proper diet can also bring down pressure. Restricted salt intake, cutting down on smoking, and reducing the intake of alcohol and caffeine also go a long way in bringing down the pressure. But as in the previous case,a consultation with your physician is recommended.

Diabetesis another disease that can be monitored to a great extent by following an exercise regimen. Diabetes is a disorder characterised by poor control over insulin and blood sugar levels in the system. Left unattended, this can lead to a myriad of secondary diseases from heart disease to blindness.

Obesity is one of the main reasons for diabetes and this is another facet that can be corrected by exercise. Obesity remains the main cause of diabetes and what better way to cut down obesity than by exercising? Exercise also reduces the cardiovascular risk factors that is the greatest threat to diabetics.

It also improves the blood lipid profile (reduced cholesterol level and improved production of HDL). Another reason to exercise if you are a diabetic is because more muscles mean more insulin receptors and that means less insulin is required to stabilise blood glucose level.

Cholesterol is one problem that's been given a lot of time by scientists and researchers and everyone agrees that exercise reduces the level of LDL (the bad cholesterol) and raises the level of HDL (or the good cholesterol).

These points are for the betterment of the physical department but what happens to the mental faculty of a human? Does that also alter with exercise? Biologically we are geared for intense physical activity. Survival mechanisms like 'fight or flight' still reign supreme in our minds. In our modern world we encounter stress and fears that only increase as the days go by and the stress and fears can best be overcome by doing exercises. When we are exercising we are in a different world altogether and it provides a very good outlet for the fears and stress that we would like to shed off. We can't deal with the problem by, knocking it down or running away from it, so head for the weights.

Regular exercise can also decrease depression and anxiety attacks that are so common these days. It also serves to increase self-esteem. Though the actual connection between exercise and reduced anxiety has not been proved, it is probably because the mood altering hormone, noradrenaline, is produced more and this gives rise to self-confidence and a generally happy disposition.

Research has also shown that exercise and physical activity influence the aging process. It is not that if you are into exercising you will not grow old, but on the other hand regular exercise slows down the aging process and you will be much more energetic and enthusiastic as you go through the walk of life.

Now do we have to give you any more reasons to hit the gym, or pound the road for a couple of miles? Look at it this way. You are not going to lose out on anything by exercising. So why not give it a try. ●

The Health Column

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week we are discussing a stance-cum-block that is very useful once you move into the advanced stages.

Go into *kokutsu-dachi*, as you perform a *mawashi-uki* with your hand. This is very good defence against any punch or kick attack to your middle or head region by an opponent standing directly in front of you.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Go into kokutsu-dachi and perform a mawashi-uki (as displayed in insets) with the left hand



Needed: Intestinal fortitude

HAVING lived in Australia for over a decade and having seen so many teams touring this country, one was saddened to see the lack of 'intestinal fortitude' in the Indian team currently touring here It took a young Sachin Tendulkar to show our much vaunted 'best batting line-up in the world' how to bat!

While our bowlers led by the incomparable Kapil Dev did us proud, our leading batsmen were never comfortable at the crease Azhar certainly played irresponsible on many an occasion Manjrekar was technically correct but too defensive and Vengsarkar was certainly a pale shadow of the player that he once was Maybe our batsmen should follow Geoff Marsh's lead and spend time in the boxing ring to improve their footwork and reflexes And yes, they could do with some lessons in fielding and in running between the wickets as well

There is no point in blaming only the players for the dismal performance The Board and the selectors are equally to blame and should take an equal share of the criticism They should have looked at national interests and not regional interests when they chose the team for the tour It is not a new phenomenon in Indian cricket that the ego of the Board members always took precedence over logic and fair play.

Finally what is the need for two managers,specially one being a political appointee with no idea whatsoever of the nuances of the game. For the betterment of Indian cricket one hopes that these things change.

DILIP MAHANTY,
Lane Cove,
NSW 2066,
Australia.

Good going

THE issue dated 5-11 February was indeed a treat to the readers. The cover story *Kapil Dev da jawaab nahin* made interesting reading No one can really compliment a sportsperson of his calibre One can only be grateful that a cricketer like him was born in India Andy O'Brien has done a good job throughout the piece and bringing forward the issue of whether he should be made the captain was very timely

It is true that Kapil is one person who gets better with age With his dedication and perseverance he has showed what fighting spirit is all about He is one cricketer who does not let go till the last ball of a match is bowled, one who understands all aspects of the game thoroughly

He is one player who can motivate a team just by his sheer presence on the field. Keeping in mind this truth it is only befitting to name him the captain of the Indian team After the World Cup is over the selectors and the Board should review the state of affairs in Indian cricket and after that it is only natural that Kapil should be named the captain

SHOMESUVRA PRASANNA MUKHERJEE,
Calcutta

Purposeful , but....

THE cover story *Kapil Dev da jawaab nahin* came at the appropriate moment but *Sportsworld* could certainly have done with a better photograph of Kapil Dev on the cover. An action photograph of the great all-rounder would have served the purpose better.

C K. Subramaniam,
Madras.

Good job there

THE article on the Indian skipper Azharuddin, issue dated January 29—February 4,by Andy O'Brien was really commendable It actually gave us a complete picture of the frustrations and agonies that the skipper must be experiencing In fact our heart goes out to him and we almost feel like patting him on the back and telling him 'We understand Azhar, and we know that you *can* do it 'Thanks once again for the nice article

I also take this opportunity to wish Azhar and the Indian team all the best for the forthcoming World Cup

PAYAL DHAR,
New Delhi

A sorry state of affairs

IT is really shocking to see how the former East German athletes are being hounded by their own countrymen on terms of drug abuse accompanied by vociferous support from the other nations

Although drug abuse is certainly a crime that sport can do without, it is certainly not limited to Germany alone In the United States,for example,drugs are commonplace even in the college level, but that fact is very clearly being swept under the carpet What we now see is the desperate bid on part of the U S Federation to reinstate a former world record holder banned for drug abuse, for the Barcelona Olympics This just shows the duplicity that exists in today's world of sport It is okay to overlook the occasional indiscretions of an American or British athlete but others cannot be spared at any cost. Can some things ever change?

AMIT KUMAR DAS
Calcutta.

The book 'Wickets in the East, excerpts of which were published in the issue dated 5-11 February 1992, is written by RAMACHANDRA GUHA Owing to an editorial slip-up the author's name was not mentioned along with the article. The inconvenience is regretted.

The transparencies of the Benson and Hedges poster and that of Sachin Tendulkar that appear on the cover of this issue are by Kamal Julka.

CALCUTTA

International School Tennis

THE 4th Annual Calcutta International School tennis tournament was held at the Calcutta South Club recently under the supervision of ace tennis coach Mr Anwar Ali

The Senior Girls Singles Open event stole the limelight with never-say-die Nayanika Misra fulfilling a three year-old aspiration of bagging the title In a match lasting 90 minutes, Nayanika overpowered Shweta Dhawan (daughter of former Davis Cupper Vinay Dhawan) 4-6, 6-2, 7 5 in a seesaw thriller, while the boys event saw Krishna Manda prevailing over Pole, Bartek Pieciuch 5 7 6-4 6 3 in 80 minutes to take the title for the second year running

In a new classification section—Intermediates—Shatadru Sarkar blanked out Soumya Basuthakur 6-0, while in the Beginners Groups, Arin Basu breezed past Korean Jae Wook Shin, and in the Girls Raashi Seth had a tougher time edging out a tiring Sumana Ghosh

Sush Kocher

Coaching Camp

KALIGHAT CLUB, one of the oldest cricket clubs of Calcutta, has begun a coaching camp for youngsters from December, '91

The 'P Sen Memorial Cricket Coaching Centre' had begun with 30 youngsters in the Under-15 yrs category Since the beginning of this month, another 30 boys of the Under-19 category have been taken into the fold

The centre will function throughout the year Ashok Mustafi is the Technical Advisor of this centre and the other coaches are ex-Ranji Trophy players like D S Mukherjee, Anil Bhattacharya and Tapan Dey.

Manjit Khanna

NEW DELHI

Transport Cricket

DELHI TRANSPORT CORPORATION (DTC) lifted the 12th All-India State Road Transport Undertaking Cricket tournament beating Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation Hyderabad (APSRTC) by three wickets at the University of Delhi

Earlier in the semi-final, Ranga Rao hit an unbeaten 90 to guide APSRTC to a comfortable six wicket victory over Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation Hosts DTC outplayed Pune Municipal Transport by 10 wickets

Kulwinder, Bhuvan and Mahesh Sharma, all from DTC were adjudged the best batsman, best bowler and best allrounder respectively by the championship

Suresh Kumar Lau

KANPUR

C.K. Nayudu Under-19

IN what was a heart-stirring match, a seesaw battle, North Region obtained a narrow victory by six runs defeating South Region in the C.K. Nayudu cricket Under-19 competition at the Green Park Stadium here this month A classic knock by Dhruv Pandav (87) and a stimulating 60 runs by Prabjit Johar pulled the rug from under the South Region South Region scored 260 runs in the stipulated 50 overs against 266 runs of the North Region

Spectators were thrilled by the masterly knock of Tanvir Jabar (59) and S Medappa (67) but their herculean efforts paid no dividends, as with the departure of Medappa, the South side just faded away

Mr Jagendra Swaroop, President of U P Cricket Federation distributed prizes to the winners

K.A.

Ordnance Factories' Wrestling

IT was indeed a creditable performance for the wrestlers of the hosts Ordnance Factories, Kanpur, to win the trophy for the eighth time continuously with 48 marks in a two-day North Region Ordnance Factories Wrestling

The age group of the P. Sen Memorial Cricket Coaching Centre now includes the Under-19



VARGHESE THOMMANA



KAILASH AGARWAL

Ms. Padma Rammurthy presenting the trophy to the captain of Ordnance Factory, Kanpur

competition held at the Armerena Stadium here

Following them were Ordnance Factory, Muradnagar (22 marks) and Small Arms Factory, Kanpur, (13 marks) About 95 wrestlers from various ordnance factories of the North Region took part.

Smt. Padma Rammurthy, wife of Mr. Ram Chandra Rammurthy, General Manager, OFCys, Kanpur, presented the trophies and distributed prizes to the winners

Kailash Agarwal

RANCHI

Federation Cup Volleyball

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (SAI), Bangalore, comprising teenagers beat Calcutta Port Trust (CPT) in three straight sets, 15-13, 15-10 and 15-5, to win the 3rd East Zone Federation Cup volleyball championship.

The SAI boys, averaging 17 years, did their Arjuna Award winner coach, former international Shyam Sunder Rao, proud by remaining unbeaten in this tournament. Earlier, they had topped the league table with ten points, before defeating the experienced CPT team in the final.

It was only in the first set that CPT gave a semblance of a fight, while recovering from a 7-12 deficit to level the score But the SAI boys, taller and fitter, blocked effectively and spiked powerfully to clinch the set, 15 13 The ones who excelled were Mukesh Lal, with his left handed smashes, Joby Joseph, Praveen Kumar and Sanjeev who controlled the net admirably

Despite all the tact and craft employed by the CPT captain A. Paladhy, and speed at the net by M. Ghosh and P Chatterjee, the second set too went, rather comfortably, 15-10 to SAI. The third set, 15-5, was literally a walkover

What is so striking about these boys is that they were selected for the SAI Special centre about ten months ago, under a special scheme to promote volleyball talent. And within such a short span they picked up the finer points of the game, under the able tutelage of Shyam Sunder Rao

In the play off for the third position, TISCO got the better of A.G. Orissa in a gruelling five setter, 15-13, 11-15, 15-5, 3-15 and 17-16 Telecom, Patna and Bihar Police finished fifth and sixth respectively.

Mr Dilip Bhattacharya, President, Volleyball Federation of India (VFI), chief guest for the final, said action would be taken against those teams that did not turn up for the championship after confirming their participation.

The SAI boys, not only walked away with the trophy, but also a cash award of Rs 3000 and another trophy for being the best disciplined team in the tournament.

Arun Kumar Thakur

TRIVANDRUM

Junior Carrom

THE 20th National Junior Carroms championship proved to be a nightmare for the hot favourites Top seeded Kubendra Babu (Tamil Nadu) crashed out in the boys second round while No. 1 Monaz Koper (Maharashtra) went down in the girls' singles final For the first time in 19 years, Tamil Nadu lost the boys' team title

The Karnataka boys ended the winning spree of Tamil Nadu by out-



K.BALAN

Sakthivelu was the boys' champion in the Junior Carrom championships

playing them 3-0 in the semi-final. Karnataka maintained their new-found form, to defeat Andhra Pradesh 3-0 in the team championship final.

The Tamil Nadu girls confirmed their superiority by topping the round robin league. Their skipper G. Revathy completed a triple by winning the singles and doubles event. She defeated Monaz Koper 25-19,25-20 in the singles final

(Revathi also defeated Monaz during the team championship). The third seeded Revathi won all her singles matches in straight games. She teamed up with her sister G. Saraswathy to beat the Monaz-Shurhangi Kale duo (Maharashtra) 25-6 8-25 25-18 to claim the doubles crown.

The fifth seeded Sakthivelu of Tamil Nadu drubbed his colleague and giant killer Dominic Raj 25-19 25-3 to emerge the boys' champion. Rahul Parmar and Mahesh Sandiz of Maharashtra won the doubles title defeating Habib Khan and Raju of Karnataka 25-3, 25-3.

Six teams in the girls and 14 in the boys took part in the championship.

S.K.T.K.



Punjab University were the men's champions in the Inter-University cycling championships

Inter-University Cycling

PUNJAB (57 pts) and Manipur (21 pts) universities shared the honours in the men's and women's section respectively in the 15th All-India Inter-University Cycling championship held at the Velodrome, Kariyavattom.

Pritpal Singh, representing Punjab University, claimed 5 gold medals in the men's section. He won the 4000 m Individual pursuit, 1000 m Individual Time Trial (1:18:53 sec), 1000 m Mass Start, 4800 m Mass Start and 4000 m Team Pursuit. In the 100 kms road mass race, M. Ashokan of Bharthidasan University came first, clocking 2 hours, 50m: 5 sec.

In the women's section, Prempati Devi (Manipur) bagged two golds—3000 m Individual Pursuit (4:46.02 sec), and 1000 m Individual Time Trial (1:28.19 sec).

Kerala finished second in both the men's (22 pts) and women's (3 pts) section.

About 100 cyclists from 15 universities participated in the four-day meet which failed to create any records.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

CHANDIGARH

Inter-Varsity Tennis

THE University of Delhi men's tennis team (in picture) claimed the unique distinction of winning the North-East Zone Inter University and the All India Inter University Trophy, all within a week



MADHYAMGRAM

W.B. Kyokushin Karate

THE sixth West Bengal Kyokushin Karate and Kata Championship was organised by the Indian Oyama Karate-do Madhyamgram The championship which had 150 participants was held at the Madhyamgram Yoga and Physical Education Complex

KATA

6 TO 9 YEARS 1 Pooja Sharma 2 Rupesh Sharma

9+TO 12 YEARS 1 Kingshuk Chatterjee 2 Biju Pattanayak

12+TO 15 YEARS 1 Chitrangada Acharya 2 Sumati Pattanayak

15+TO 31 YEARS GIRLS OPEN 1 Tania Ganguly 2 Krishnapriya Basak

32 YEARS AND ABOVE (MEN & WOMEN) 1 Basanti Raha 2 Somnath Chandra

KUMITE (FREE FIGHT)

LIGHT WEIGHT CATEGORY (UP TO 53 KGS) 1 Rajesh Sharma (Ramganj) 2 Jaydeep Bhattacharya (Calcutta)

MIDDLE WEIGHT CATEGORY (UP TO 60 KGS) 1 Supratim Mitra (Calcutta) 2 Raju Chakraborty (Calcutta)

HEAVY WEIGHT CATEGORY (61 KGS & ABOVE) 1 Bimal Paul (Calcutta) 2 Dhiman Hui (Calcutta)

HYDERABAD

Inter-Bank Chess

NATIONAL champion and International Master D V Prasad (Union Bank) retained the top honours in the third Southern Region Inter Bank Chess tournament which concluded at the State Bank of Hyderabad Head Office in Gunfoundy recently

Prasad defeated Nedungadi Bank s M Satheesan in a long drawn battle in the ninth and final round to tally an incredible 8 1/2 points The champion dropped the half point in the fifth round against T S Ravi (Indian Bank)

Playing black in the English opening Prasad gained crucial space advantage by playing d5 After some strange exchanges involving minor pieces Prasad managed to win a pawn on the queen side Later, he snuffed out the spirited defence by Satheesan to win the knight ending after 65 moves

Former junior national champion Ravi capitalised on a mistake by Nedungadi Bank s C S Unni to clinch the runner up slot Unni played c6 on the 12th move in the Guico Pannove system to give Ravi a strong foothold

Ravi gained Unni s a pawn and forced his rook into immobility The Indian Bank star played precise end game moves to seal the game in 44 moves Unni who needed only a draw to finish second behind Prasad had to settle for the third place with 6 1/2 points

In the team event favourites Indian Bank expectedly won the crown with 27 points ahead of Andhra Bank (24) and Union Bank (23 1/2)

Andhra Bank owed its runner up berth to the vital point won by K N Gopal from Syndicate Bank s N S Srinath Sastry Playing black, in the Modern Benoni Gopal launched a crushing king side attack against Sastry's queen side offensive He made a brilliant knight sacrifice on the king's side to open up the position and immediately forced Sastry to surrender

L. Ashil



The winners of the Ladies Kata Competition

This week in the history of sport

THE worst sports disaster of the century occurred on **Feb 26, 1918** at Hong Kong when 604 punters were killed after the stands at a local race course collapsed

RAILWAYS beat defenders Bengal to claim the women s title in the 26th National Volleyball championship at Calcutta on **Feb 27, 1978.**

BORDER SECURITY FORCE defeated Leaders Club of Jullunder to regain the Durand Cup after three years on **Feb 28, 1972.**

ON **Feb 29, 1968** Romanians, Ilie Nastase and Drone claimed the men's doubles title by defeating Premjit Lal and Sham Minotra 6-3, 6-3, in the Invitation Tennis Tournament at Trivandrum

HAVING remained world heavyweight boxing champion for 11 years and 252 days, incidentally the longest period,Joe Louis of USA retired on **Mar 1, 1949.**

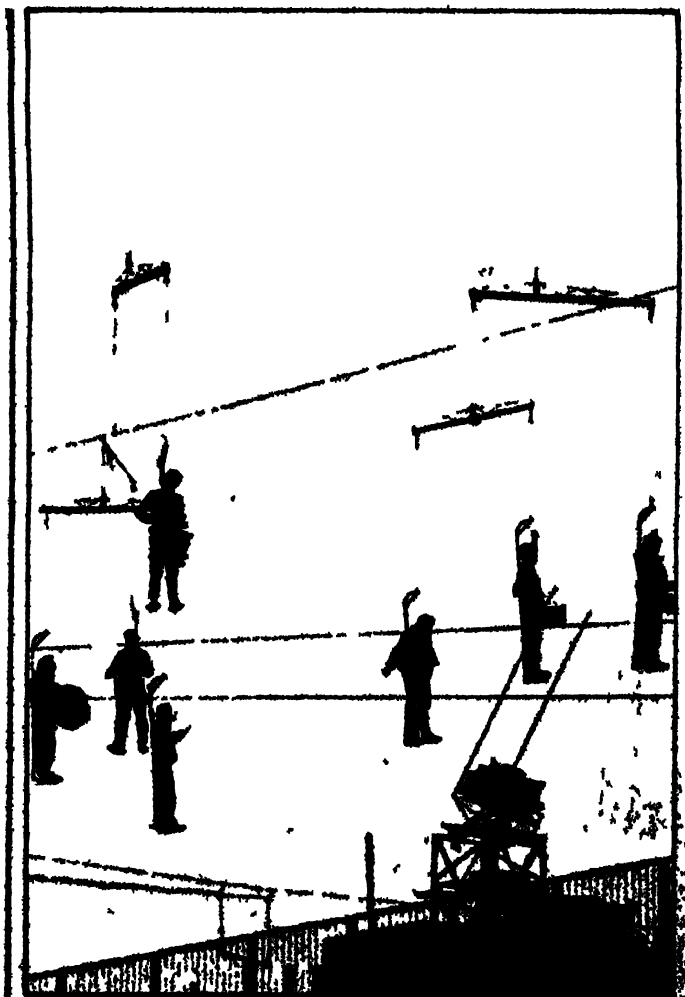
DURING a drag race at Covington, USA, a car travelling at 180mph smashed into spectators, killing 11 and injuring many more, on **Mar. 2, 1969**

ON **Mar 3, 1962** Dixie Willie of Australia set a world athletic record for women by running 880 yds in 2 min 2 0 sec

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

RECORD SET: By Keiren Perkin of Australia in the 800m freestyle with a timing of 7 mins. 46.60 secs This record, 1.25 secs. less than his previous record, was set at the New South Wales Championships.
WON: By Martina Navratilova the $ 350,000 Chicago Tournament. She defeated Jana Novotna in the finals to post her 158th tournament victory. With this win she broke Chris Evert's record of most tournament titles.
WON: By Boris Becker the $ 800,000 ATP Tournament played at Brussels. He defeated world No. 1 Jim Courier in the final. The score read 6-7, (5-7), 2-6, 7-6, (12-10), 7-6, (7-5), (7-5). This was. Becker's first tournament win of the year.



TO BE HELD: The first South Asian Federation Swimming Championships in Calcutta in November. All seven SAARC nations are expected to take part in this meet.

TO BE HELD: The Super Nations Cup boxing Championship in Bombay from Dec. 5-12. The world's top seven countries including India are to take part in this prize money tournament. It is given the go-ahead by the Union

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Who hit the first century of World Cup cricket?
2 Why would Sunil Gavaskar like to totally forget his innings against England in the first World Cup?
3 Which was the first score of less than 100 in a one-day international?
4 The son of an East African cricketer who played in the first World Cup went on to play cricket for England Guess who?
5 What does over-bowled' signify in archery?
6 Who is the founder of modern karate?

ANSWERS

1 D L Amiss (v India) at Lord's on June 7, 1975
2 His 36 n o in 60 overs betrayed his utter unfamiliarity with the one-day game which India lost by 202 runs
3 The 86 scored by Sri Lanka against West Indies in first World Cup It was the first score of less than 100 one-day internationals played up till then
4 D Pringle, father of Derek Pringle
5 Shooting a bow with too much draw-weight for that archer
6 Funakoshi Gichin (1870-1957)

CHESS

STRANGELY enough there is an Indian world champion playing on the current circuit Not that he has received too much publicity in his land of origin Yes I am referring to young Darshan Kumaran the under 16 champion from London Kumaran despite his youth is already a seasoned performer with an excellent temperament and thorough preparation Here is an example of his sharp play

White Igor Ivanov Vs Black Kumaran, Lloyds, 91

1 c4 c5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 d4 cd4 4 Nd4 e5 5 Nb5 d5 6 cd5 Bb4 7 N1-c3. The main-line is 7 Bd2 Bc5 while 7 N5-c3 has also been tried This is new Black cannot play 7-a6 8 Qa4

7—0-0 8 Qb3 Na6 9 Bb2 Bf5 10 g3?! Ne4! White should have tried 10 f3 according to GM Ftacnik There could follow 10—Bc3 11 Nc3 e4 12 Qb7 Nc7 with an unclear mess where white s extra material may be valuable

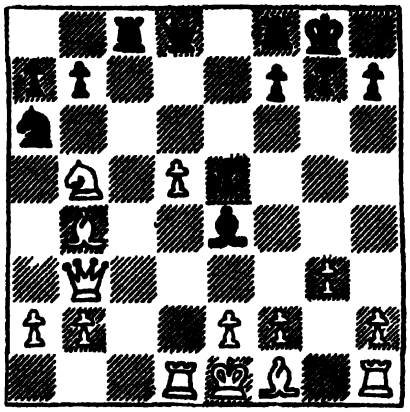
11 Rd1 Rc8. White sees that 11 Ne4 Be4 12 Bb4 Bd5 Qc3 Rc8 14 Qd4 15 Qb4 is disastrous Also 11 Bg2 Nd2 12 Kd2 Qb6 looks nasty

12 Ne4 Be4 13 Bd4 (See Diagram) Bc2! White has practical chances after the natural 13—Nb4 14 Qb4 Bh1 15 Nc3 with the light squared bishop in exile seek on

14 Qa3 Nb4 15 Qb4 Bd1 16 Bg2 Qb6! 17 a3 a5! 18 Qd2 Qb5 19 Qd1 Qb2 The rest is just mopping up Ivanov played on out of shellshock

20 0-0 Qa3 21 Bh3 Rcd8 22 e4 b5 23 Qh5 Qd6 24 Bf5 g6 25 Qg5 h6 26 Qg4 Kh7 27 Rc1 gf5 28 Qf5 Qg6 29 Qh3 a4 30 Rc6 Rd6 (0 1)

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

RECORDS are meant to be broken Even Bob Beamon s jump of the twenty-first century did not survive the twentieth No wonder the late Jeremy Flint s record of becoming an American Life Master in a mere three weeks in the sixties no longer stands, having being broken by Sabine Zenkel of Germany, now living in USA Still to have become an LM in three weeks, Flint and his partner, the late Peter Pender, not only must have played well but also employed decent bidding methods These were expounded in Flint s and Freddie North s 'Tiger Bridge', but as many of the ideas have become somewhat jaded in today s world, the authors decided to update the book. Unfortunately, Flint passed away, leaving North to honour his friend's wishes which the latter has done in 'Tiger Bridge Revisited', a 152-page paperbound book by Maxwell Macmillan Bridge, priced at 7.95 sterling pounds (US $ 15 95)

Despite the changes from the original book—gone are Flint's account of the 1965 Buenos Aires scandal as also the Flint Pender system while conventions like Roman key-card Blackwood and Lebensohl, unheard of in the sixties have been added—the book retains much of its original solid advice on card-play technique and psychology including this gem from the 1955 world championships won by Great Britain

Dealer North — N S vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ A J 9 5
♥ K J 8 7 4 3
♦ A 6
♣ 4

WEST
♠ 10 7 2
♥
♦ K J 10 9 7 5 4 2
♣ 5 3

EAST
♠ K 8
♥ Q 9 6 5 2
♦ Q 8 3
♣ Q 8 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 6 4 3
♥ A 10
♦
♣ A K J 10 9 7 6

Playing in a contract of six clubs after West's preempt in diamonds and East's raise both Souths received the lead of the nine of diamonds At one table the American declarer won dummy's ace and led a club to his jack, claiming when trumps broke 3-2—Bridge is an easy game!

At the other table, Terence Reese of England realising that his contract would be in jeopardy if a trump finesse lost spurned the finesse for a much superior line of play He ruffed the opening lead in hand, cashed the ace king of trumps the top hearts and led the eight of hearts East covered with the nine as South ruffed and exited in trumps pitching a spade from dummy On winning the club queen East had no answer With the spade ace-jack and diamond ace in dummy whatever he returned would provide two entries to dummy one to ruff out East s heart queen and the other to enjoy dummy's good hearts and diamond ace for spade discards Bridge is not an easy game!

Santanu Ghose


MRF
McDowell
9
brute power: The line up of the low slung Porsches at the start of the 10 lap race for Group 'A' Porsche Super Cars
After a hard drive to win the 15 lap Grand Prix for F3 cars, Leelakrishnan lights up to relieve his tension; (right) the 28-year-old businessman from Hong Kong, Charles Kwan, is also a 'Speed merchant' and he handles both roles with ease. He threw his Porsche 3.4 Turbo around corners and touched 220 kmph in the straight to win both the 10 lap races.
McDOWELL GRAND PRIX, SRIPERAMBUDUR
SPEED MERCHANTS


LAKSHMIMILLS

TEEING IN THE DARK

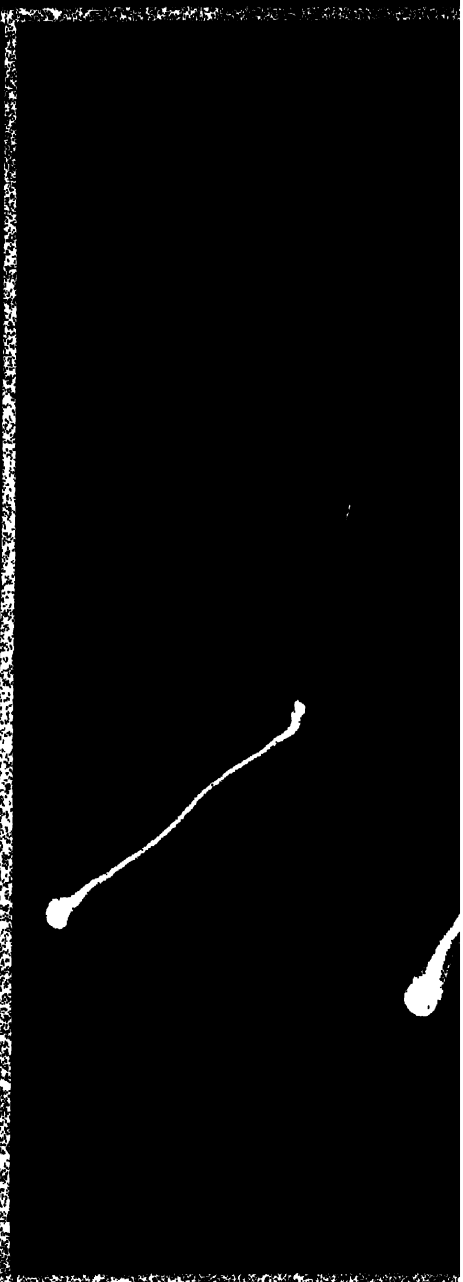
Beware the putting green after dark when it is haunted by the eerie lights and the strange shadowy figures of golfers unable to rest in their nocturnal quest for the perfect round

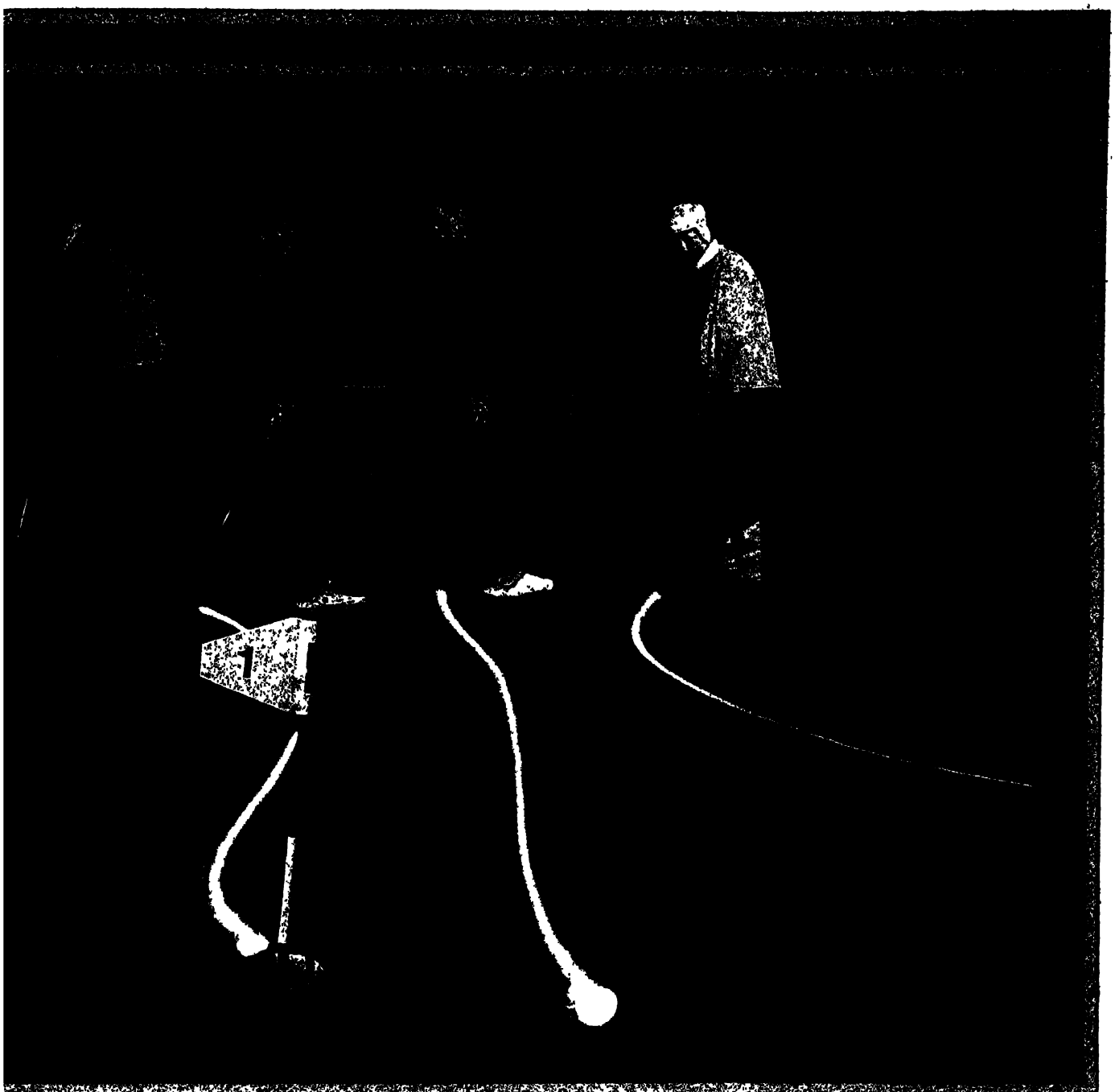
FIREBALLS light up the night sky. Comets streak across the firmament. A radioactive mouse scurries across the frosty earth. Strange misshapen shadows move under a full moon, breath smoking in the cold air. A cock pheasant shrieks and an owl hoots. 'Is anyone there?' someone calls through the thick mist. What strange satanic rites are being performed under the cover of darkness in deepest West Sussex?

Nothing more sinister or spooky, I'm afraid, than the inaugural Cutty Sark Scots Whisky Night-Time British Open and the only initiation ceremony going on involves 52 amateur club golfers being introduced to the arcane mysteries of the latest craze-night golf.

Now, in his relentless pursuit of perfection, every golfer can play









THE LEAN

FOOL

...combination? Unfortunately, it differs from person to person. All our systems burn fuel in different amounts. If you eat a burger and then head for the gym, it doesn't mean you'll work it off as fast as another guy who's done the same thing. So it's up to you to arrive at the perfect combination. Trial and error, buddy. That's what we're talking about.

...that we can help you ...

...

...



...eliance if you can't stay off fatty food. You might as well just sit back and enjoy the blubber (yuck!).

Now you'll understand why Julius Caesar called Cassius "lean and hungry". If you're looking to stay lean, you're always bound to feel a little hungry...when you watch everyone else pigging out on the fat-laden goodies.

...e now, we don't need all that stuff, but's

...

...

...

ALL DRESSED UP

With nowhere to go

SOMETIMES it just doesn't pay to bring glory to your country. Hassiba Boulmerka will testify to this. Boulmerka won the women's 1,500 m at the World Track and Field Championships last year and was subsequently hailed as a hero in her native Algeria. She has left the country since, following a rising Muslim fundamentalist movement which could make life difficult for her if and when she returns.

The fundamentalists have issued a *kofr*, a pronouncement of disapproval, against Boulmerka. She had offended Muslims by appearing in public with face and legs exposed—that is in [illegible] the time the last elections [illegible] with the fundamentalists gaining popularity, they may soon be in control. And it is only as long as the fundamentalists don't come to power, that Boulmerka is free to run for Algeria. And when they do, her problems start.

MARATHON MOCKERY

Slow Jo!

FROM life in the fast lane to plain old drudgery. Flo Jo may be gaining publicity with her switch from the sprints to the marathon, but sadly not much credibility.

When she announced that she would like to represent America in the marathon at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, the global athletics fraternity raised quite a few eyebrows. Reason? Flo Jo ran the American Airlines 5K (3.1 miles) in Miami in 20:30, five minutes off world-class caliber and a time that would translate to roughly 2:54:00 in the marathon.

"What a joke," said Tim Murphy, director of the Carlsbad 5,000. "It makes me sick," he continued, "She couldn't win the 50-year-old women's division of our race." "The hype is an insult to the thousands of women who can run faster," said Sieg Lindstrom of *Track & Field News*. To be frank, she just can't keep up with the pace.



Flo Jo: Can't [illegible]

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

GEOFF TRIES HIS HAND

Boycott!

EVEN after the Mike Tyson fiasco it seems that people still haven't learnt that it doesn't pay to harass a lady. And the latest, in a long line of over-amorous males, is... would you believe it... Geoff Boycott.

Boycs, the former England skipper, run-maker turned cricket pundit found himself being accused of allegedly sexually harassing Channel One production assistant Mary Graham of New Zealand TV. "I never touched her," Boycott retorted during a TV talk show. "I never asked her out to dinner, we never had the date," he protested. In fact, Graham, he added, had not complained about his 'flirtatious' behaviour nor had the TV company. But Boycott who admits he admired the legs of the lady in question, did say "I'd rather spend a week with her than a day." Surely, subtlety has its advantages?

Mr Boycott has got to learn to keep his hands to himself



HIS ROYAL AIRNESS



Michael Jordan's (seen here with his parents) position as America's most popular sportsman is being summarily dismissed

A RECENT story in America plugged Michael Jordan as the country's most popular sportsman. And as soon as the story hit the stands, the denials came flooding in. Jordan a sportsman? Most of the American public do not think so. Apart from being labelled a 'performer', Jordan has the dubious distinction of being a conniving individual. This was brought to light when he allegedly refused to play on the U.S. Olympic team if another player (mainly Patrick Ewing) was also selected. And as though that didn't give his ego a 'high', His Royal Airness had the gumption to refuse an invitation to the White House by none other than the President. No wonder people don't think of Jordan as a sportsman: just a lot of [illegible]

freewheeling

It's a famous journalistic tactic; when you arrive in a new place to report on a tournament, the first probing you do is with the cabbie who drives you from the airport to your hotel.

"So, what's the interest like for the so-and-so," is the general conversation opener. And if the driver is a sports freak, then he will probably give you a good run down, good enough for your first despatch back home.

I remember the Roman taxi driver who drove me from Leonardo da Vinci airport to my hotel besides the walls of the Vatican during the World Cup football two years ago. A soccer desperado, he even had his radio tuned to a local football commentary.

Naturally I used the famous opening line. Since the question was asked in English, he struggled for a few sentences and then must have thought, 'what the heck,' the language barrier was frustrating him. And suddenly he turned off from the Queen's language and rattled off in Italian just as fast as he was moving through the afternoon city traffic. That I didn't comprehend a single word he uttered, didn't matter. He had let off his steam and I had got the point; there was tremendous amount of interest in Italia '90.

In fact those familiar with this column down the years will probably recall the number of times cabbies have made it to the last page of the magazine.

Unfortunately, the cabbies who picked us up at Perth's airport when we arrived for India's first World Cup match against England won't make this column for his knowledge about cricket or the World Cup. He was so ignorant about the game that he actually thought the four of us journalists were playing in the competition. And if you saw the level of fitness apparent around the waists of two of my colleagues, you would have realised how mistaken our cabbie friend was.

Noticing a strange accent for an Aussie cab driver, I enquired about his nationality. "You guess" he replied. I was bang on: German. In fact, Australia is full of Sri Lankans, Indians, Chinese, Europeans, Africans,...they far outnumber the Australians. Why, did you know that Aussie cricketer Len Pascoe was Yugoslavian? Or that Dave Whatmore is a Sri Lankan from Colombo and that David Boon is part Chinese?

Even the Aussies—according to the aborigines—are not Australian. The Irish cab driver who drove me from the Melbourne Airport claimed he was often called a Pom. Telling him that I too had traces of Irish decent, I sympathised with him.

Not to be outdone by my claim that I was Indian in spite of my name and colour, he gave me a rundown on how he was responsible for bringing one of Australia's great footy stars from Ireland. And in case I wasn't impressed by his contribution to Australian sport, he gave me a guided tour of sporting sights of the city. Since all these were en route to my destination, I was not worried about the metre ticking away.

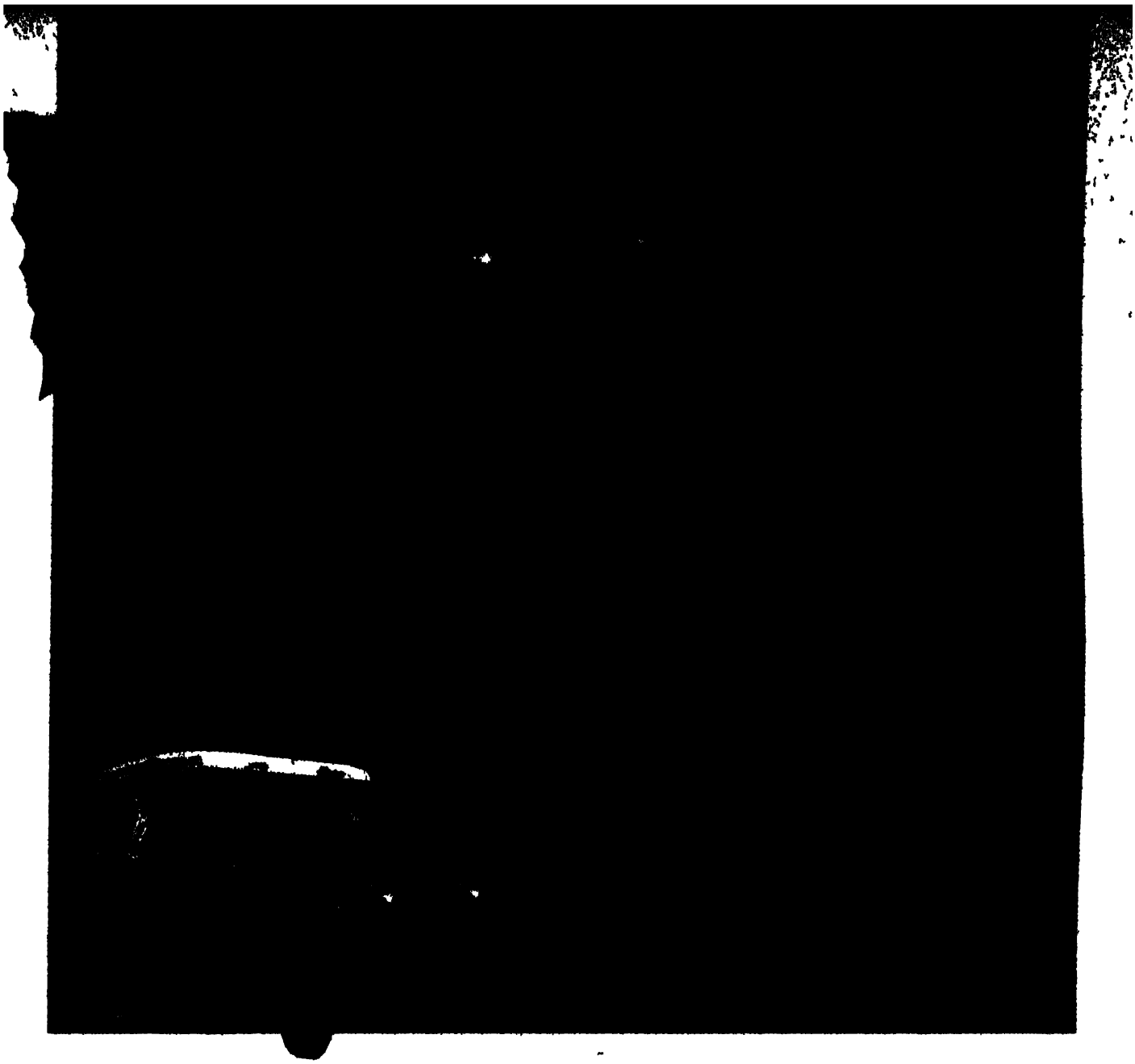
Aussie cabbies are such great talkers that very often they don't even glance to see who's in the back seat of their cab before they blast off. Like what happened to the Chinese girl who helped fax our reports from our hotel in Perth. Getting into a cab, she mentioned the destination to the driver in her wholesome Australian accent. Barely a couple of hundred metres up the road, a learner driver popped in front of the cab and slowed the traffic down to something just a little bit faster than a Venkatpathy Raju delivery. The cabbie started hurtling insult after insult at the driver in front of him. And finally it came out: "Bloody Chinese!" he roared.

It was at this stage that he swivelled to his passenger for moral support; he turned pink, then red, with the realisation that at least half of his passenger's ancestors came from the Celestial Kingdom. But they think quickly, Australian cabbies: "Um, he's probably Korean," muttered the driver.

Maybe cabbies in this country should follow what Confucius say: "Man who drives taxi, should always look fare in the face before flagfall. And then man who drive taxi should always shut up."

Andy O'Brien, Perth



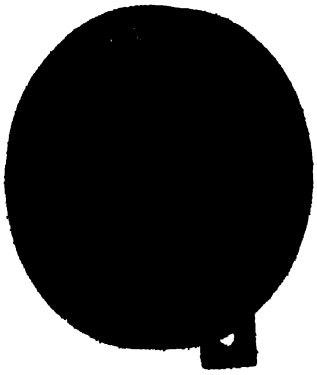


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PACE

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It s styles that mean business And colours that really work
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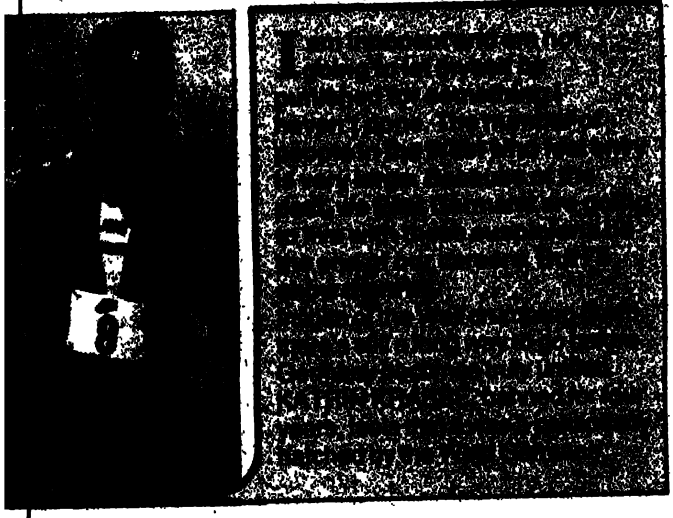


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Voices



BELIEVE me I'm not back in this business for money. After being knocked out by Mike Tyson it wouldn't have made sense to fight him again, but this is different. I'm thinking of getting the title back. Now that Tyson is no longer in contention LARRY HOLMES believes he could regain his title

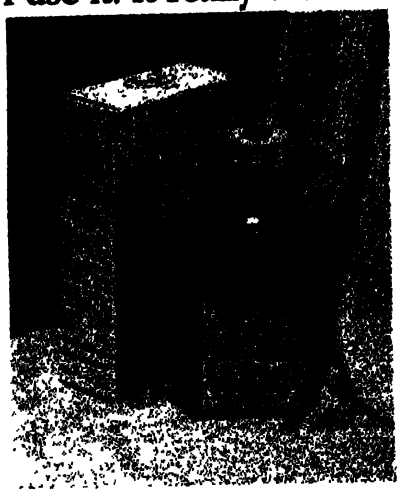
I'M a football fan. I love everything about it—the game, the history. Of course it's good when you win. But football is for the thousands of people who go along to watch. You must go out and provide a good spectacle. If France gives 100% and England still wins, I'll be the first one to say 'Well done' to them, it was a good game to watch.
MICHEL PLATINI, the French coach believes that soccer remains very much a spectator sport inspite of the inroads that commerce has made into it.

HE was more cocky today than in Stockholm. I didn't like his attitude at the match. Sometimes he forgot that he was playing somebody who was winning [illegible] BORIS BECKER, after losing three match points but then going on to win his match against Ivan Lendl, the World No. 1 & Czech at the [illegible]



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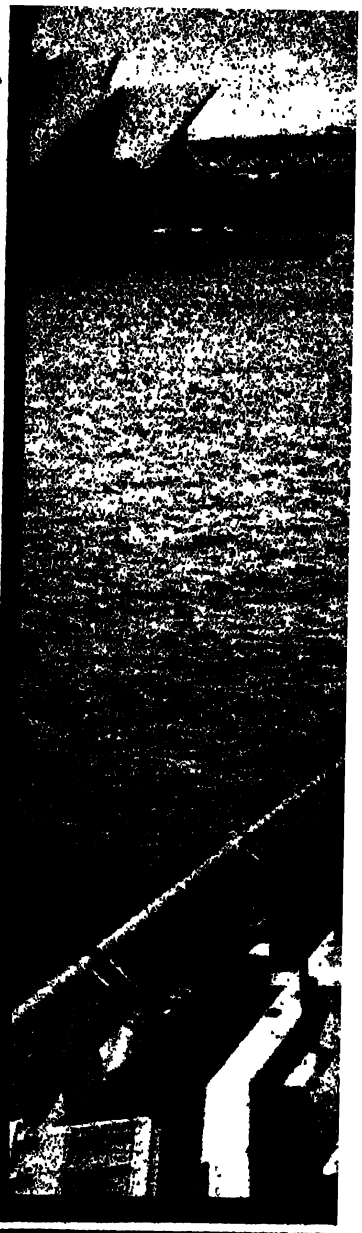
Air surcharge for Srinagar ex-Delhi and Tripura 20 paise. North Eastern States 25 paise.

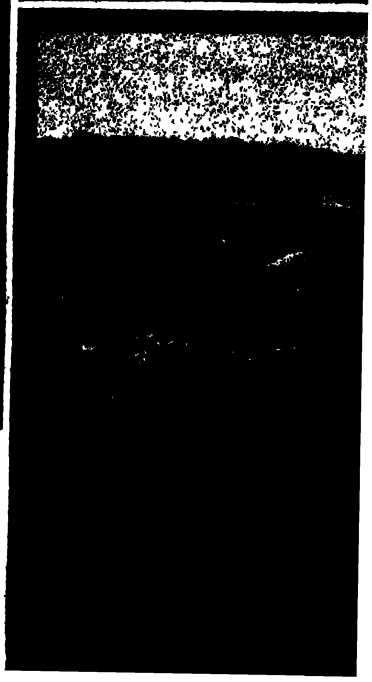
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In the beginning...

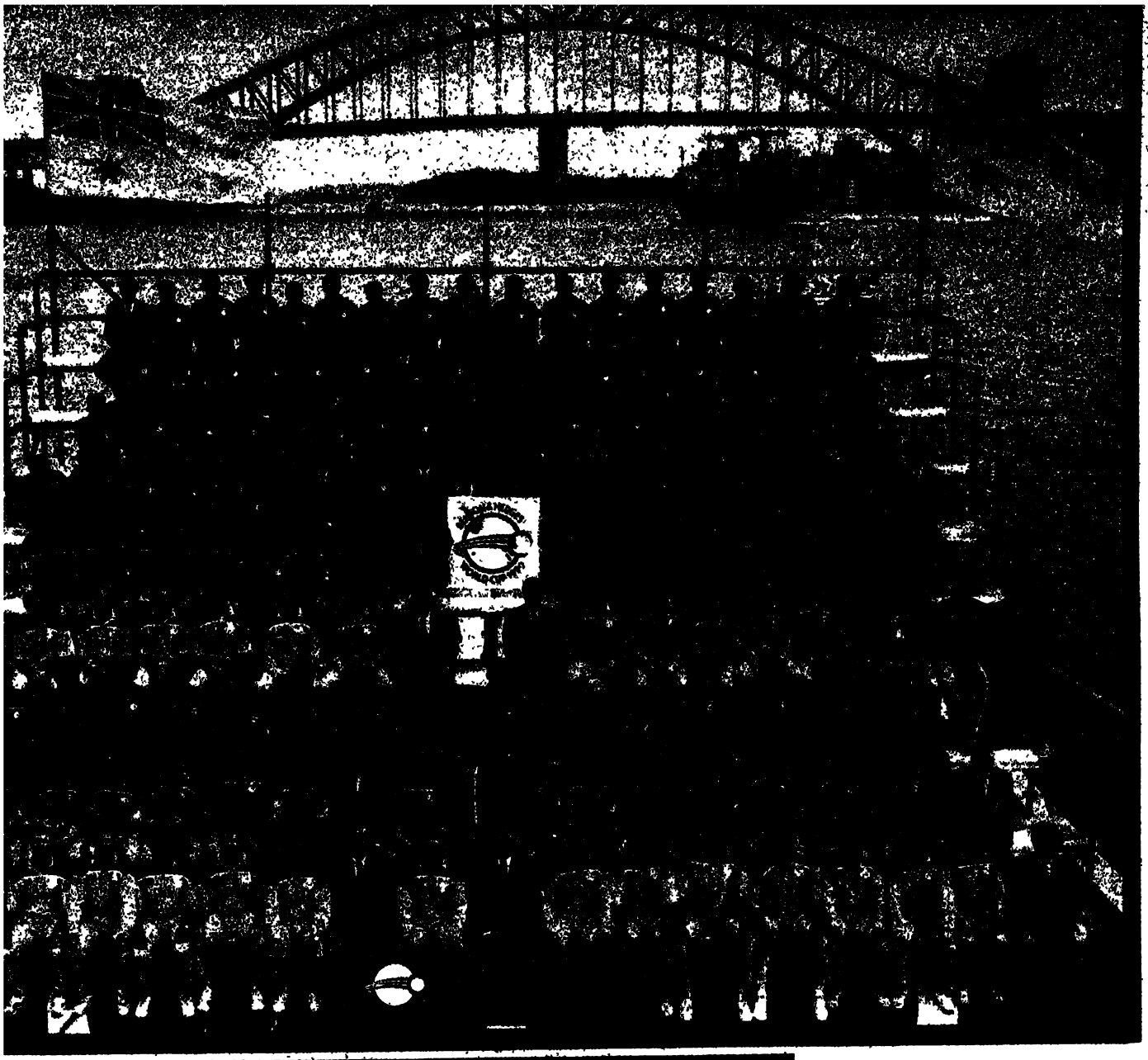
NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA clicks the opening ceremony



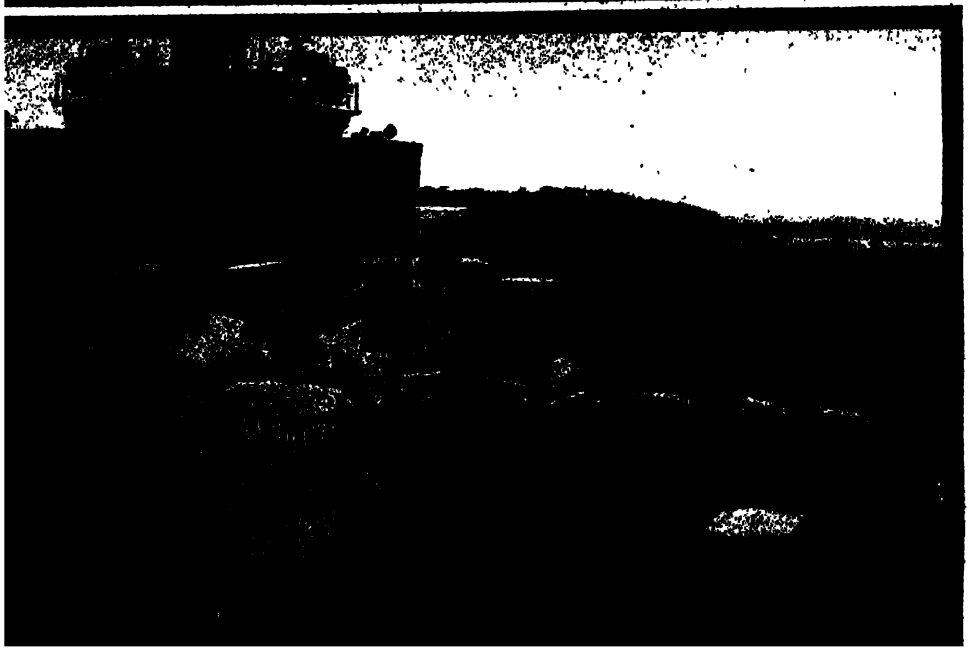




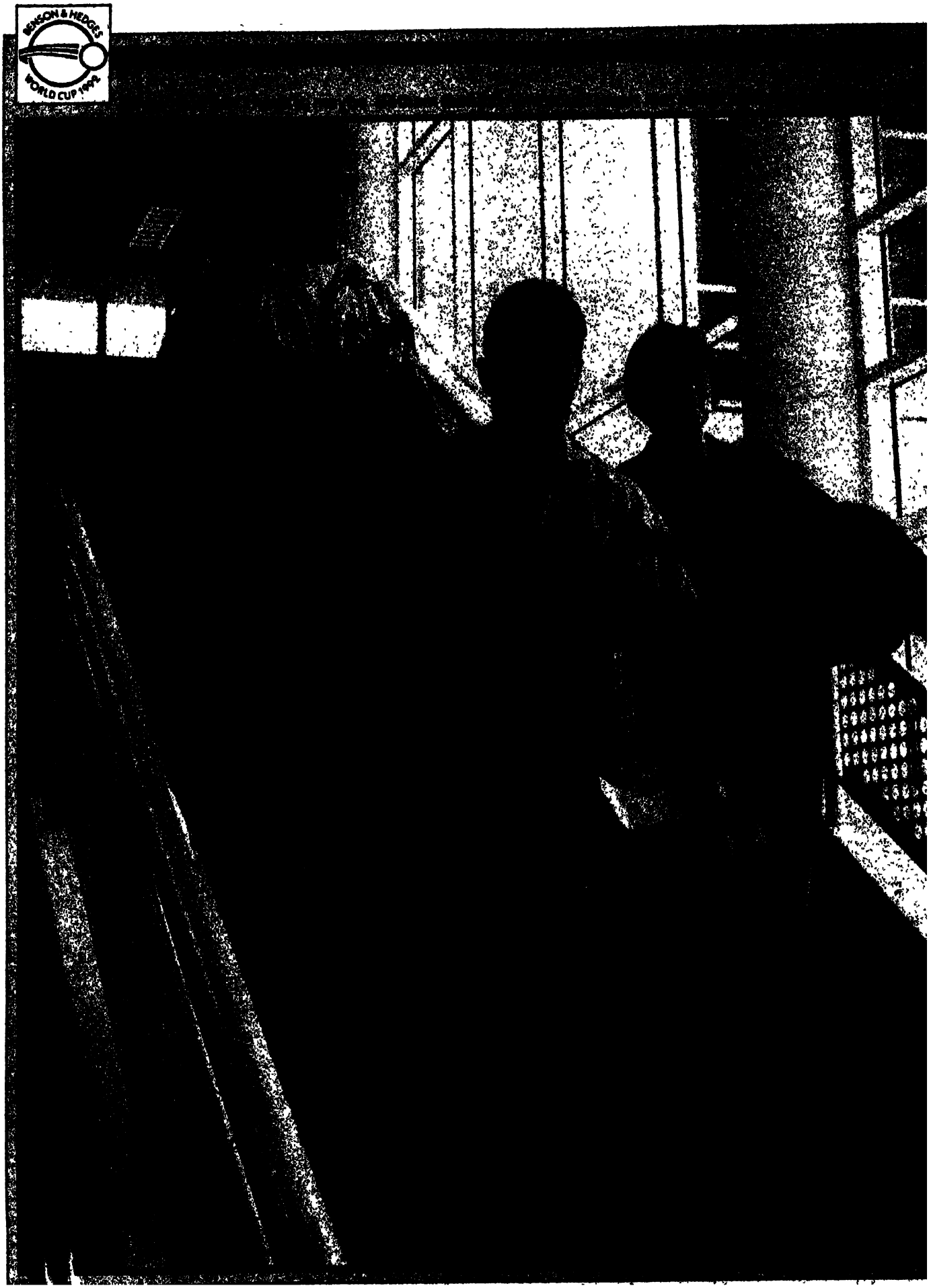
The globe of contention. For rival captains Border and Gooch, the battle for the globe seems to have begun, albeit lightheartedly. The smirks and frowns coming from the flanking captains only give a hint of things to come

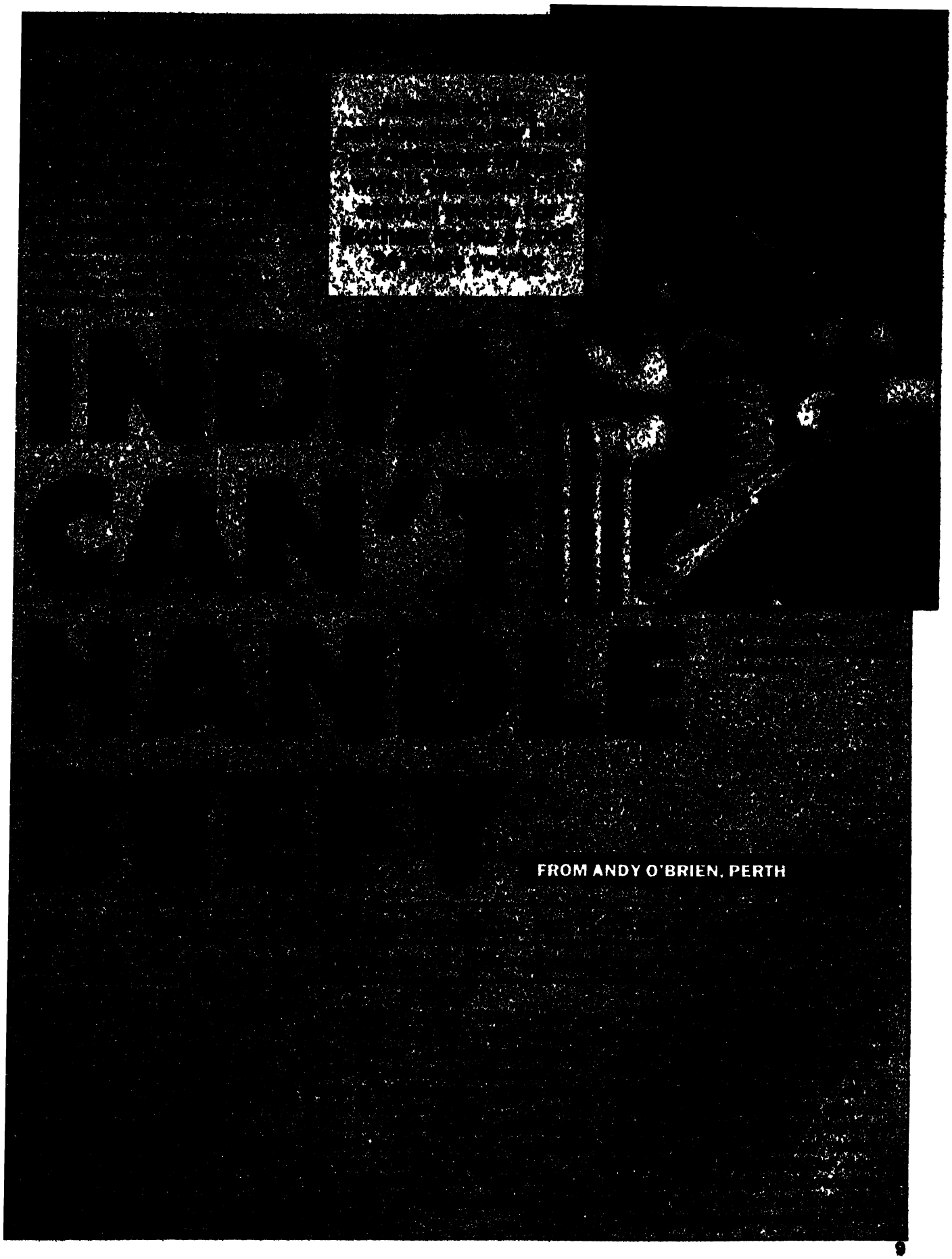


All aboard! The nine top cricketing teams of the world present themselves on board the battleship HMAS Canberra at the opening ceremony of the fifth World Cup. The setting, however, defies convention



The captains of the nine competing teams, flanked by navy personnel of the HMAS Canberra, square up before the camera


BENSON & HEDGES
WORLD CUP 1992



FROM ANDY O'BRIEN, PERTH



Yes, just as you thought it was safe to go to the cricket, the panto prince returned—bigger and beefier than ever—to show that he remains the sport's greatest scene stealer





Defied everywhere, Botham with a young Aussie fan

then one cannot imagine the reaction should he actually do something sensational.

Or is it that we don't really expect too much from this swashbuckler against conformity, barbarian against sophistication, libertarian against order, place him as you will—and when he does do even the slightest, the world feels it is only *He* who can produce that magical inspiration in England's hour of need.

With wonderfully tight and restrictive bowling, he stamped on the brakes just when India looked like carving up the match, and then in a man-to-man shootout, he got the better of the other potential star of the tournament, Sachin Tendulkar.

There surely won't be many struggles as gripping as the contest at Perth between the boy wonder of 15 years ago and today's teen prodigy. Botham, 36, and Tendulkar half that age, were locked into the kind of tightrope duel to the death that gives a one-day cricket match authenticity. The Luke Skywalker of Indian cricket lost the battle fought across time barriers and India effectively the match.

More than a decade after he first broke Australian hearts, and four years after being sent home from these shores for breaking a few other things, Botham broke the back of the Indian batting as also the hearts of many Indians.

And just when Subroto Banerjee had slogged India to the brink of the sort of recovery once practised by Lazarus, Botham's encore was to end the fun with a run-out that brought the last and the loudest roar of the night from the soccer shirted lads with the Union Jacks.

The newspapers were predictably gaga about Botham next morning, some offerings going like this: 'Curtain Up... And Botham is King'; 'Beef-bang England'; 'Beefy's Waora Cracker'; 'Botham is England's Saviour'!

The charismatic all-rounder revealed afterwards that it was a good-natured pep talk from captain Gooch which saw him change his bowling. As he explained, "the captain told me that I had to bang the ball in a bit more...

The important point in Botham's World Cup performance said Peter Roebuck in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, is that "he is playing under a captain he must respect, for they are almost the leading batsmen of their generation and scored many runs together while the others were learning about it".

And so in these first few days as Ambassador Botham, the Windies scored, and India got a match slip away, one that will look back where he belonged. Ian Botham was at centre stage again. He claims he is ready to perform in front of 100,000 convicts' on March 25 and he is willing to take stick 'if it means that I'm performing'. Suddenly, everything old was new again.●

There surely won't be many struggles as gripping as the contest at Perth between Botham, the boy wonder of 15 years ago, and Tendulkar, today's teen prodigy

OPEN COMBAT



Border's nightmare continues against Sou Africa

ANDY O'BRIEN watches the pre-tournament predictions go haywire as the favourites take tumbles, and the underdogs make it a free-for-all. The excitement has just begun!

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHAR

Considering what's happened in the first week of the fifth World Cup, it may not be an exaggeration to say that this tournament is sowing the seeds for a new 90s order. Favourites being dumped, surprise performances from lowly-rated sides and the dominance of spin have been the major topics of discussion in the opening days of cricket's premier carnival.

JUST five days after going into the tournament as 6-4 favourites, thanks to their impressive one-day record, Australia were at the bottom of the nine-team table as the only side with two losses. And whatever be the nature of events over the next few weeks, the humiliation of the losses to New Zealand and South Africa will help spoil what still may turn out to be a big celebration on March 25.

Now, one thing's for sure. Allan Border's band of men ain't as indispensable as they seemed to be a few weeks ago. Seeing them succumb to two of the lesser teams in the competition made one wonder what wrong India had done during the World Series Cricket over the last few months. "Once again, we find ourselves with a good kick up the backside," was Allan Border's reading of the situation. And he couldn't have been more right.

Only recently the Australian captain was talking in terms of being number one in the world and yet there he was on a cool Sydney night saying, "We're off the boil and we're very susceptible to anyone at the moment. Anybody can beat us." The stunned Australian captain admitted he was at a loss to explain a form slump which pushed his side to the brink of early extinction from the World Cup.

A 22-year-old nightmare was relived at the Sydney Cricket Ground when the unknown and untested South African team left Australia's Cup campaign in tatters. Reviving the memory of the dominance that South Africa displayed when they whipped Bill Lawry's team 4-0 in a Test series in 1970, South Africa reopened hostilities between the two countries with an almost unextended nine-wicket win to throw the form book in the Tasmanian Bay and open up the league table.

"Four weeks ago everything was going fine, now we've gone haywire. It will take a major turnaround for us to make the semi-finals," admitted Border after his team had been dismissed for 170 runs which, led by their captain Kepler Wessels, the South Africans notched up losing only one wicket.

But even the despair among the spectators at the SCG after Australia's loss could not mask the fact that the night was special for the game of cricket, with South Africa re-emerging from the darkness of 22 years of cricket isolation. And, in the process, showing the world that they had not spent that time buried in a cave but rather had worked towards being a high class cricket nation the stuffy world cricket scene sorely needs.

The banner which proclaimed that South Africa were world champions 'undefeated from 1970 to 1992' was not being laughed at any longer.

It was the day when Australian Prime Minister, Paul Keating, was to make his economic statement which supposedly will bring about the recovery of the recession-infested economy. Channel Nine had requested that the statement be made after the match, which of course was turned down by the government. But there wasn't any real need for any postponement. By the time Keating had walked to the podium to make his speech, the game at the SCG had all but slipped away from his country's team. Wrote Peter Roebuck the following morning in the *Sydney Morning Herald*: "As the night fell, the ground still pulsated with energy, though the crowd had grown quieter, sensing perhaps that the welcome guests were thinking of pinching the silver. It did not, in truth, seem much of a day for Australia to make an economic statement." They had been done in.

The banner which proclaimed that South Africa were world champions 'undefeated from 1970 to 1992' was not being laughed at any longer

Allan Donald looks as fast as any bowler around and his back-up troops are willing and can swing the ball. The batting has its mixture of patience and master blasters. And it is only a brave batsman who challenges the arm of South Africa's strong outfielders or nimble athletic infielders.

Had the South Africans put on such a show against any other team in the competition, it would still have been praiseworthy. That they did it against the hosts and the favourites was shocking. There was a hush of disbelief all around the SCG as everyone present tried to soak in the fact that South Africa had won—and more absurdly—that Australia had lost their second successive game in the tournament.

One recalled Border's words before his team played New Zealand in the opening game of the tournament: "Our biggest fears are these first two games before we get into some sort of stride," he had said. The fear of New Zealand upsetting his team haunted Border, but when it became reality, Australia reacted with disbelief. Manager Bob Simpson vowed that the Kiwi defeat was their last. "We are not going to lose two. We are going to

win them all." Simpson had boasted. Mind you, if every opinion emerging from Simpson and the Australians is to be believed, then the present Australian team is the best in its history. No doubt it is all part of a plan—now failed—to intimidate opponents. Returning to planet Earth, however, all expert opinion of Australia's loss to New Zealand being a one-off thing were dumped when these opinions failed to survive the historic and significant contest at the SCG.

IF Australia, as the hot-shot favourites, had the going tough, then second favourites Pakistan were not only down but at the same time had problems other than their poor performance Three players—one being the feared Waqar Younis—returned home

India's reluctance to use spinners in their one-day games will do them no good

even before the tournament began, but it didn't end there. Skipper Imran Khan was a no-show when his team were thoroughly humiliated in a ten-wicket loss at the hands of a now underrated West Indies team.

Yes, who would have thought that the team with so much past glory would actually go into a tournament as underdogs?Further, who would have bet his last dollar that a team in transition would, having been all but written off, impress most of all? And who would have imagined that fancied Pakistan would even give their game against Zimbabwe a second thought?

Captain Imran Khan, concerned about his team's congested World Cup itinerary, even played himself against Zimbabwe so that his team wouldn't join Australia at the bottom of the nine team league table. Imran, troubled by shoulder and groin ailments, was uncertain whether to risk more aggravation playing against the weaker teams or whether to prepare himself properly for the more demanding part of his team's schedule.

In fact, all the indecision about Imran's playing or not was a perfect example of the apparent nervousness of the stronger teams

Sri Lanka's Arjuna Ranatunga helps himself to some runs in the run-riot that was the Zimbabwe-Sri Lanka match





towards lesser recognised opposition in this tournament.

Both Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka came to be reckoned for their pugnacious batting after their 600-run thriller in which batting records crumbled like sand castles on a windy beach. The statistics behind some of the extraordinary innings played during the massive run feat (which Sri Lanka eventually won by three wickets with four balls to spare) reached the ears of the other teams. Batsman like Andy Waller, who can score 83 not out from 45 balls, or

Arjuna Ranatunga, who hit 88 off 62 balls, or wicketkeeper Andy Flower's 115 not out, require special attention from any opposition Similarly, the passion of the lesser teams to prove that they are deserving of higher status is inspiring courage and perseverance against major opponents

Zimbabwe applied for full status to the International Cricket Conference two years ago, feeling that it was crucial that they were granted it before South Africa returned There is cause for concern that good Zimbabwean players could be poached by South Africa, further reducing the incentive for teams from other countries to tour Zimbabwe if the Republic beckoned Zimbabwe are still waiting for a positive answer and in the meantime are using this World Cup as a chance to show what they are worth

In the midst of all the upsets drama and passion that the tournament has provided, not only is there an apparent change in the balance of power in one-day cricket but more importantly, the tournament has shown—so far at least—that the role of the spinner is critical in the short game In fact, it seems the tournament has almost resurrected the spinner in this form of the game

At one point of time, in the growth of the one-day game, it was argued that the optimal one-day side should have eleven competent batsmen, five or six of whom could be relied upon to bowl with



England's Phil Tufnell might be a key factor in their World Cup progress

Bowling attacks in one-day matches, it was thought and practised would be only of tight, accurate medium pacers who were also very capable with the bat. But how far has this prediction come true?

mean economy, with no place for erratic fast bowlers and spinners Bowling attacks it was thought—and practised—would be only of tight, accurate medium pacers who were also very capable with the bat But how far have these predictions come true?

Seven years ago, India were prepared to select and use two spinners during the one-day World Championship of Cricket in Australia—Ravi Shastri and Laxman Sivaramakrishnan It was thought revolutionary, but now India have not wanted to risk doing the same A spinner like Narendra Hirwani doesn t find a place in the team and has become that rarity among the world s top players—a man who has played more Test matches than one-day internationals

Yet in this World Cup we have seen a shift in approaches to team selection Selection policy has obviously recognised the difference between the two forms of cricket and the style of selection seems to have changed in this World Cup, thought it hasn't been radically different

The West Indies, so long reliant on a quartet—or more —of tearaway fast bowlers, have obviously done some rethinking. Against Pakistan in their opening World Cup match, they used only two quick bowlers, supported by two spinners and one medium-paced all-rounder. Yes, isn't life full of surprises?

The marked difference in the West Indian outlook was clear in their massive 10 wicket win, when spin operated from both ends for 35 minutes involving 13 overs Usually, West Indian attacks have struggled at both the Test and limited-over level to complete their required overs in the allocated time Now the West Indies end their 50 overs way before time (against Pakistan it was almost half an hour early) Carl Hooper and Roger Harper not only bowled at a quicker rate, but also with great success Against Pakistan they bowled their quota of 20 overs for 19 runs fewer and a wicket better than Malcolm Marshall and Curtly Ambrose

I believe you will be seeing a lot of Hooper and Harper in tandem , says captain Richie Richardson Richardson s eagerness to use spin is obviously a new tactic for a West Indian captain, and he has realised that a pace barrage designed to scare a batsman into a mistake is not the ultimate prescription for success in modern one-day cricket We could pick a seam bowler , says Richardson, and he could go for 30 to 40 runs in his ten overs Harper and Hooper may go for the same but provide

extra value because of their extraordinary batting and fielding".

Yet, the turn towards spin is not totally the West Indies domain. Pakistan captain Imran Khan believes it is imperative to include at least one leg spinner on Australian wickets, arguing that it is one of most effective ways to strangle an opposition run-rate, as the batsman is unable to use the pace of the ball to repeatedly dab and glide for singles. In Pakistan's squad are two leg spinners, Mustaq Ahmed and Iqbal Sikandar, with the latter offering tight control against the West Indies.

Australia too tend to weave their bowling attack around two fast bowlers, two all-round medium pacers and the one spinner in Peter Taylor. In fact, the only time the Aussies really looked that they had a chance in their game against South Africa was when Peter Taylor was operating. Seeing that Taylor was proving more effective than his fast bowlers, Border even came on to bowl himself Between Taylor and Border, they bowled 14 over for 45 runs with Taylor having the lone wicket in the innings. In contrast Whitney and Reid conceded 57 in their 13.5 overs.

Zimbabwe have also discovered that their ageless off-spinner John Traicos is still a potent weapon, when he was the most effective bowler against Sri Lanka. Traicos, who admits to being 44 and played in South Africa's last Test against Lawry's Australians in 1970, wrapped his bony fingers around the ball and bowled 10 overs taking a wicket and conceding only 33 runs. This, while the Sri Lankan batsmen plundered the other Zimbabwean bowlers at more than six an over!

New Zealand, for their part, even showed that using a spinner, Dipak Patel, as an opening bowler can be an extremely frustrating option for opening batsmen. If anyone had doubts about the role of spin in the abbreviated game, then Martin Crowe's experiment was the ultimate proof.

The Australians were ambushed by superior tactics. Geoff Marsh in particular was disconcerted by the tactic of a spinner bowling the second over of the match. The Australian opener made only 19 runs in an opening stand of 62 and Patel bowled his seven overs for only 19 runs. After the defeat, Border claimed it was the Kiwi spirit that outdid his team. "As soon as Australia hits New Zealand soil," he said, "the Kiwis lift 50 per cent. I've seen it with rugby and I've seen it with cricket."

But even Border had to admit this time that they were outplayed by superior tactics. "They've done the dirty on us again," he said after Australia's mantle as the one-day kings of cricket was badly mangled.





One-day teams used to be the preserve of medium pacers like Banerjee and Botham (inset), but is that correct strategy?



Gooch (left) will be relying heavily on the wily Ian Botham (centre)

'Criticism of Crowe's move came even before Patel bowled a ball. When it was obvious that the off-spinner would bowl the second over in the Australian innings, two former New Zealand captains, Glenn Turner and Jeremy Coney, who were commentating for New Zealand television, vigorously attacked the sense of the tactic.

In the days before the match, however, the New Zealand selectors, the coach (former wicketkeeper Warren Lees) and Crowe had decided that unless some unusual tactics could be devised, New Zealand had no chance against Australia. "We decided there was no use playing a normal game because we would be knocked out of the park. We had to do something different and be novel and innovative. We also had hard hitting Ian Smith padded up in case Peter Taylor came in to bowl. But he wasn't needed," said Crowe of his experiments.

Crowe, who had earlier compared the Australian team to the all-conquering All Black rugby teams from his own country, admitted after the game that "the Aussies have an enormous pressure to perform in the Cup, just like New Zealand did in the Rugby World Cup last year. So we thought we would try and put the acid on them."

"We decided," he said, "that the Australians had to be ambushed at the pass for us to have a chance of defeating them. We couldn't allow them to come through" The use of a spinner to open the bowling was only part of the ambush. The other was to have the bits-and-pieces bowlers—Larsen, Latham and Harris—in short spells. Having gambled in leaving out their fastest bowler Danny Morrison, the Kiwis did not allow the Aussies any time to size up a bowler before he was taken off and another part-timer brought in.

Although the ambush tactics were devised several days before the Eden Park match, Patel himself found out he was opening the bowling (for only the third time in his long career) towards the end of the New Zealand innings. He then took a new ball and spent the lunch hour practising in the nets with it.

"If we told people in advance, the secret would have got out," said Don Neely, chairman of the New Zealand selection committee. "The surprise element was an important part of the tactic."

The reason why so much is being made of the Kiwi tactic in that game is that the Eden Park ambush might have implications for the rest of the competition. The importance of tactics, the effective use of part-time bowlers and spinners are lessons which might be used regularly through this tournament. Only South Africa seem bent on venting two decades of frustration with a five-pronged pace attack.

And yet, India with all their past glory in the art of the slower stuff, shies away from it. India has the kind of medium pacers who can be rotated with great effect. Prabhakar, Banerjee and Srinath helping Kapil Dev and supported by one—if not two—spinners, would make an ideal attack which other teams are desperately trying to achieve. India, having the ingredients, prefers to look the proverbial gift horse in the mouth.

With upsets galore, commentators and experts still see India as potential semi-finalists, but it just may be that there are some within the Indian team who are not as confident. Maybe India should take a few examples from the Kiwis and take a few risks and try a few experiments.

One-day cricket is seen by most spectators as a game designed for the big hitters and fast bowlers. One of the features of the first round of the World Cup, though, has been the excellent bowling figures recorded by the spinners. And something Phil Tufnell, England's left-arm spinner, said recently might explain why this slow revolution is succeeding. Tufnell feels that one-day cricket, before this World Cup is over, will finally accept this truth in principle: The harder they hit you, the slower you should bowl'.●

Commentators and experts still see India as potential semi-finalists. But it just may be that there are some within the team who are not as confident

EDITORIAL

WE expected the Perth wicket to have a bit of of bounce, but not the pace and movement it produced all day. One imagines that India was quite relieved that it was not asked to bat first, even though it would mean batting later under lights.

Yet the main culprit was not the wicket (we'll get to him later), nor was India outclassed by a far superior side. India lost to a team in which the batsmen and fielders kept their wits and the bowlers their line and length.



THE INDIAN GAME-F IS DEFECTIVE



LAN

BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

Robin Smith might have tumbled but he still was the mainstay of the English batting with 91

This is the sort of stuff that is taught at school, but it has been evident over the past few weeks that India has a deathwish; something that has been confirmed by sports-writers, and the bevy of Channel 9 commentators which now includes Geoffrey Boycott who, one has to admit, is as painful to the ear as he was to bowlers and spectators.

But at least he and his comrades do reasonable justice to some difficult names, unlike the stern-looking Hindi non newsreader who got Botham's christian name all wrong or the young lady on the English news who mangled up Martin Crowe's



But, back to the cricket and time to stop pulling the punches. What I—and maybe you—saw at Perth was an Indian side with two class seamers who used favourable conditions well and a few others who, inspite of knowing what to do, were unable to change their line and length to suit a particular wicket.

Yet it was not the bowling but the batting that lost India the match, and the many Ravi Shastri fans must accept that their hero with 50 in 37 overs will have to take the blame. Shastri, whose efforts so far are very much appreciated, would like to be the Gavaskar of this side (but he can't : Gavaskar was a great runner between wickets and kept the score moving with singles and on large fields with well placed twos) and play the anchor role. This may be a justifiable policy in a situation where the batting is essentially weak; not in this case where the batting is potentially strong.

If Shastri is playing according to a team plan, then the plan is obviously defective for the object of the batsman must be to aim for 5.5 runs in the first 15 overs, even if three wickets are lost. This ensures that the middle order is not put under such severe



Shastri did well against England, but was it in the team's best interests?

management, under personal pressure, is hardly Azharuddin's forte, and now that Baig is no longer being nettled by Ch. Ranbir Singh he had better start asserting



pressure that natural stroke players have to resort to slogging (This is not the normal way of playing a 50 over game but then, India is not a normal side)

It has also been said, but maybe worth repeating, that it makes no difference who opens the innings for India (Botham has done it for England) and some of us would like to see Kambli elevated, as he eventually was in Sharjah It will also be interesting to enquire if it is possible to recover fully from the type of operation that Shastri had,in only two weeks And, if he is not fit (was he not limping after he got out) then Abbas Ali Baig must take some very firm action.

Not can it any longer be denied that man

his authority, instead of making excuses and holding out vague promises at press conferences.

Azharuddin has actually praised Shastri's performance in the match against England and justified the role allotted to him as an opener (this is the only excuse Shastri can possibly offer) while some of us wonder how much harm was done. Somebody's got their wires crossed, and it's not me, at least not on this occasion. This time Bedi, Gavaskar, the office fax operator, and the bathroom attendant at the Oberoi agree with this point of view.

Boycott seen here with Azharuddin is as painful to the ear as he was to bowlers and spectators

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



And just to balance the criticism, Baig may as well have a careful look at Srikkanth's efforts and jot down the number of times he has got out cheaply or failed to consolidate a good start. The argument that this is the only way Srikkanth plays may be valid, but the point here is whether India can afford this cavalier attitude, especially when neither he nor Shastri are any longer sharp in the field.

In effect, Baig must now become the non-playing captain and my instinct says drop both the original openers, start with Kambli and Manjrekar, and only think of further changes if the Indian captain (who was dismissed by the kind of delivery most batsmen would not have got anywhere near) continues to fail.

I accept that experience is important, but unless there is also athleticism, enthusiasm and a lot of self respect, India is not going anywhere in this World Cup. ●

Snipp

THE ART OF HARDSELL

IF this sounds like an ad for the Australian board, then we can assure you that it isn't. It is merely an update on how the organisers are trying to rope in some extra cash during the World Cup.

Their marketing approach can be summed up in one word 'innovation.' There is a special collection of coins with the World Cup engraved on it, in sterling silver and also gold. The Benson and Hedges World Cup trophy is a sparkling globe of waterfront crystal costing a mammoth 15,000 dollars and mounted upon a base embellished with nine medals displaying the coat of arms of the nine competing countries. Apart from a host of other knick knacks, the World Cup collection of Coins consists of the same nine medals as those mounted on the base of the World Cup trophy. Each proof quality medal, minted in sterling silver or 18 carat gold, bears the '92 World Cup symbol on the reverse.

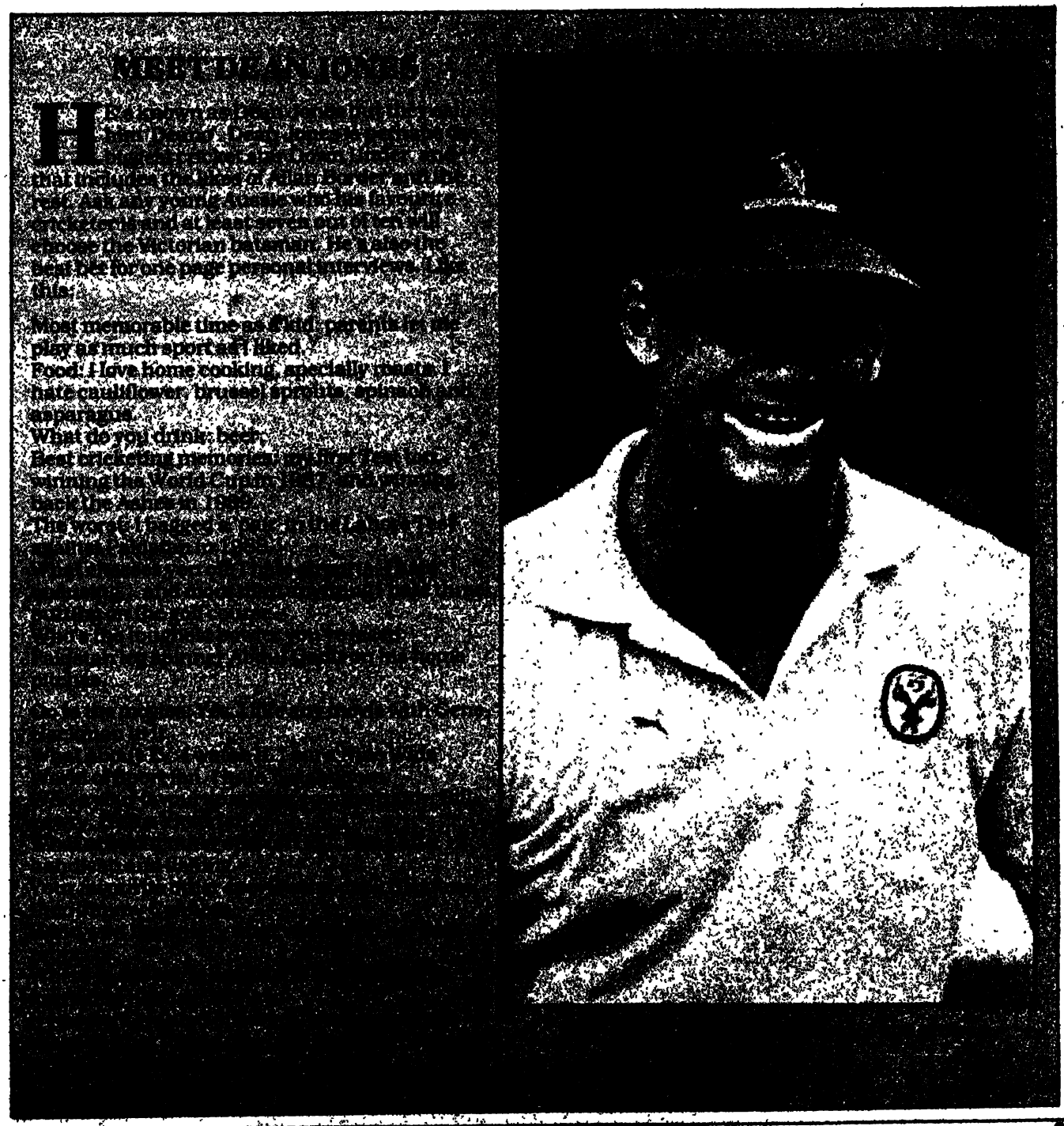
Only 5,000 sterling silver and 19 gold World Cup collection sets will be issued for souvenir hunters in Australia and the rest of the world. Included will be a handsome presentation case and a certificate of authenticity confirming the world wide issue limitations and the individual number of the set. Just in case these high faultin' details may prompt you to order or go in for one, I strongly urge you to desist. The silver set costs 365 dollars and the gold... 4,510. Plus eight dollars for postage and packaging.

Feeling disappointed? Here try this bargain. It's for the serious cricket book collector. An official World Cup book is about to be launched, containing colour photo coverage of the tournament, full match reports with stats, the winning captain's analysis of the team which will rule the world, the men, the moves, the emotion, the drama of South Africa's late entry and the challenge. Edited by Ian McDonald,ACB media manager with reports from leading cricket journos, the book will be in hard cover and priced at 39.95 Aussie dollars. There will be a further 20 dollar charge for international packaging and posting. For further details contact the Australian Cricket Board at 90 Jolimont Street, Jolimont, Vic 3002, Victoria. Hey wait! Address the envelope to 'World Cup 1992 Official Book'. Do it fast, cos' there are limited editions.



The Benetin & Hedges World Cup on display. An exquisite work of art

ets...



THE COLOUR OF MONEY

AUSTRALIAN cricket's official sponsor, the Benson & Hedges company, has made in this World Cup season, its greatest commitment to the game in the 19 years it has been sponsoring cricket in Australia. As the official sponsor in Australia and New Zealand, the company is not only backing the biggest event in international cricket but also the entire cricketing summer. This means that by the end of the World Cup, the company would have provided 566,000 dollars in prize money and awards alone, which is its biggest contribution since being appointed official sponsor to the ACB in 1973.

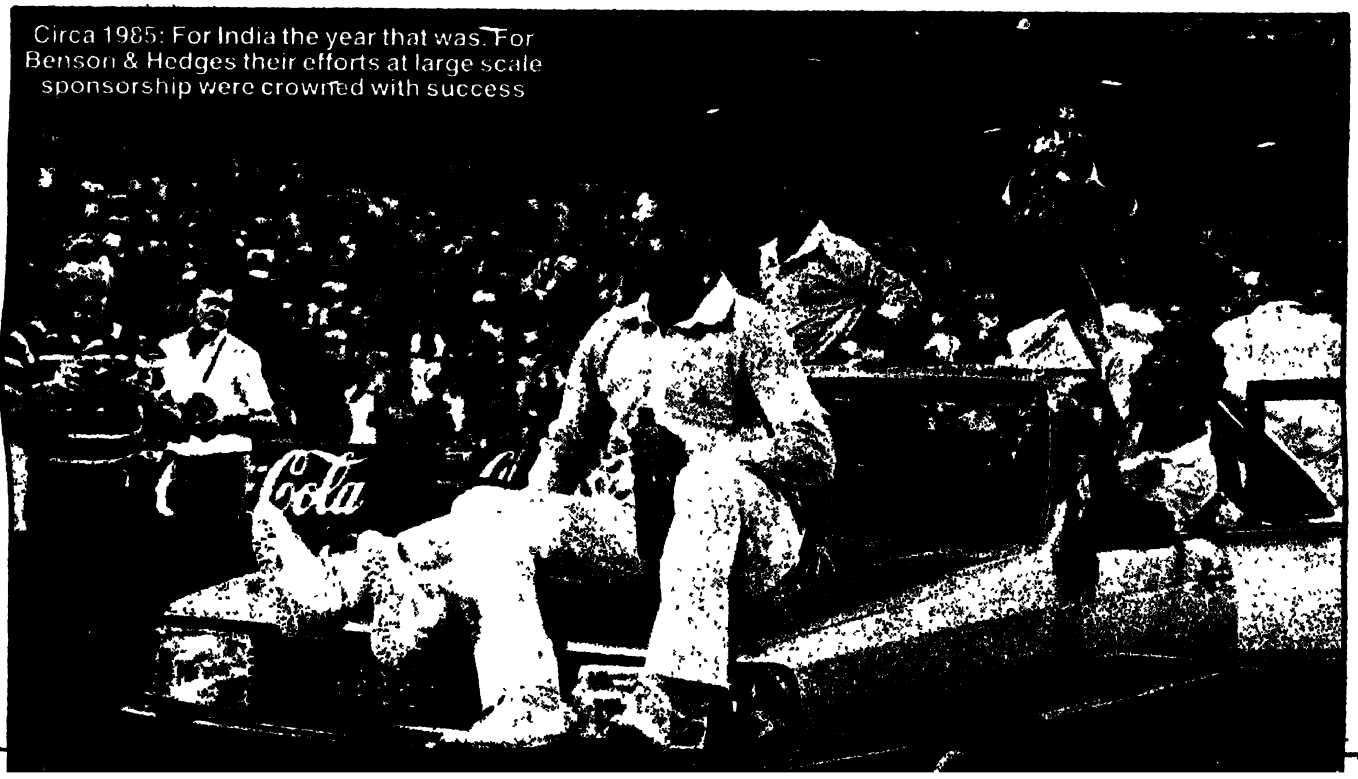
Last season, the Australian team won a record 203,000 dollars from the company in awards and prize money, and Benson & Hedges hope that the fifth World Cup will spotlight their contribution made to cricket in Australia. Their sponsorship over the years has provided funding to the ACB which has undoubtedly spurred the growth of the game in this country as well as greatly assisted payments to players and enabled them to earn a solid living from cricket. It provides strong support to all state associations, who receive their share of sponsorship for the development of the game right down to the grassroots levels of the district clubs and coaching facilities. The sponsors have supported the Sheffield Shield competitions from the beginning. They have paid prize money to each team according to their standings at the end of the season.

For the World Cup, the prize money in Australian dollars is broken up as follows:
Preliminary matches: winner 3,000; loser 1,500; player of the match; 500.
Semi-finals losers: 12,500; player of the match; 1,000.
Finals winner: 50,000, loser 25,000, player of the match; 3,000; World Cup Champion; Nissan car.

STUMPED

[illegible] all those players that arrive at the end of the season, then you'll be surprised to know that [illegible] players in Australia, the players have tried to [illegible] each other taken pads, them in their kits and mount them on their walls back home.

Cricketers have been collecting stumps for ages, but the modern stump in Australia has become such an expensive high-tech marvel that Channel 9 technicians have been quick to chase players into the dressing rooms and retrieve the stumps. More than one players has had these mementoes snatched away by 9's technicians and one Aussie player who, tried to use his charm, was told that he could have the stump but only after the microphone was detached. Australian Test tradition has it that debutants are presented with a match stump signed by the teammates after his debut Test. In these days of high-tech gadgetry, tradition is being thrown out of the window.



Circa 1985: For India the year that was. For Benson & Hedges their efforts at large scale sponsorship were crowned with success



The new 'ton bats' that were launched in Australia recently. The bat is being inspected by a local cricketer and is conventional except for the handle, which is curved

A BAT IS BORN!

WITH the World Cup underway, the racketeers are already getting their act together and trying desperately to make a fast buck. Paul Keegan figured one of those ready to cash in on the cricket fever. Keegan works in an engineering plant owned by Alan Jennings in Sydney, and he has invented a new cricket bat.

Keegan, an [illegible] player, was convinced that he could improve his batting [illegible] if he could get more power behind the ball. He reasoned that if he could hold the bat in such a way that his power hand, that is, his right hand was above the blade rather than behind it, he could score more runs. That meant having a bat with a crooked handle.

And so was born a bat. His crooked handled bat is founded on the principles of physics, and he plans to produce around 5,000 of them. Keegan's 'ton bats' have since been passed by Lord's where regulations apply to the blade and not the handle. Peter Roebuck, former Somerset cricket captain turned journalist for the *World Cup*, considers it a bit [illegible] he says that. "Even if his bat is the best thing since sliced bread, it should take years for cricketers to use it. It does not fit their image of a bat. If cricket calls again, I'll be [illegible] to give it a go" Keegan continues.

THE GREAT GAMBLER



England can well make it to the final, and Botham by virtue of his performances could well win his wager

IAN BOTHAM has personal pride and prestige and a tidy wager riding on England's success in this World Cup England have moved to second favourites since the loss of Waqar Younis to Pakistan and their poor pre-tournament form

England are now four to one behind Australia (11/8), but the fearless all rounder pounced on an English bookmaker who happened to offer 8/1 early in the betting

I felt 8/1 was very good odds and so I had a fair go at it, said Botham When asked if England had a chance of raising the Cup he replied, Of course we are I would say there are a lot of sides more worried about us than we are about them Botham is further adamant that this English side will put in a better effort than the recent English outfits who were outclassed in the Ashes series by the Aussies The players confidence is much better They have had a break and done well he finished

Despite being well past his prime Botham feels that he is an automatic choice as opener in the English team He cites his competitiveness and the great effect he has on the team s morale as his reasons Certainly beefed up on ego we would say

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MUCH ABO ABOUT NOTHING

In North America, after all, Australia belongs to the ABCs.

Compiled by Andy O'Brien

Our Cup,

ANDY O'BRIEN describes the agony and hardships of covering the World Cup cricket in an affluent country, revealing the severe organisational shortcomings in the game's second homeland...

BACK home in India we (journalists) are rated alongside Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru not because we do great service to the nation but solely because we are considered good freedom fighters That means we fight for anything that is free It is not that we have been given this derogatory label of freeloaders rather we are honest enough to recognise our own weaknesses and christened ourselves thus

As a rather young but somewhat experienced and travelled journalist with quite a number of Test matches one day internationals, an Olympic Games and the World Cups in football hockey and cricket an Asian Games Wimbledon and the Australian Open and a host of lesser international events under my belt I have come to learn that together with us—from the lesser privileged parts of the globe –there are also other freedom fighters living in the more affluent corners of the world

Shock or surprise? Indian cricketers could not possibly have dreamt of such voluminous fan mail after a disastrous Test series

I recall an embarrassing incident at the 1988 Seoul Olympics during a dinner hosted by the International Association of Sports Journalists The entire media covering the Games were present along with high ranking officials of the International Olympic Committee including Juan Antonio Samaranch In the middle of the sumptuous dinner and generous doses of wine, there was an announcement that

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Their Cup



For far too long, we, from the sub-continent, have sucked up to the foreigners and that is one reason why we are taken advantage of. The hangover of the British Raj has not yet been eradicated from the Indian psyche. We tend to take it for granted that we are inferior. But ask any sensible and level-headed journalist who had travelled in India about the kind of treatment he received there. And then compare that to what we receive abroad where economic and technological advancement is far ahead of ours

certain companies were presenting free gifts near the exit door

Good wine and cuisine be damned, we thought why not leave now so that we could be first in line for the gifts Having swallowed our drinks food and pride we headed for the door But surprise surprise! By the time we reached the exit door there was already a large group of foreign journalists already there clamouring for their goodies Soon Mr Samaranch and his colleagues found themselves alone in the large ballroom A stampede followed and it was only after the organisers made repeated appeals for decent behaviour that things settled down

Some of us having seen the commotion continued the worship of Bacchus while quietly realising that mediamen all over the world are the same for all their snobbery and pretentions

The point being made here is that while the sub continent and all its drawbacks are criticised harshly similar criticisms are not voiced when it pertains to the so called first world

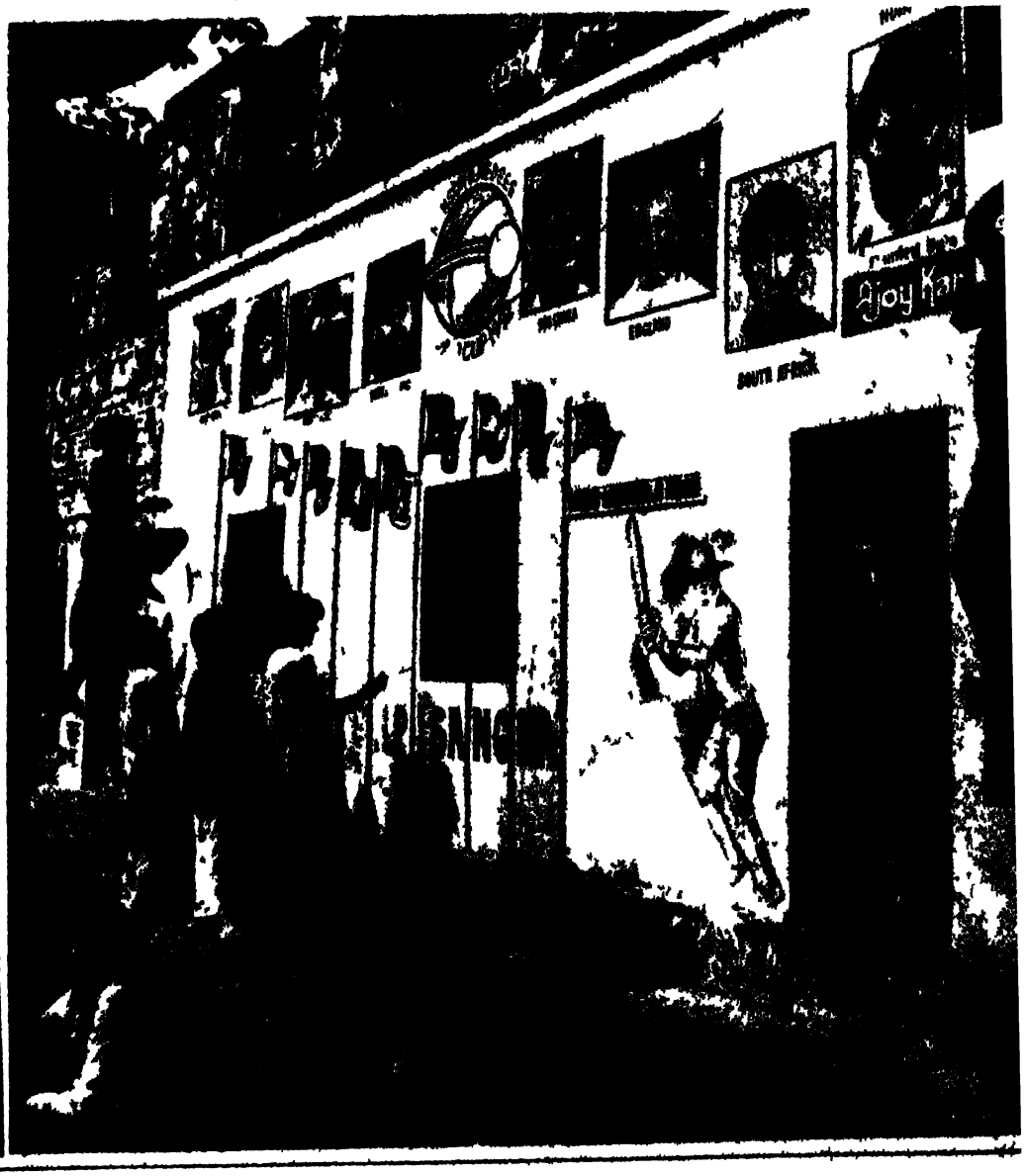
When Sunil Gavaskar criticises the umpiring in Australia, he maintains that he is not pointing a finger and saying that so and so is biased Gavaskar says he is merely pointing out—and this I have from the horse's mouth—that similar decisions would have been categorised as cheating, had they occurred in the sub continent But here they are called mistakes

Gavaskar is adamant and he is quite open about it too that the foreign Press has double standards when it comes to the sub continent many of us journalists feel that way too but lack the gumption of a Gavaskar to come out in the open with our feelings

At the risk of being a total outcast in the Press boxes of Australia and New Zealand throughout this World Cup I put one question to my international colleagues How would they have reacted had they been handed out the same treatment in the sub continent that we have been meted out here? What would they have done had they come to India and been forced to fax their reports from milk bars and newsagents and when budget permitted from hotel receptions? That is precisely what I and every other Indian journalist has done since most of us landed in Australia in November And that is what we have reconciled ourselves to when reporting on the biggest cricket tournament in the world

Umpiring and other prejudices be damned here we talk of basic occupational problems I confess that in our poor country we very often cannot meet many of the demands of the travelling media and teams but these are our in built limitations and handicaps and we accept them unfortunately too easily

Much has already been written and said about the so called boycott by a section of



the Press of the black-tie-dinner, held in Sydney on the evening of the World Cup Opening ceremony. The original cost of the dinner, per person was $175 which is a huge sum by any standards.

SOME were quite right in pointing out that the sum, equivalent to Rs 3500, would have been enough to feed an entire family for a month in India. Sure it could. But the point is not that. For far too long we, from the sub-continent, have sucked up to the foreigners—and that is one reason why we are taken advantage of. The hangover of the British Raj has not yet been eradicated from the Indian psyche. We tend to take it for granted that we are inferior. But ask any sensible and level-headed foreign journalist who has travelled in India about the kind of treatment he received there, in spite of the limitations and inherent drawbacks. And then compare that to what we receive abroad where economic and technological advancement is far ahead of ours.

This is Calcutta's response to a faraway World Cup: True to its reputation the city celebrates a cricket carnival that failed to evoke much enthusiasm in the game's own backyard



ASHOKE CHAKROBORTY

Just for starters: No fax or telex facilities at the venues, no invitations to the World Cup Opening Ceremony in Sydney, not even a cup of coffee during the Press briefings and the captains' Press conferences. If all this had happened in India it would surely have gone down as poor organisation. Imagine the uproar that would have taken place if the organisers in India and Pakistan had hired a boat, put all the participating teams on it, for the official photograph, and allowed only half a dozen 'selected' mediamen on board.

Yes, things are different here, aren't they?

How would they (the foreign media) have reacted had they been handed out the same treatment in the sub-continent that we have been meted out here (in Australia)? What would they have done, had they been forced to fax their reports from milk bars and newsagents...?

I recall buying a whole ream of newspapers from an agent on the morning of February 19 for my reading on the train, on my way to the Press conference of the nine captains. I was surprised to find that not a single newspaper, that I laid my hands on, made a mention about what was to take place that same morning in and around the Sydney Harbour. Maybe, my news sense might be very warped, but back home the media would have gone to town over the assembly of the nine teams and the other functions that were held that day. Obviously, with my kind of news sense I have no hope for employment in an Australian newspaper.

As the nine captains of the participating teams strolled around waiting to be photographed with the Sydney Opera House in the background, it was surprising to see merely a few cameramen and a few journalists at hand. For some one who comes from Calcutta, a city of teeming millions who have bundles of enthusiasm for sport, all the happenings at the harbour seemed low key.

However, it was refreshing to note that at least one Australian journalist had the courage to ridicule what happened on the opening day of the World Cup. He described the official launching of the tournament as 'long and boring'. He was right. The Pakistan captain Imran Khan looked terribly bored by midday. And it was a universal expression later in the evening at the $175 dinner too.

Bhargava Jaykrishna Public Library

MAGIC MILLION XXX STAKES, CALCUTTA

THE LONG WAY

In the richest race for juvenile colts and fillies, Goodfellas' winning run looked like the opposition was travelling backwards

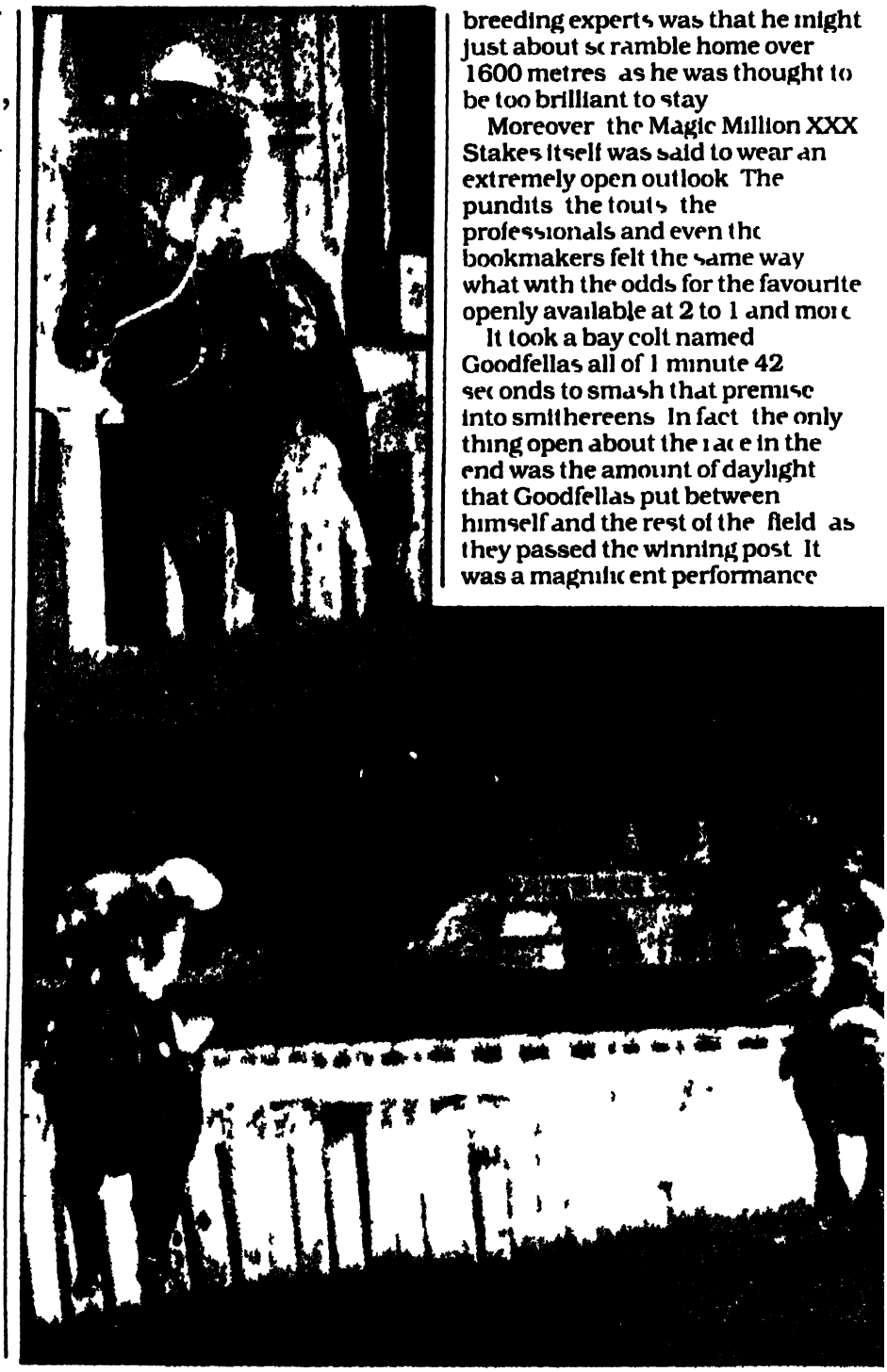
WHO said that Goodfellas don't win? Sunil Gavaskar once described the Indian cricket team as too goody goody and that's what cost them the match on many an occasion. Well had he been at the Calcutta Race Course on Sunday February 23 he would have revised his opinion when a bay colt named Goodfellas powered his way to a brilliant victory in the Magic Million XXX Stakes which is sponsored by Shaw Wallace & Co.

Named ostensibly after the gentlemen who own him Goodfellas has taken Calcutta racing by storm. Trainer John Stevens has kept the colt going and he is now unbeaten in three starts. Each of this colt's victories seem to be more impressive than the other and Calcutta has once again found a horse who is going to make a lot of people change their opinion about Calcutta horses being substandard.

By Excalibur's Lake out of Sukriti Goodfellas had never been over the mile. The general consensus on the part of the breeding experts was that he might just about scramble home over 1600 metres as he was thought to be too brilliant to stay.

Moreover the Magic Million XXX Stakes itself was said to wear an extremely open outlook. The pundits the touts the professionals and even the bookmakers felt the same way what with the odds for the favourite openly available at 2 to 1 and more.

It took a bay colt named Goodfellas all of 1 minute 42 seconds to smash that premise into smithereens. In fact the only thing open about the race in the end was the amount of daylight that Goodfellas put between himself and the rest of the field as they passed the winning post. It was a magnificent performance



the hor... similar dec... have been c... cheating, ha... occurred in t...

rren Singh (inset) llas takes a big lead est of the field

by CYRUS J. MADAN

HOME



Mr. U. Haq, vice president Shaw Wallace, presenting the glittering trophy to Mr R. Sikand at the RCTC

indeed and to use a cliche—it was Goodfellas first the rest nowhere.

Thanks to an extreme outside draw (13 out of 14 horses) Goodfellas with Warren Singh astride had to travel 3 or 4 horses wide all the way round. Prime Witness, the favourite on the other hand, was in the box seat throughout and had every opportunity, but simply failed to deliver.

Turning for home it was Prime Witness on the rails and Astounding coming up on the outside. It seemed anybody's race at that stage especially when you consider the fact that Goodfellas had been used up to such an extent by travelling on the wide outside. But when Warren pressed the button Goodfellas made the opposition look bad and he strode out magnificently to win by five long and easy lengths. Astounding plodded on to take second place just about beating back the pint sized Miss X O Lence.



Jockey Warren Singh was all smiles after the race and in his opinion Goodfellas is most certainly All India class. "I would have won by twice the verdict," said Warren Singh, "if I had not taken a hold on Goodfellas in the early stages of the race. He virtually pulled my arms out and when I finally gave him his head in the straight it looked like the opposition was travelling in reverse gear while I was moving forward." ●

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUBHOJIT PAL

LIFE AFTER

It's not something they like to think about, but all cricketers have to hang up their boots sometime. What do they do after cricket?

If you ever want to stump most present-day professional international cricketers with a question, then ask them what they want to do career-wise after they make their final walk back to the pavilion. Though for many such plans are a good few days away, the point is the game has become so professional that most cricketers today don't have much to their lives apart from cricket. Sanjay Manjrekar once told *Sportsworld* that he hadn't even given it a thought and that cricket was so much a part of his life—if not his life itself—that he didn't think he could do very much if he were divorced from the game.

And so it is but natural that for many international cricketers life after cricket revolves around much of the same: media, sporting contract; product endorsements, coaching and other non-playing roles in the game.

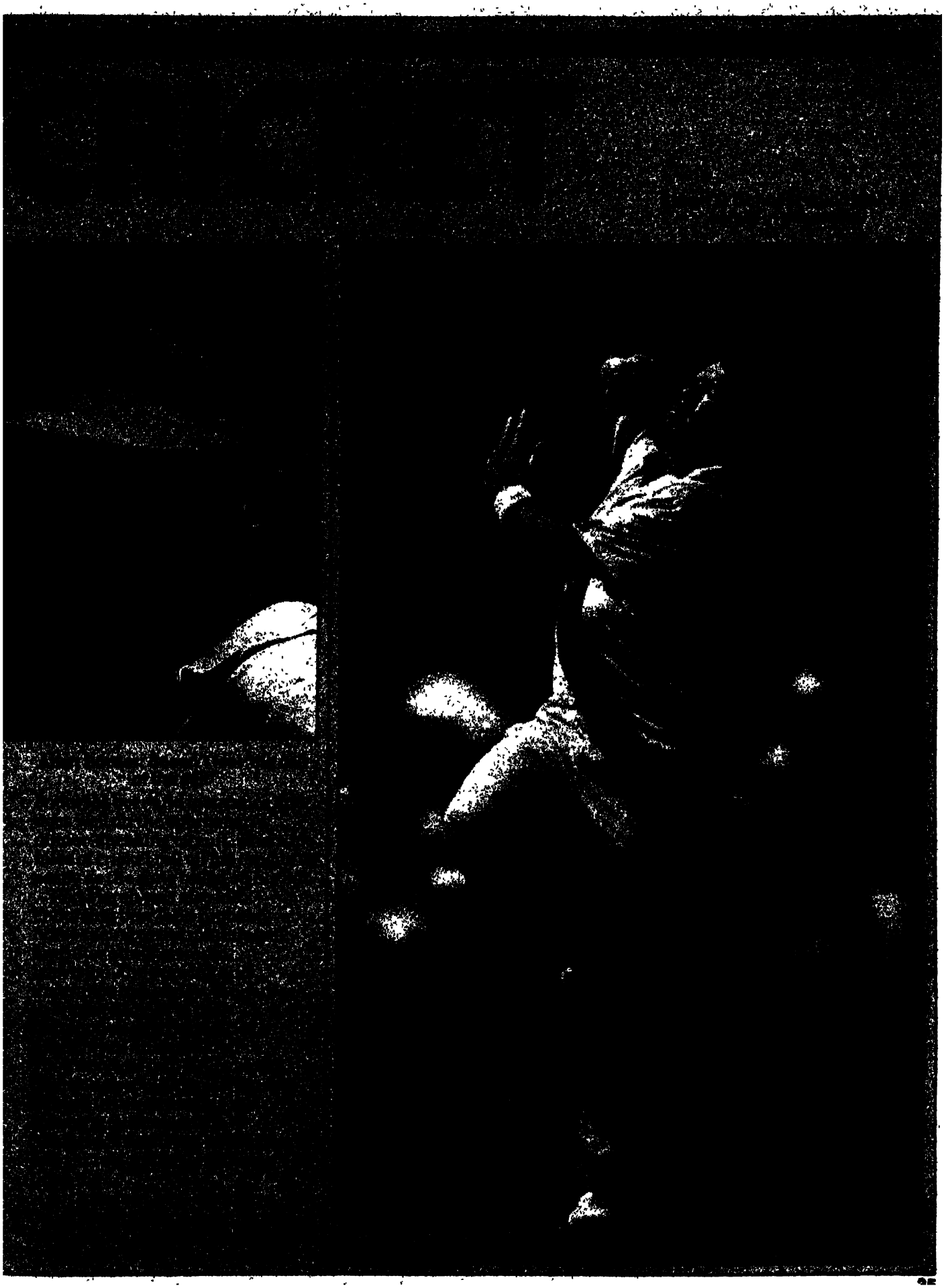
In India, Sunil Gavaskar has shown the way as he has in so many other aspects of cricket and life—of turning from a very successful cricketer to a successful businessman-cum-media man. Ask Gavaskar and he'll tell you that it takes a great deal even out of his exceptional concentration to cope up with something creative for television or print media day in and day out.

In Australia, the media—specially television—has attracted the likes of Richie Benaud, Tony Greig, Bill Lawry, Greg and Ian Chappell (all former captains). Max Walker has made his name in that too although he's also made big money from his books with the zany titles. But even in Australia where cricketers tend to continue their careers in the game after retirement, there are many of the 'old-school' exceptions around.

And you keep bumping into them in the course of the international matches over the summer. Ian Redpath, who opened for Australia in the seventies, was there at one of India's warm-up matches last year prior to the World Cup. He runs an auctioneering business in Melbourne and thought of dropping in to have a look at the South Melbourne cricket ground situated close to his office. Greg Chappell is also an investment adviser, but since his business isn't doing that well, he also does television commentary. Doug Walters, who occasionally does radio commentary—but who would probably prefer to do commentary at the race courses—worked for Rothmans for most of his illustrious career, now



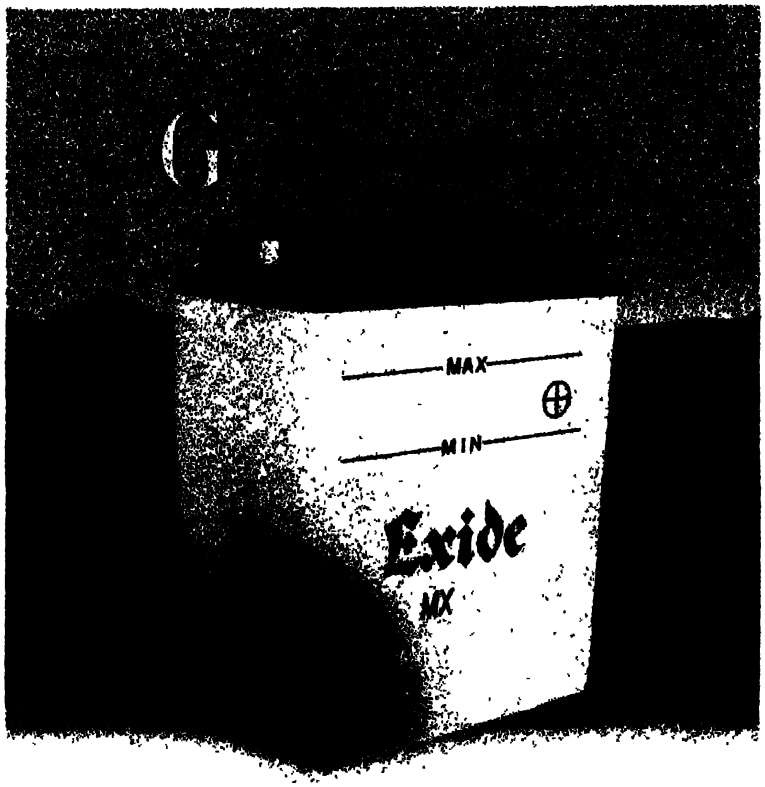
Sunil Gavaskar has shown the way by turning from a very successful cricketer to a successful businessman-cum-media man.





they'd rather face C[illegible] in fading light. [illegible] about life beyond cricket in Australia, the [illegible] out seems to be the media. "The game here is too professional for any international cricketer to think of honing any other career other than bat and ball. Not everyone, however, regards this as the most ideal way of staying in touch—or involved—with the game.

Allan Border is one who doesn't really feel 'the call of the cab'. He says he definitely wants to stay with cricket but [illegible] other than commentary. With Channel Nine's inclination to sign former captains onto their panel, he'll probably have to turn down a offer he shouldn't be refusing if he is to keep to his statement of "it doesn't really appeal to me. I don't think I'm good enough to do that sort of stuff and it's not my go." Border is currently employed with Castlemaine Brewery and believes he will have a continued association with that company.



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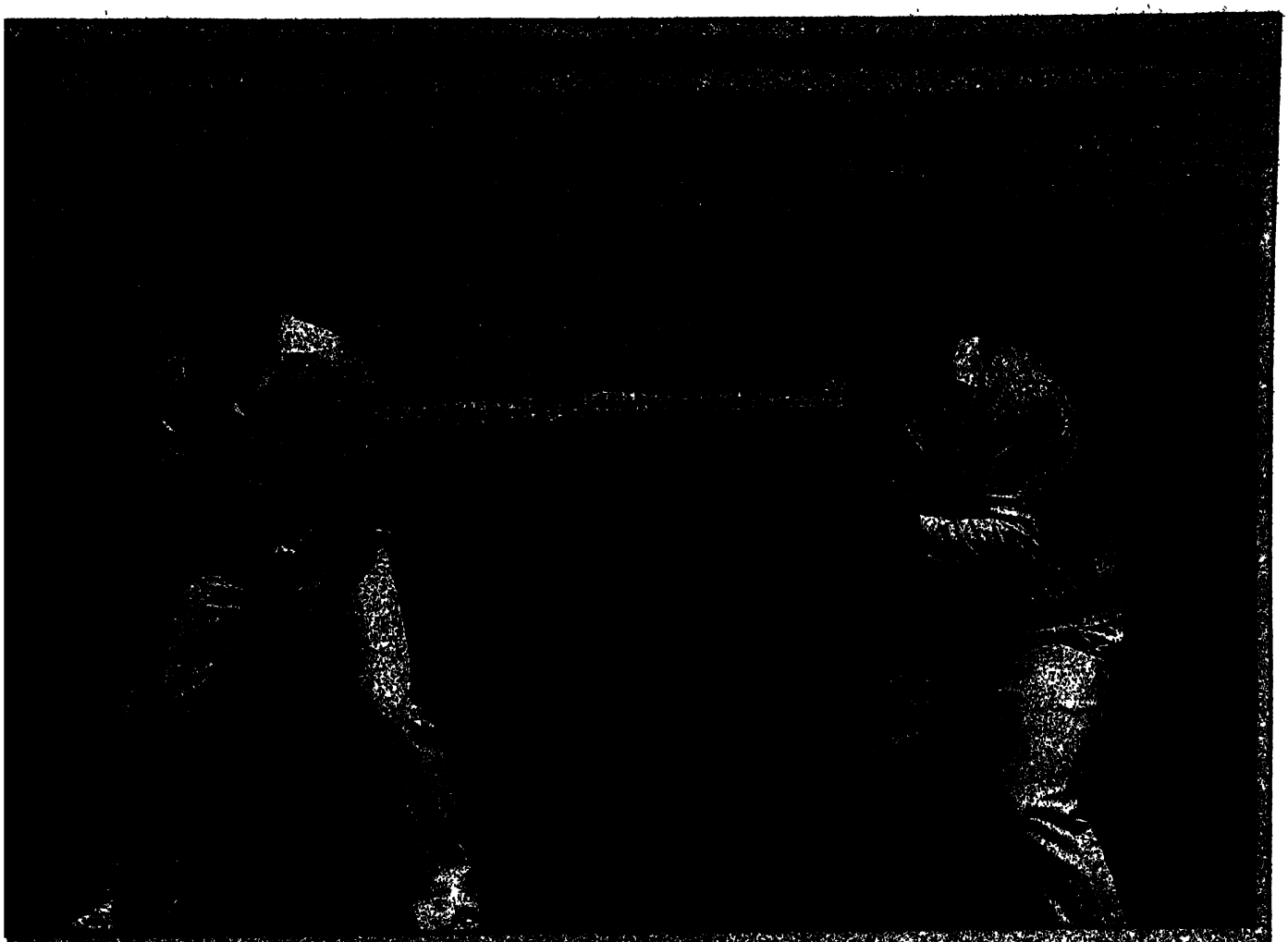
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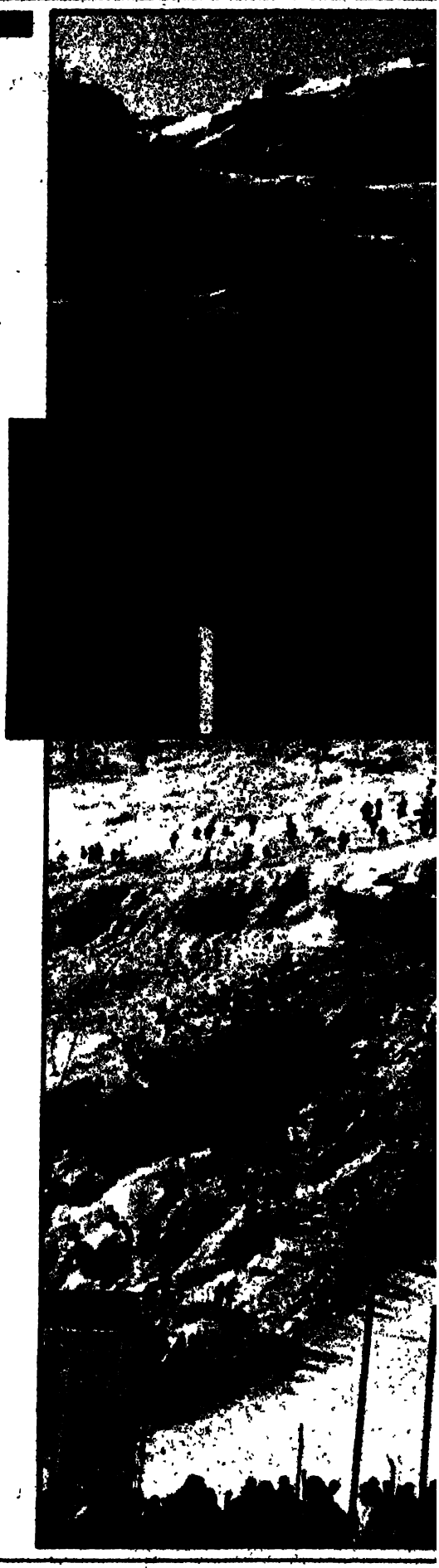
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WINTER OLYMPICS

WHERE THE SNOW SIZZLES



THE HIGHLIGHTS

■ The American speedskater Bonnie Blair won the women's 1000 metres to achieve a remarkable golden sprint double. Only three days earlier, she became the first woman to retain the Olympic 500 metres crown,

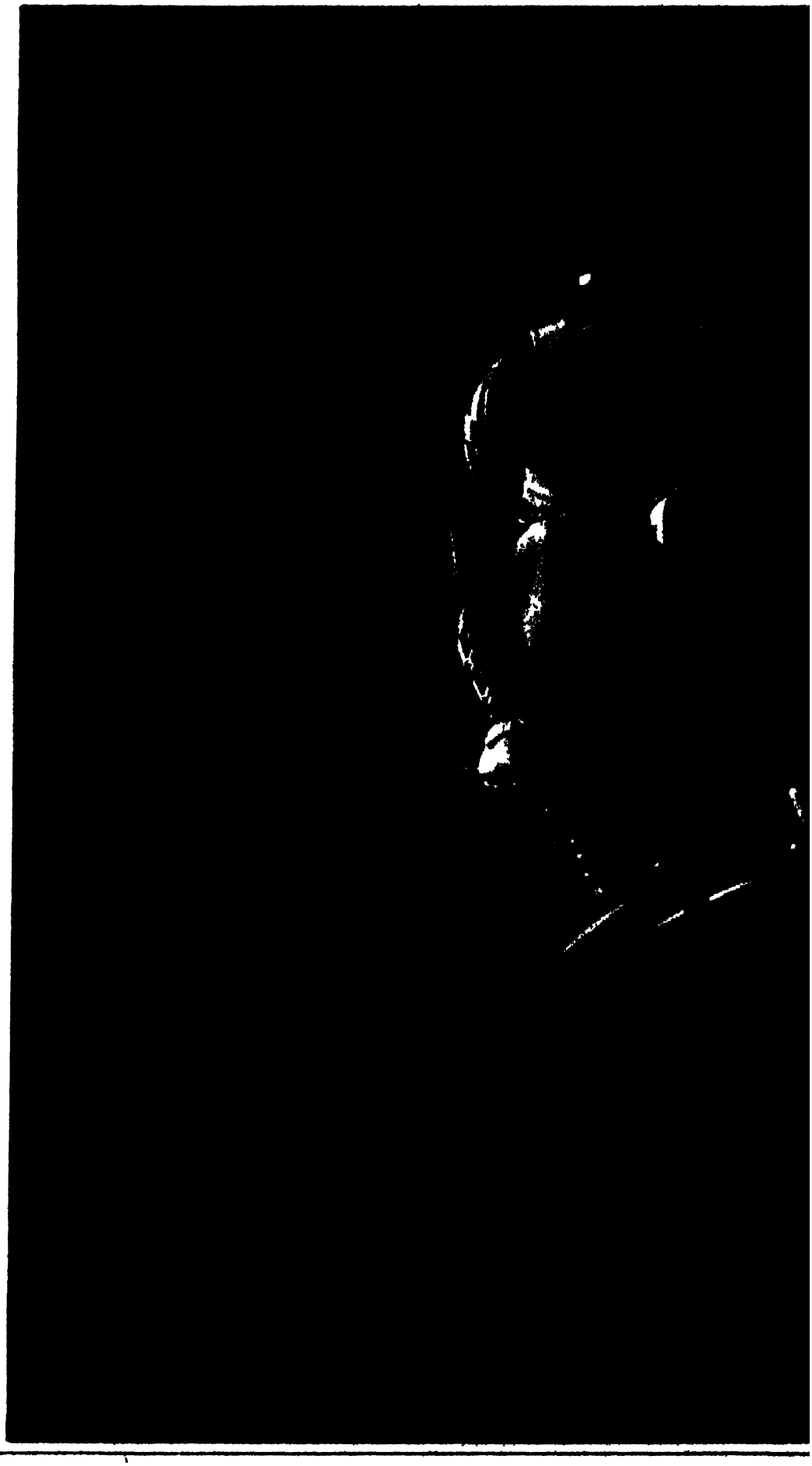


Opening ceremony of the

clocking one minute 21.90 seconds to edge Ye Qiaobo of China by just 0.02 seconds.

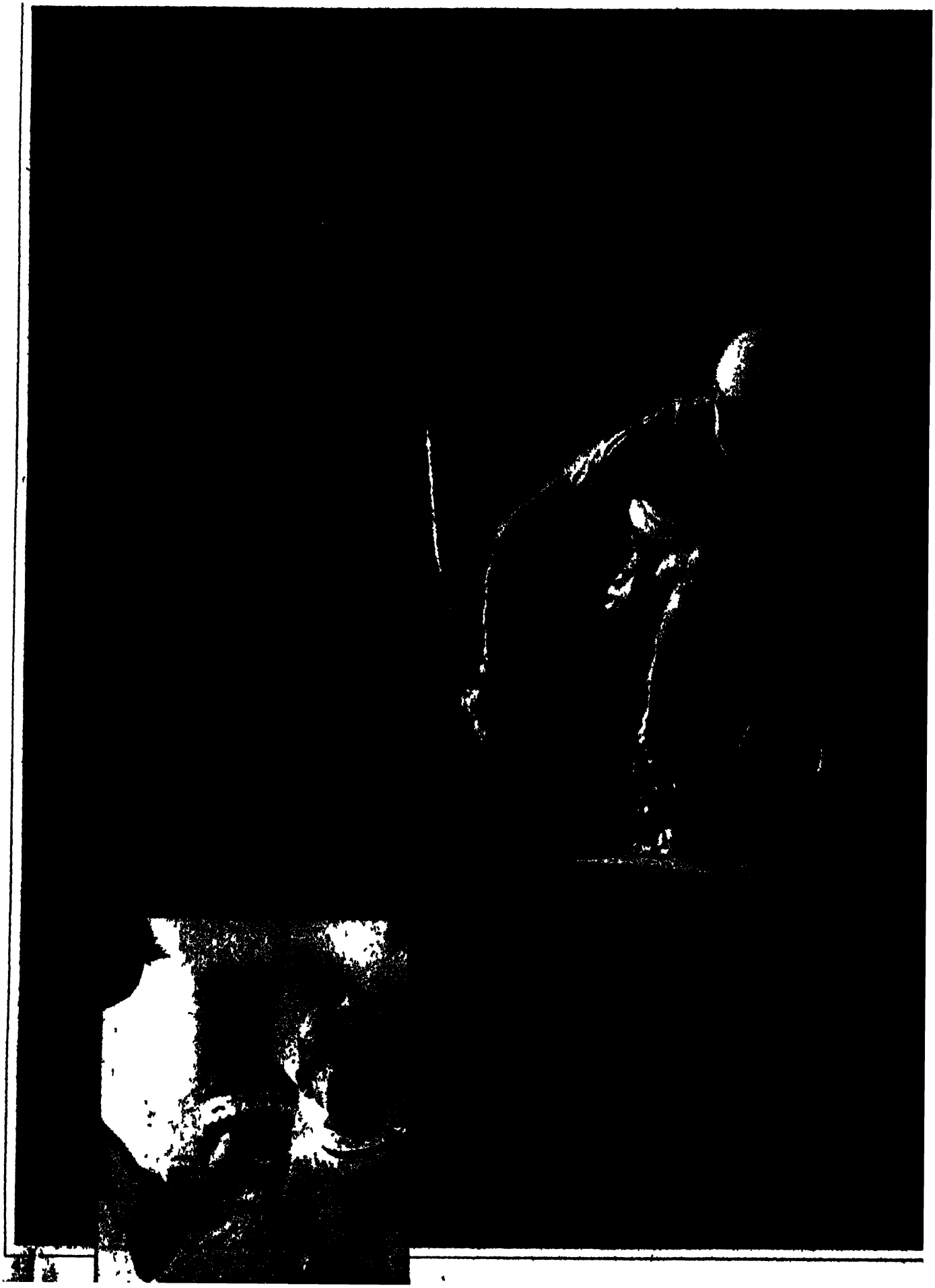
■ Germany's Stefan Kransse and Jan Behrendt, the 1988 silver medallists, won the gold medal in the men's luge doubles by edging teammates Yves Mankel and Thomas Rudolph

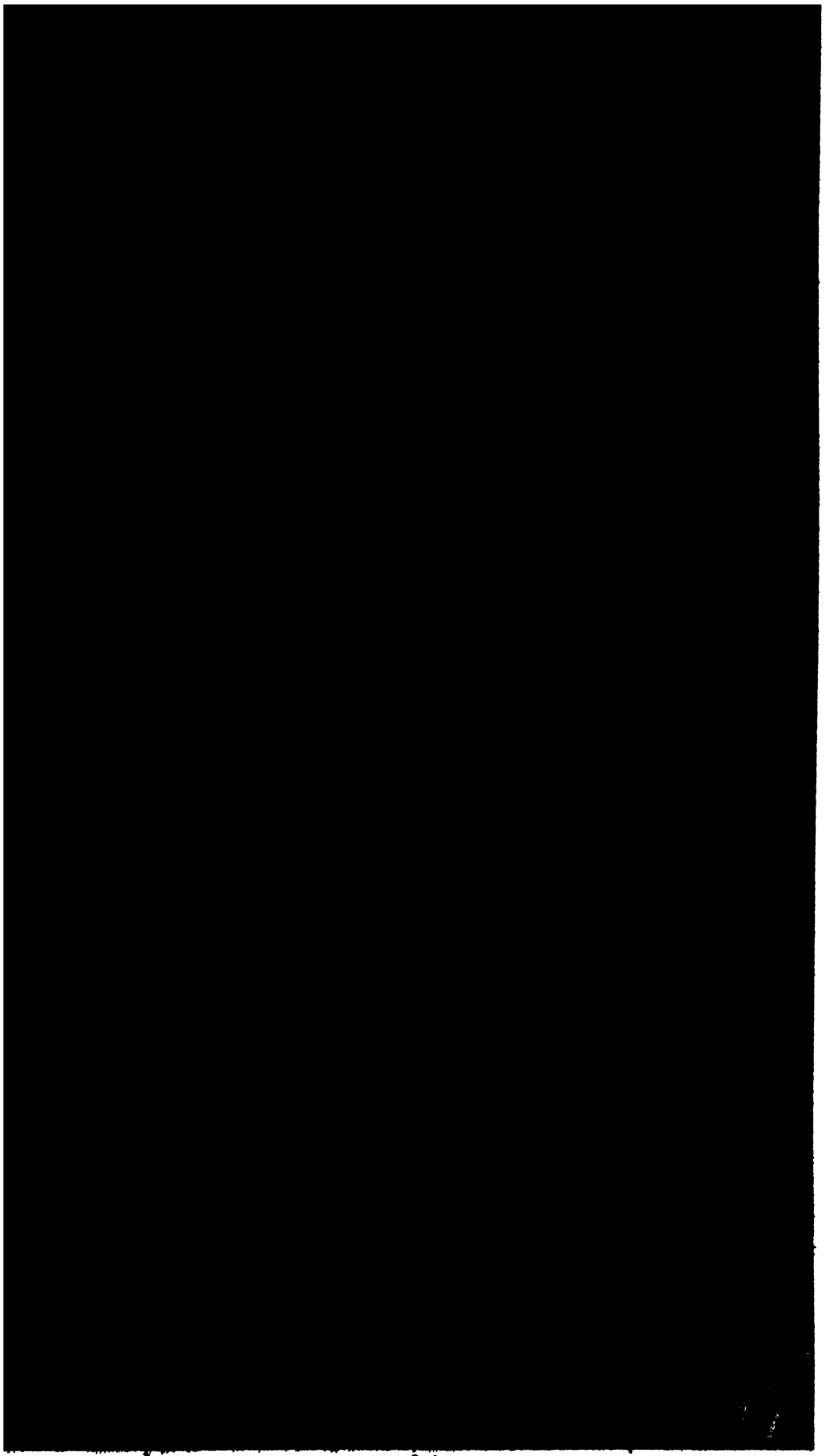
■ Sixteen year old Toni Nieminen of Finland soared into the Olympic record books with a gravity-defying final leap to snatch the Gold from Austria in the team ski jumping event. Nieminen became the youngest male gold medallist at the Winter Games



Patrick Ortlieb, the first athlete to win a gold medal in the Games in the Downhill;







■ **The world champions Donna Weinbrecht and Edgar Grospiron collected the first gold medal in freestyle skiing, a young sport which for the first time became a medal event in the Olympics.**

■ **Vegard Ulvgang of Norway became the 1992 Games' first double-gold winner, by taking the medal in the men's 10 kilometre cross country skiing, while Marjut Lukkarinen continued a Finnish Olympic tradition by winning the women's five kilometre race.**

■ **Mark Kirchner joined three other athletes as a double champion in the Winter Olympics as he led Germany to a 22.8 second victory**

Ortlieb with Mader (in action) the man who came second in the Downhill

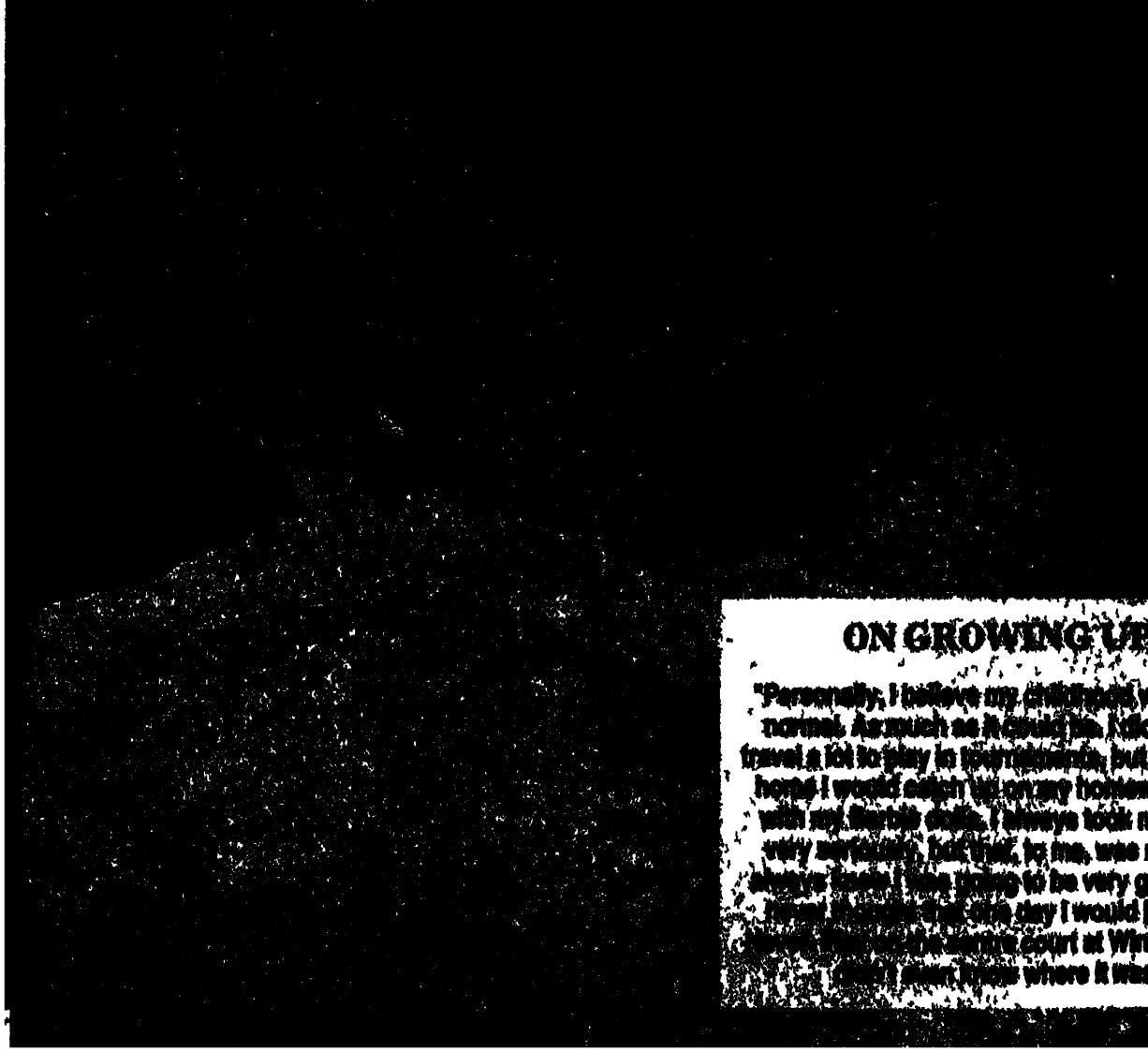
PHOTOGRAPHS TOMMY HINDLEY

PHOTO FEATURE



Ms. Seles

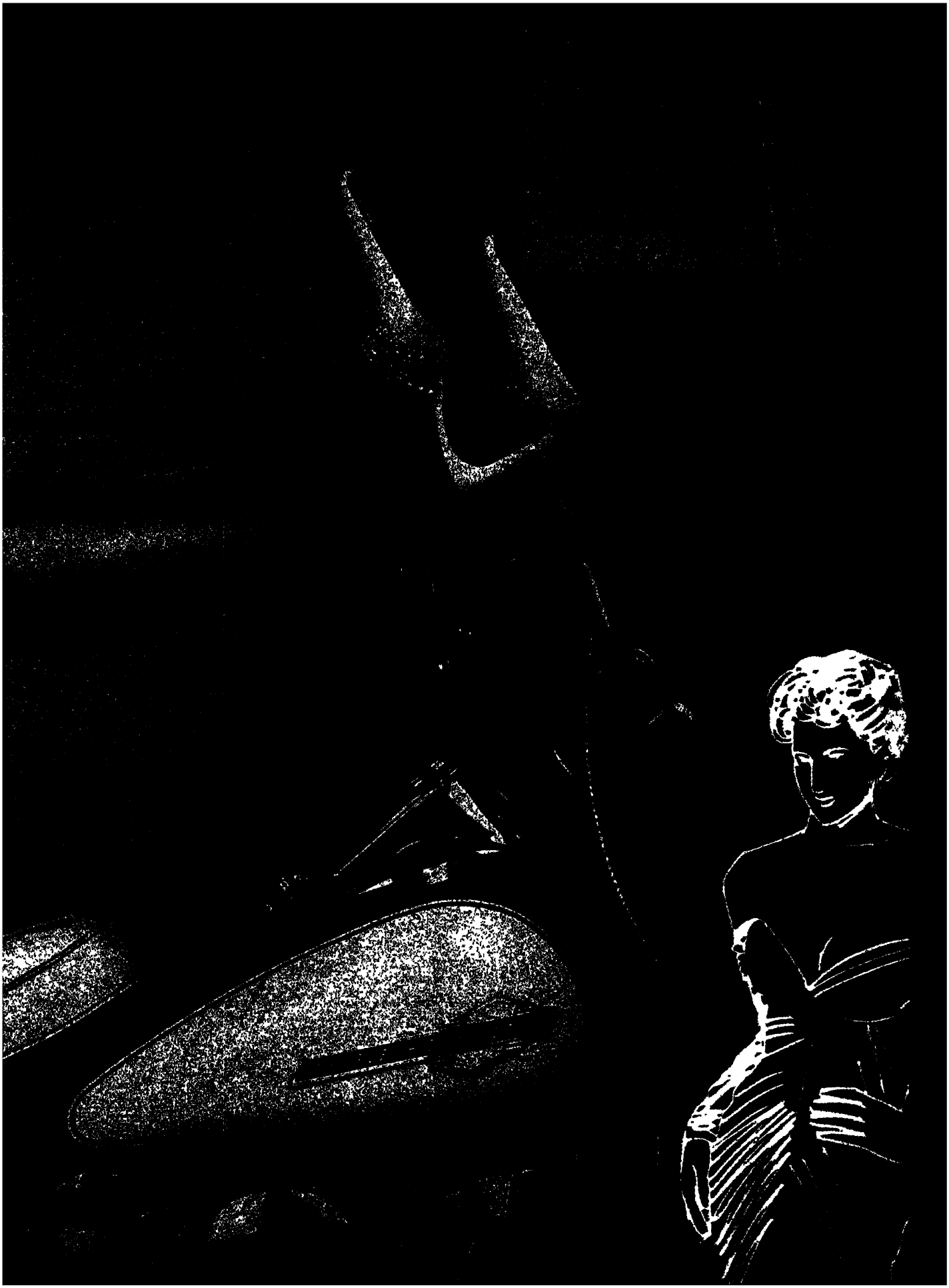




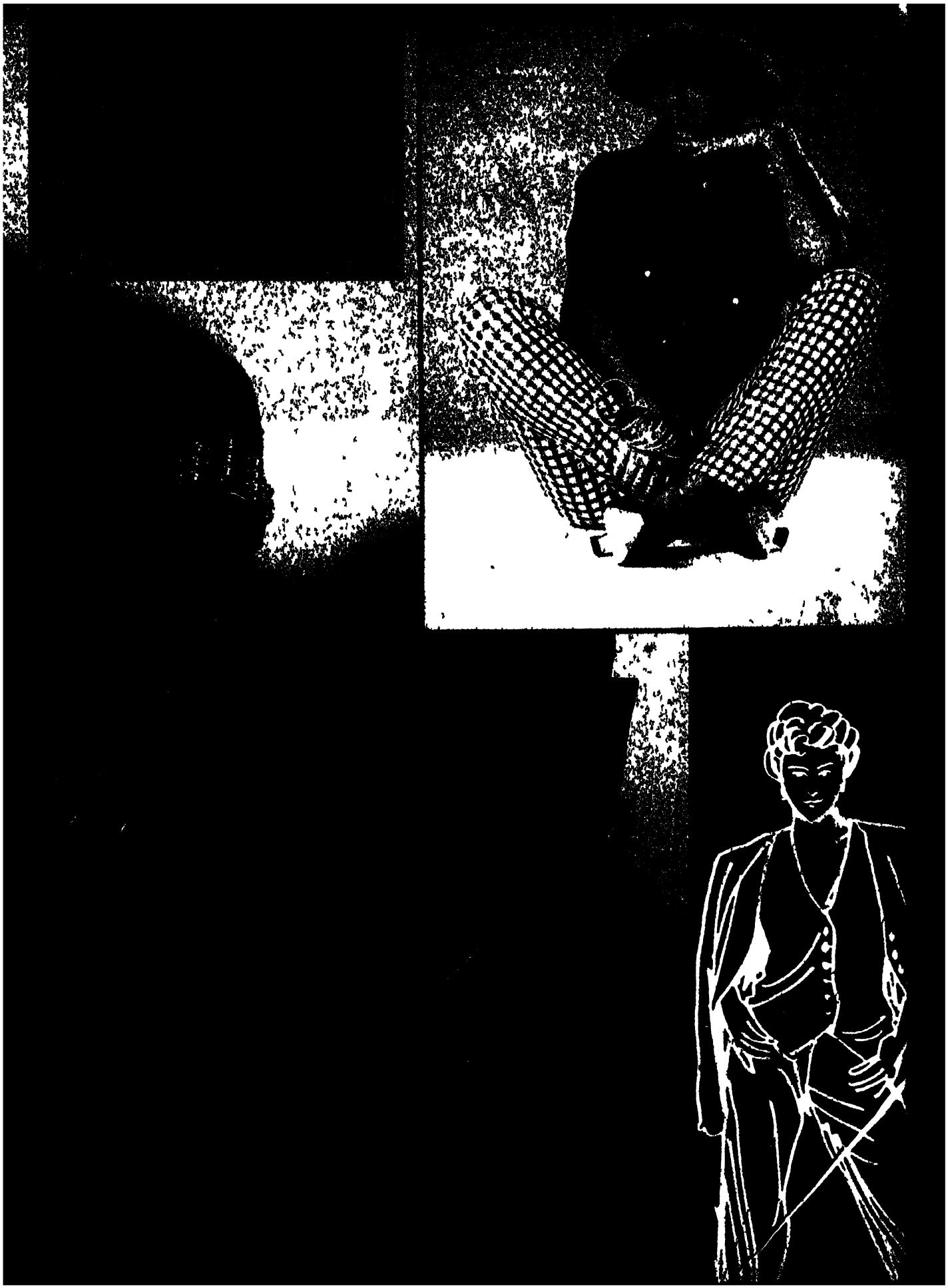
ON GROWING UP

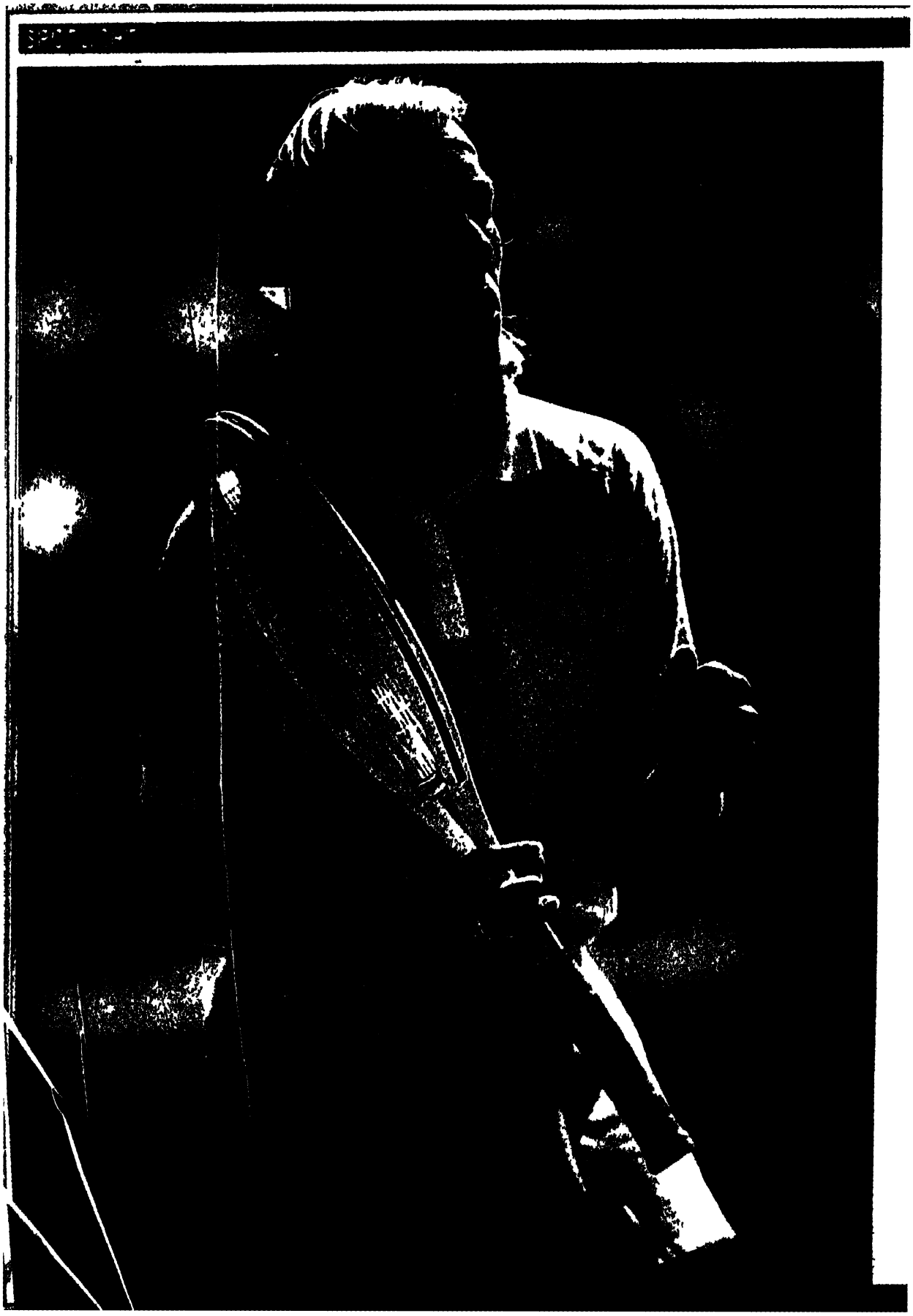
"Personally, I believe my childhood was pretty normal. As much as it could be. I did have to travel a lot to play in tournaments, but when I got home I would settle in on my homework, play with my Barbie dolls. I always took my tennis very seriously, but that, to me, was normal. I always knew I was going to be very good. But I never thought one day I would be No. 1, [illegible] at Wimbledon? I [illegible] I just knew where it was."











MARTINA WINS A RECORD 158th TITLE

The Lady Is The Best

OKAY, you read it here first.

The greatest ladies tennis player, ever, is *not* Helen Wills or Suzanne or Margaret or Billie Jean or Chris or Steffi or Monica. To be fair, they are close—what we call 'arguably' the best. Which means, of course, they aren't.

Which means, of course, the greatest is Martina Navratilova. And Her Eminence is truly a first-class, first-rate, tip-top, top-notch champion. She has taken the cake, stolen the show, busted the charts, lead the dance, outdistanced, outplayed and outclassed everyone. And note, all this is 'unarguably' so. The bottom line, the end of argument, fullstop. If you don't like it, play squash.

A fortnight ago, she won the Virginia Slims of Chicago, and to be cool, it was *only just* the 12th time she has won that tournament. Only just, huh! Yup, and it was also, only just her 158th career title, which finally, pushed Chris with 157, forever off the leader's spot. No-one, male or female, human or alien, has won more tournaments than this 35-year-old with scarred, scraped knees and grandma specs. And if she required, not that she really did, a final reason for her 'unarguable' greatness, then this was it.

Martina's first title was in 1973, when she beat Renata Tomanova 6-2, 6-1 in Pilsen,Czechoslovakia, and it was a time when George Foreman was on his way up to becoming heavyweight boxing champion, and Richard Nixon was on his way down to becoming ex-President. Nine boxing champions and four U.S. Presidents later, she's still there. Still winning. A standing ovation would do nicely.

She holds the record for the longest singles winning streak—74 matches; she holds it in doubles too—109 matches; she's second in the grand slam singles titles won list, with 18 to Margaret Court's 24; and she has the best annual win-loss average ever, winning 86 matches in 1983 and only losing one.

Beyond the statistics and the talent and the $ 17 million in prize money is also a remarkable person, who has suffered repeated taunts for her homosexuality and veined muscles, yet has offered in return only grace, courage and composure. Few athletes, in any sport, have supported charitable groups and done such extensive work for the underprivileged, especially children, as she has.

Yet, for Martina acceptance has been tough to come by. "I always struggled for the public's attention", she said wistfully once. "I always wanted to be appreciated more than I was, but I was always the 'bad guy'. You know, this big girl who had all these big muscles—and that hurt".

Not anymore, for it is clear that in tennis today a superior role model to Martina is not to be found. Acceptance has finally come.

Every year she is riddled with doubt over her future—does she belong, can she exist, in this tennis world of oversized rackets and children? The Virginia Slims of Chicago was her seventh straight tour final, so tell me she's finished. As she said; "They don't tell a heart surgeon who's been operating for 30 years that he ought to retire. If the hands aren't shaking why should you stop."

Martina. Don't. Tennis still needs its greatest player.

Martina is a remarkable person, who has suffered repeated taunts for her homosexuality and veined muscles, yet has offered in return only grace, courage and composure

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

THE PETE SAMPRAS INTERVIEW



"I'm Not Too Crazy About Fame"

Jim Courier recently said, "Fame is something I don't need. I'm not an icon like Andre Agassi." Do you need and want fame?
I'm not too crazy about it. But I guess it's something that comes with the job we do. When you win a Grand Slam [event] like Jim and I have, I guess fame comes with it. It's something that you just have to deal with.

When you won your first pro title in Philadelphia two years ago, you said "I'm not playing for money. I'm playing for love of the game. And I think I'll keep playing for love of the game for 5 or 10 years." Now that you've won the U.S. Open and $9 million at the Grand Slam Cup, do you still feel that way?
I still feel that way very much so. You know, money is something, hopefully I won't have to worry about for the rest of my life. I just really enjoy competing and playing the game, and I always have. If you just concentrate on your matches and winning titles, the money will take care of itself.

So, unlike Agassi, who has felt conflicted, "I've finally started to view competition as a challenge instead of an inconvenience," you don't view competition as an inconvenience?
I see competition as the guy on the other side of the net trying to take the food off your plate. He's trying to win and make a living. So, I kind of like it. It's a good competition. And when you win and you get through that tough match, it makes it even that much better.

Jim never predicted that the No. 1 ranking would change hands often in 1995. Does it look that way to you?
Well, Courier is now No. 1. I'm 4. In the next three or four months, as far as the [illegible] ranking points are concerned, I really don't have too much to defend. I'm defending a lot of points this year. He was injured a lot [illegible] Australian Open last year. Anything can really happen. I'm going to try to get No. 1, but it doesn't mean I'll succeed. It's just a matter of my playing healthy and being more consistent with my results. It's certainly within reach for me.

[illegible] with Pakistani [illegible], and you've been a supporter of [illegible] Aitken. Are these your greatest off-court experiences?
[illegible] the president is not what everyone [illegible] Johnny Carson Show, [illegible] And being on the (U.S.) Open, I was on all times [illegible]

I'm not one who wants to be the center of attention. For example, being recognized as [illegible] ranks. People come up to you and [illegible] you when you really don't want to be bothered.





Wheaton: emulated Sampras by winning the Grand Slam Cup



Courier: fruitful becomes toughest rival

network) shows, which I don't think anyone else has ever done. It makes me feel pretty good.

What was the president like?

I thought it was going to be very organized [at the White House], and I'd see him like at 2:05 and we'd hit the ball at 2:10 and we'd be done at 3. (Laughter) We spent the whole afternoon together. It was like it was his house, and we played like three sets of tennis for about 2 1/2 hours. Then we talked a little bit and Vice President Quayle came down. It was nicer than I expected. President Bush is very down-to-earth, and I really enjoyed his company.

What is most difficult about dealing with sports stardom?

I guess, it's probably being recognized. I'm not one who wants to be the center of attention. For example, being recognized at restaurants. People come up to you and bother you when you really don't want to be bothered. That's the toughest thing. All sports people ask for autographs. People look over and start staring. It's a bit uncomfortable. After dealing with it for a year and a half, I'm more or less used to it.

Recently, in "International Tennis," you revealed: "Obviously I'm a big sports fan, but there's not really too much to my life besides tennis." Is that true?

Yeah. (Laughter) I enjoy playing golf. In my off time I'm in Florida and I'm usually training. I really don't have any other outside interests. I just play tennis. On these long (plane) flights I read a little bit. But I think I should definitely not watch as much TV and do some more reading. After the U.S. Open this year, I'm going to get my G.E.D., my high school diploma. I only went three years to high school and (then) dropped out. It's something I just want to do for myself.

Three years ago you remarked that tennis and romance don't mix. "I don't have time for a girlfriend. Girls just screw you up. They control you." Have you changed your mind?

Yeah. I was probably pretty immature then, and I never had a girlfriend. I actually really like having a girlfriend [now], especially on the tour. It really relaxes me, and when I'm off the court, you have someone to do some things with. I'm much happier when I'm with her, and we have a really good time together.

Your Davis Cup final [two singles losses] against [illegible] was about the toughest anyone can imagine, especially for a Davis Cup [illegible]. What did that experience teach you?

At the time I was playing [illegible] great tennis, and it just [illegible] can't take anything for granted going into the Davis Cup. It was a really tough situation for me. I had never played Davis Cup [illegible] and I came out against Leconte on Friday with the crowd and everything. I was really uneasy on the court. There were so many [illegible] many distractions, I didn't really [illegible] deserved it. They played really good and [illegible] anywhere near what I'm used to playing. It was [illegible]

You probably have the most [illegible] don't come to [illegible] be photographed. Tell us about [illegible]

My parents really didn't put [illegible] more concerned about me playing [illegible] feel like I have my life [illegible] concentrated about [illegible] parents like. Traveling [illegible]



After you won the $1 million at the Grand Slam Cup and were asked what you would buy, you replied, "Nothing special. I have everything I want." So you are apparently not materialistic. You don't need eight sportscars like Agassi or 15 islands off Tahiti like Björn Borg.

No, no! I've been one material kid though. I've got a Mitsubishi contract and they gave me a Mitsubishi 3000 GT car. I basically just spend money on what I need. I got a Toyota Pond runner. I just lead a pretty simple life. I don't need a big mansion with bathrooms like Lendl's. That's not me.

You've already helped a lot of needy people. You contributed $250,000 to the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, and you made a pro bono TV commercial for the American Red Cross. What do these worthy causes mean to you?

I've always wanted to donate some money to charity causes if I made it in this game. And now I'm in the position to do that. Doing the Red Cross commercial and donating the money to Cerebral Palsy on behalf of my father (Stefanos, a paraplegic suffering from the disease) was something I always wanted to do. It's a moral obligation, especially as a well-known person, to do things like a wheelchair tennis clinic in Newport Beach (California) with Arthur Ashe a few months ago. It's something I can do to help out. And it makes me very happy.

You were sharply criticized by Connors and Courier at the 1991 U.S. Open when you announced that you were "relieved" to lose because that took the tournament, the pressure of being the reigning champion, off your back. Later you said you were very disappointed. But you were very right in stressing that the whole tournament was a big relief. Was it the U.S. Open, rather than to be relieved about you?

I was disappointed last year was I wasn't playing very well at the beginning of the year and I was hurt. Everyone was talking about the U.S. Open and I was going to get Kevin with. You know, whatever happened at the Open. I played well in early '91, I just assumed that I would be [illegible] at the Open. But when I look back on it, at the way I was playing that summer and the way I was playing Courier, it was certainly a tournament I [illegible] about it. So when I look back on it, I probably [illegible] if it was a relief.

[illegible] Wimbledon because [illegible] this year and [illegible] tighten up your [illegible]

[illegible] for so long. I have [illegible] to shorten things up [illegible] faster and it might take a bad [illegible] grass is the toughest surface I've [illegible] Hard courts are [illegible] That's why I'm [illegible] and was a very good grass court [illegible]

SPORTING CALENDAR F

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
1 World Cup Cricket, Australia vs India (Brisbane); England vs Pakistan (Adelaide); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket 1st Test (Bangalore); Santosh Trophy Football Quarter-Finals (Coimbatore); DCM Shriram All-India Hockey Tournament (Kota); Asian Boxing Championships (Bangkok); Rumbelows Cup Football Semi-Finals (London); Ranji Trophy Quarter- Finals; National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**2** World Cup Cricket, Sri Lanka vs South Africa (Wellington); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket 1st Test (Bangalore); Santosh Trophy Football Quarter-Finals(Coimbatore); DCM Shriram All-India Hockey Tourn. (Kota); Ranji Trophy Quarter-Finals; Asian Junior Gymnastics(Delhi); Asian Boxing Championships (Bangkok); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna);	**3** World Cup Cricket, New Zealand vs England; Santosh Trophy Football Qtr. Finals(Coimbatore); DCM Shriram Hockey Tourn. (Kota); Ranji Trophy Quarter-Finals; Asian Junior Gymnastics(Delhi); Asian Boxing Chps. (Bangkok); Newsweek Cup Tennis(Indian Wells, USA); Virginia Slims Tennis Tourn.(Florida); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**4** [illegible] Tourn. [illegible] Asian Junior Gymnastics (Delhi); [illegible] (Bangkok); Newsweek Cup Tennis(Indian Wells, USA); Virginia Slims Tennis Tourn. (Florida); European Cup Championship Cup Semi-Final Series (3rd round); National 'A' Chess Tourn (Patna)
8 World Cup Cricket, Pakistan vs South Africa (Brisbane); New Zealand vs West Indies (Auckland); Santosh Trophy Final (Coimbatore); European Open Snooker (Rotterdam); Newsweek Cup Tennis (Indian Wells, USA); Virginia Slims Tennis (Florida); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**9** World Cup Cricket, England vs Sri Lanka (Ballarat); 14th Senior National Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Lipton Int. Players Chps. Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA); European Open Snooker (Rotterdam); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**10** World Cup Cricket, Zimbabwe vs South Africa (Canberra); West Indies vs India (Wellington); 14th Senior Natl. Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Lipton Int. Players Chps. Tennis (Key Biscayne USA); European Open Snooker (Rotterdam). National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**11** World Cup Cricket, Australia vs Pakistan (Perth D/N); India Youth vs New Zeland Youth Cricket, 3rd One-Dayer (Goa); 14th Senior Natl. Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Senior Open Athletics Chps. (Bombay); Lipton Int. Players Chps. Tennis, (Key Biscayne USA); All England Badminton Chps. (Wembley). National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna).
15 World Cup Cricket, India vs South Africa (Adelaide); Pakistan vs Sri Lanka (Perth); New Zealand vs England (Wellington); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket, 2nd Test (Bombay); 2nd All-India Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); Ranji Trophy Semi-Finals; International Equestrian Meet (Bhopal); Lipton International Players Chps. Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA). National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**16** Indian Open Tennis (Goa); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth, 2nd Test (Bombay), 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); National 'A' Chess Tournament (Patna); Lipton International Players Championships, Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA); Ranji Trophy Semi-Finals.	**17** Indian Open Tennis (Goa); 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); National 'A' Chess Tournament (Patna); Ranji Trophy Semi-Finals; Lipton International Players Championships Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA), German Open Squash (Cologne); World Chps. Snooker Preliminaries (Preston).	**18** World Cup Cricket, Australia vs West Indies (Melbourne D/N), England vs Zimbabwe (Albury, Australia), New Zealand vs Pakistan (Christchurch); Indian Open Tennis (Goa); 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); National 'A' Chess Tournament (Patna); Lipton International Players Tennis Chps. (Key Biscayne, USA); German Open Squash) (Cologne);
22 World Cup Cricket, 2nd Semi-Final (Sydney); Lipton International Players Tennis Chps (Key Biscayne, USA); German Open Squash (Cologne); European Cup Finals, Men and Woman, Table Tennis, 1st leg, Mexican Grand Prix, Motor Racing (Mexico City).	**23** US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); World Chps. Squash Prelims. (Preston).	**24** US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); Singapore Open Tennis, (Singapore); YMCA All-India Boxing Championships (Delhi); World Chps. Squash Prelims. (Preston).	**25** World Cup Cricket, Final (Melbourne); US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); Singapore Open Tennis, (Singapore); YMCA All-India Boxing Championships (Delhi); World Chps. Squash Prelims. (Preston);
29 Senior National Wrestling Championships (Bhilai); Ranji Trophy Final; All-India Inter-State Athletic Chps. (Trivandrum); Davis Cup, Europe Group 2nd Round; Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); YMCA All-India Boxing Chps. (Delhi);	**30** [illegible] Wrestling Chps.(Bhilai); Ranji Trophy Final; Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); World Championships Prelims. Snooker (Preston); YMCA All-India Boxing Chps. (Delhi); Florence Open Golf (Florence).	**31** [illegible]	

R MARCH '92

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
[illegible]	**6** Santosh Trophy, Semi-finals (Coimbatore); DCM Shriram Hockey Tourn. (Kota); World Masters Billiards Chps. (Goa); European Open Snooker (Rotterdam); Newsweek Cup Tennis (Indian Wells, USA); Virginia Slims Tennis Tourn. (Florida); 1st Masters Table Tennis Tourn. (Bharuch); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket, 2nd One-Dayer (Pune); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**7** World Cup Cricket, Australia vs Sri Lanka (Adelaide); India vs Zimbabwe (Hamilton); World Masters Billiards Chps. (Goa); DCM Shriram Open Hockey Tourn. (Kota); European Open Snooker (Rotterdam); Newsweek Cup Tennis (Indian Wells, USA); Virginia Slims Tennis Tourn. (Bharuch); 1st Masters Table Tennis (Bharuch); International Cross Country Chps. (San Vittore, Italy); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)
12 World Cup Cricket, England vs South Africa, (Melbourne D/N); New Zealand vs India (Dunedin); 14th Senior Natl. Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Senior Open Athletics Chps. (Bombay); Lipton Int. Players Chps Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA); All England Badminton Chps. (Wembley); 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**13** World Cup Cricket, West Indies vs Sri Lanka (Semi, Australia); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket, 2nd Test (Bombay); 14th Sr. Natl. Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Senior Open Athletics Chps. (Bombay); Lipton Int. Players Chps. Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA); All England Badminton Chps. (Wembley); National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)	**14** World Cup Cricket, Australia vs Zimbabwe (Hobart); India Youth vs New Zealand Youth Cricket, 2nd Test (Bombay); 14th Sr. Natl. Archery Chps. (Jamshedpur); Lipton Int. Players Chps., Tennis (Key Biscayne, USA); 2nd All-India Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); International Equestrian Meet (Bhopal); Ranji Trophy Semi-finals. National 'A' Chess Tourn. (Patna)
19 Indian Open Tennis (Goa); 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); Lipton International Players Tennis Chps. (Key Biscayne, USA); German Open Squash (Cologne); World Chps. Squash Prelims (Preston).	**20** Indian Open Tennis (Goa); 2nd All-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); Lipton International Players Tennis Chps. (Key Biscayne, USA); German Open Squash (Cologne); World Chps. Snooker Prelims (Preston).	**21** World Cup Cricket, 1st Semi-Final (Auckland); Indian Open Tennis (Goa); 2nd all-India Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Chps. (Delhi); Lipton International Players Tennis Chps. (Key Biscayne, USA); German Open Squash (Cologne); World Chps. Snooker Prelims (Preston); World Cross-Country Championships (Boston).
26 All-India Inter-State Athletics Championships (Trivandrum); YMCA All-India Boxing Chps. (Delhi); Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); EEC Weightlifting Championships (Rome); World Chps. Squash Prelims (Preston).	**27** All-India Inter-State Athletics Chps. (Trivandrum); YMCA All-India Boxing Chps. (Delhi); Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); World Chps. Squash Prelims. (Preston); Davis Cup World Group Tennis 2nd Round Matches.	**28** All-India Inter-State Athletics Chps. (Trivandrum); YMCA All-India Boxing Chps. (Delhi); Singapore Open Tennis (Singapore); US Hardcourt Tennis Women's Chps. (San Antonio); Davis Cup World Group Tennis. 2nd Round Matches; World Chps. Squash Prelims (Preston).

TELEVISION

Live telecast of India's matches in World Cup cricket on March 1, 4, 7, 10, 12 and 15. Also live telecast of Australia vs England on March 6, Australia vs West Indies, March 18.

Live telecast of World Cup semis on March 21 and 22 and final on March 25.

Live telecast of final of Santosh Trophy on March 8.

Live telecast of final of 2nd All India Lal Bahadur Shastri memorial hockey tournament at Delhi on March 21.

Live telecast of finals of national archery chps. on March 14.

Live telecast of World Masters Billiards at Goa. March 5-7.

RADIO

Running commentary on the national network of AIR on India's matches in the World Cup on March 1, 4, 7, 10, 12 and 15. Commentary of ABC to be broadcast.

Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Santosh trophy football chps.

Running commentary in Hindi and English on final of Shriram Hockey tournament at Kota on March 7.

Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Lal Bahadur Shastri memorial hockey tournament at Delhi.

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

BACK UP THE BONES

SOME weeks ago, we had dealt with backaches and given you broad guidelines on how to avoid them. In this instalment we are going to give you the rundown on how to avoid stress fractures and joint pains. Anyone who's had an attack of the above-mentioned types of aches will vouch that they are certainly the worst type of pains that could afflict an athlete or fitness enthusiast. This is because once someone is affected by these pains then he has to lay off his workout/sport for some time.



Bones are to an athlete and fitness enthusiast, what steel girders and bars are to a towering building: a powerful structure that supports the inner workings and even the outer facade.

No matter how muscular and toned your body looks, if the bones are porous and brittle, or if the stresses are nonaligned, your entire system is susceptible to damage or should we say, collapse. Such a breakdown is usually the result of stress fractures, broken bones and inflamed joints.

Couch potatoes run a specially high risk of developing a weak bone structure, but if you are a fitness freak it does not mean that you can avoid these health maladies totally.

Runners and basketball players, for example, are susceptible to stress fractures, specially if they overstrain, wear improper gear or do not put enough calcium into their diet. Weight trainers, on the other hand, suffer from joint pains and inflammation of the joints after lifting barbells loaded with heavy weights. Fitness enthusiasts into weight training should also look out for exercises that force the joints to work at unnatural angles. Dumbbell flyes, lateral and front raises with elbows locked, leg extensions with excessive resistance in the beginning of the movement, and bar curls on machine or preacher bench, all fall into this category.

Posture is all important if you want to keep injuries at bay

What is most important when you're feeling the pain is to know and find out what's at the root of it. That is perhaps the only way you can avoid serious injury and at the same time keep your fitness trip on the right road.

Many people who are into running and jogging must, at some time or the other, have experienced these pains that affect the outside of the knee

cap, which come and go without any rhyme or reason. This on-the-move pain is the sure indication that the shoes you are running in have long passed their prime. Compression and wear on the shoes can cause pain in the outer edges of your lower limb joints. This soreness virtually migrates from joint to joint, crisscrossing the body and sometimes even affecting the hips (one side at a time), the back, shoulders and even one side of the neck.

When a joint is in pain, the natural thing to do is to relieve it of some of its weight. But in doing this, the other joints and body parts have to cope with extra pressure and that certainly is not the best solution. This is what leads to the notorious migration-of-pain syndrome.

Provided that the pain is minor, the best way to relieve that would be to stop running and concentrate on weight training so that the body has its share of exercise. In the mean-time, invest in a new pair of shoes. After a couple of weeks (sooner, if you think you can manage), try slow walking, and continue this routine for another week or so. Then try brisk walking, and begin to add a few minutes of jogging to the regimen till you return to your previous schedule.

While this wandering joint pain is certainly nothing to laugh about, it is by no means close to the pain and discomfort that accompanies a stress fracture. This condition begins with a dull ache in the shin and grows continually worse each time you run.



Stay away from jogging at least for a couple of weeks if you're injured

During the workout you'll hardly notice the pain, but once you end your jog for the day you'll realise that you are finding it hard to walk and in some cases even difficult to stand.

Sounds familiar? You can try your condition by putting the weight of the body on the affected leg. If the pain gets worse when you stop applying pressure, there's a good chance that you are suffering from a stress fracture. But be sure to see a doc for confirmation of this. The unfortunate thing about this malady is that it does not even register on an X-ray, and does not show up until the crack begins to knit.

Once you develop a stress fracture, then you've got to keep off the road for atleast a week or two. You could probably lift weights and also add some nutritional supplements, vitamins and minerals to your diet. Calcium supplements will help the healing process a great deal.

Now don't get the impression that jogging or running does have an exclusive hold on joint stress. Training improperly with weights or with poor equipment could lead to injury as well.

For example, there's also an injury risk inherent in leverage exercises, such as front and lateral raises done with dumbells. Done properly, these exercises are a great way to enhance shoulder development. As you increase resistance, your deltoid size and strength will continue to grow. Eventually, however, the delts will become so strong that the poundage it takes to get them pumped up will overwhelm your elbow joint. The danger signal in this case is to watch out for pain or discomfort in the pit of your elbow near the attachment of the biceps. With each workout the pain gets a little more severe, until you're forced to give up these deltoid blasting exercises. Hey, don't start screaming... you can take it up after you give those joints some time to heal and recuperate.

Time, they say, is the greatest healer of all wounds. So you've just got to lay off any exercise that puts stress on the affected joints. This could take a couple of weeks or months in some cases (fortunately very rare).

And once you're back to the weights after this layoff, modify your exercise patterns. Try exercises that will put a little less stress on the joints. By following these easy guidelines you'll not only keep injuries and aches at bay, you'll find exercising a whole lot more pleasurable. ●

The Health Column

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who has hit the maximum number of sixes in a Test innings?
2. Which former Union Minister has captained his university team in football, cricket, hockey and athletics?
3. Name the four Indian players who were dismissed for zero consecutively in a Test?
4. The father of this famous English cricketer was a planter in the Mysore state. Who was the cricketer?
5. Who was the first president of the BCCI?
6. He made 98 of his 197 centuries after he had passed his 40th birthday. Who is he?
7. Who has won the most number of individual gold medals in the modern Olympic Games?
8. How many competitors can a country send in each weight division, in Olympic boxing?
9. How many world records were set in swimming at the Montreal Olympics?
10. Name the only runner who has qualified till date for the finals of the same event in four consecutive Olympics?
11. What 'first' was achieved by the U.S. athlete William de Hart Hubbard in the 1924 Olympics?
12. Olga Korbut was the most popular gymnast in 1972, however, the gold medal in the women's individual combined exercises was won by another Russian. Who was she?
13. Who is the only male gymnast to have won eight medals in a single Olympics, that is, a medal in every gymnastic event?
14. Which is the only instance of a tie for the gold medal in the swimming events at the Olympics?
15. What is the claim to Olympic fame of John Kelly, father of the late princess Grace of Monaco?

ANSWERS

1. Walter Hammond of England hit 10 sixes in his unbeaten knock of 336 against New Zealand at Auckland in 1932-33.
2. Biju Patnaik.
3. P. Roy, D.K. Gaekwad, M.K. Mantri and V.L. Manjrekar were dismissed for no run on the board in the second innings against England at Leeds in 1952.
4. Colin Cowdrey.
5. The late Mr. R.E. Grant-Govan.
6. Jack Hobbs.
7. Raymond C. Ewry of the U.S.A. (10 gold medals).
8. Only one.
9. Twenty six.
10. Pietro Mennea of Italy who made it to the finals of the 200m in 1972, '76, '80 and '84.
11. He became the first Black athlete to win an individual Olympic gold medal in the long jump.
12. Lyudmila Tourischeva.
13. Aleksandr Dityatin in 1960. He won three golds, four silvers and one bronze.
14. Nancy Hogshead and Carrie Steinseifer of the U.S.A. were jointly awarded the gold medal in the women's 100m freestyle in 1984.
15. He won three rowing golds in the [illegible] Games.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

MS. POONAM SINGH
RK1-43, P.E. COLONY,
DIST. DHANBAD
PIN-828 123

All answers sent in by [illegible]

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THE Instructors' Camp, held at the Kyokushinkaikan HQ in Calcutta from 17 to 26 February, saw 37 senior karatekas from all over the country perfecting their skill. Of the 37—which included two ladies—10 were black belts, eight of whom appeared for the Instructors' Test. Another 21 sat for the Junior Instructors' Test.

This was an excellent opportunity for all the participants to brush up on their *kihons* and *idokihons* (basics and movements), *katas* as well as *kumite* (combat) and self-defence techniques. These appearing for the Instructors' Test also trained in judging of *kumite*, anatomy, conduct of classes and speed-coordination tests.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



The participants of the camp pose for a group photograph and train together



Interesting snippets from the world media that we don't get to hear about...

SPORTING TRIVIA

GOLF ON ICE

BORED with golf and night golf? If you are here s good news for you espec ially for those who miss their weekend game because of snow

The latest variation of the game is 'ice golfing' played on two nine-hole courses on an ice covered patch of ground or water The roughs are two feet snowdrifts and the first course has come up in suburban Chicago

Keep the ball low, straight and bounce it off everything," advises Brian Turner, champion of the Chili Open which is played at the course in Chicago 'This is really nothing like real golf, if you have the right strategy, you don't need a lot of ability

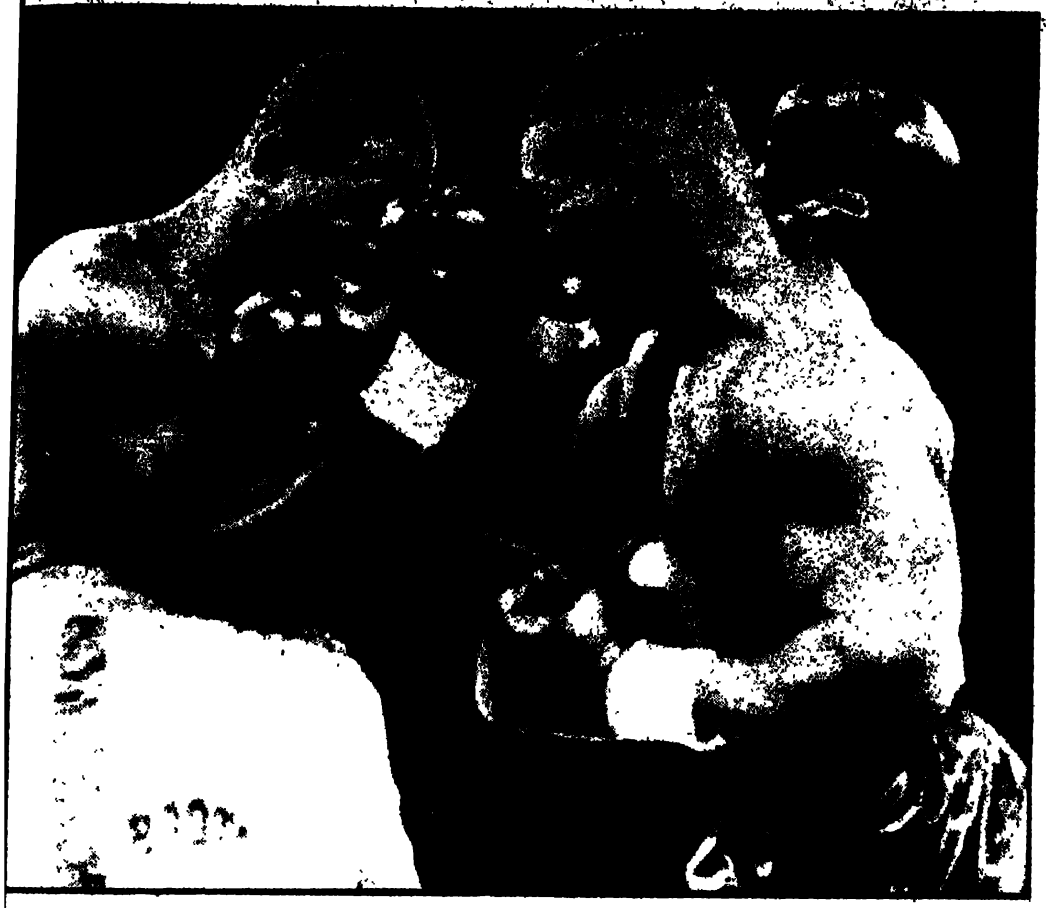
Most scores are more than 200 for nine holes

HOLYFIELD KNOCKED OUT

HEAVYWEIGHT boxing champion Evander Holyfield was

Evander Holyfield punched up by a pint-sized assailant !





'Razor' Ruddock (left) was the only boxer to have taken Mike Tyson the distance, but now, nobody wants to fight him

stung repeatedly by a pint-sized assailant during a visit to the club where he learnt to box. On his arrival at the Atlanta Boy's Club he offered to spar with some teenagers. Ebo Elder, a 13-year-old state champion, went after Holyfield with a fury.

"I didn't think much of him," said the 4' 11" Elder. "No defense and he doesn't punch hard."

About time Holyfield took some tips from this pint-sized boxer!

"MOTHER OF ALL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS"

SADDAM HUSSEIN'S favourite football tournament is here to stay. The "Mother of all Battles Championship" introduced by the Iraqi leader in September, will be an annual reminder of the Gulf War, which incidentally they lost!

His eldest son, Uday, says his father is also considering building a new 150,000-seat football stadium in Baghdad. Knowing him he would most probably call it the "Mother of all stadiums."

RUDDOCK FRUSTRATED

WHO'S afraid of Razor Ruddock? Everybody. That's the word from Ruddock's attorney David Slutsker, who said. "The key word in getting fights in the post-Tyson era is frustration. No one wants to fight Razor".

Saddam Hussein



After watching Holyfield barely survive against Bert Cooper, who could doubt that Ruddock— who twice gave Tyson all he could handle—is the second best heavyweight fighter in the world.

"We are very frustrated by the way this sport operates," Slutsker said. "This is the only sport where champions don't have to face the top opponents in deciding championships."

There is hope for boxing fans because a shakeup of the heavyweight division should happen this year after Tyson's future is determined.

FOOLED YOU!

NOW that the Winter Olympics are over, it is time to switch attention to the Summer Games in Barcelona. There is trouble in that area and this time it is natural.

Earth tremors in Catalonia a few weeks ago have seriously damaged the Olympic Stadium. The original Montjuic Stadium, built 63 years ago, suffered structural damage, and the Games opening ceremony may be switched to the Nou Camp football stadium, causing chaos with ticket sales.

But do we believe them? You see, the two-page report, complete with photographs, diagrams and quotes from engineers appeared in the newspaper, *El Mundo Deportivo*, on Spain's equivalent of April Fool's Day.....

THIS IS NO BULL

THERE is a new sport gaining popularity in Brazil called 'Footbull', and this is no printing error.

It is a sport in which two teams of 11 try to kick a ball into a goal. It is rather like another Brazilian game, except that there are two raging bulls on the pitch. The game is divided in quarters: a fresh pair of bulls are let loose four times a game.

'Dangerous', you ask? Very! ●

Needed: A permanent manager

THE less said about the Indian team's performance in Australia, the better. Except for a few individual performances there has been nothing to write home about.

One need not repeat that , as a team, it's performance was miserable There have been many reasons given for this debacle but one very important aspect that is overlooked, is the fact that we do not have a manager for more than one tour. Just as one manager is shaping up to his job he is removed and someone else appointed.

A person like Sunil Gavaskar would make an ideal manager because of the indepth knowledge he has about the game. He is one cricketer who is highly regarded by all the Indian cricketers and even the cricketers from other countries hold him in respect. Keeping in mind these facts, it would certainly do a world of good if he is appointed the manager. But he should be given the charge on a long term basis and should not be removed at the first sign of trouble.

The likes of Bobby Simpson and Intikhab Alam have proved beyond doubt that behind every good team is a good manager. The team always needs a manager who is a friend, philosopher and guide...and Gavaskar can fit into any of these roles easily.

And it would certainly be a very fitting gesture on part of the Board to honour this great cricketer.

D.J. MOHLA,
Bombay

Why blame the Board?

NEWSPAPERS and magazines all over the country have gone to town on Sunil Gavaskar's views about the dismal performance of Indi i in Australia.

But then all the reasons advanced by him are not right. His suggestion, for example, that the captain alone should have total say in the selection of the team seems to be born more out of anguish and frustration then reason itself. Cricket playing countries all over the world have adopted a certain mode of selection, keeping in mind the fact that the collective wisdom of the Board is better than the individual thinking of the captain.



Will Gavaskar take up the managerial position if he's given the offer?

Similarly his attack on the so-called manipulators of the game, after intially condemning the selectors itself, does not quite pass muster. By and large the members of the Board are fairly experienced in the administraiton of the game, and some of them are even proven cricketers. Once they select a committee by following the norms and conventions then it is up to the selection committee to deliver the goods. Why blame the manipulators?

What is even more amusing is the fact that the eminent commentators wait till the team chosen by the committee fails in the matches, to voice their opinion when it is amply clear from the first instance that the selection was not done on merit.

DR. C.S. CHAKRAPANI,
Nagpur.

What's happening down there?

THE series Down Under till date has been a disappointment for the lovers of the game in general and the Board in particular. It must be understood at this juncture that cricket no more remains a sport only, or a 'lord's game.' It now is a full fledged industry, and therefore our the dismal performance certainly requires an explanation from both the manager and the captain.

We in India always have this trait of not learning from our mistakes. Once the team returns from Australia everything will be forgotten and things will return to normal. Then when we set off on the next tour we find that we still miss that elusive winning formula.

It is time for the Board to really look at matters indepth and come up with concrete solutions. For example, if a player is out of form there is no reason why he should be kept in the squad. Players who have passed their prime should be rested and new players given a chance to prove themselves. Only if the Board takes some stern measures can Indian cricket be salvaged.

But still, one wonders if it's too late?

D.K. CHOUDHURY,
Howrah

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I, Bijit Kumar Basu, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief

1 March, 1992 — Publisher

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

IN a Holkar vs Bombay match at Bombay **Mar 4-9, 1945,** C.S. Nayudu playing for Holkar, conceded 428 runs, the highest number of runs conceded by a bowler in a cricket match.

THOUGH he set a new world record in weightlifting (bantamweight) with an aggregate of 700 lbs on **Mar 5, 1951** in the First Asian Games, New Delhi, the name of Mohammad Namdjon of Iran does not figure in the official records as he refused to be weighed after the event.

ON **Mar 6, 1983,** Christopher Massey of Australia attained a water skiing speed record of 143.08 mph on Hawkesbury River in New South Wales, Australia.

WEST INDIAN cricketer, Vivian Richards, who played in 121 Tests and scored 8539 runs, was born on **Mar 7, 1952** in Antigua West Indies.

ON **Mar 8, 1986,** Martina Navratilova became the highest paid sportswoman in the world when her official career earnings crossed $10 million.

DUE to overcrowding at the Brunden Park stadium in England with 70,000 spectators during a football match between Bolton Wonders and Stoke City, 33 persons were killed and 500 injured on **Mar 9, 1946.**

THE Indian ladies trio of Nanda Jadhav, Poonam Taneja and Leelamma won the bronze in the team event at the first Asian Athletic Cross Country Championship at Fukyoda, Japan, on **Mar 10, 1991.**

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES



Ice hockey is a game full of thrills and spills with a good measure of rough play. Here Gaetan Duchesne of the Minnesota North Stars goes for a ride over the Buffalo Sabres bench after being checked by the latter's right-winger Toni Tanti (left), during a NHL match, in Buffalo City, New York.

Oklahoma Tennis Tournament. She defeated Lori [illegible] 7-5, 5-3, 7-6 in the final.

[illegible] Seles captures the U.S. Pro Indoor Tennis [illegible] in Philadelphia, for the second [illegible] straight year. He served 21 aces to defeat [illegible] 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4), 2-6, 7-6 (7-2) in the [illegible]

INDORE

Nai Duniya Football

THE 11th Nai Duniya All India Football tournament held at the Nehru stadium was once again a case of so near and yet so far for the teams from Calcutta It was unfortunate that the tournament dates this year clashed with the prestigious Federation Cup at Calcutta This not only made the organisers unhappy but also resulted in the absence of teams like East Bengal Mohammedan Sporting JCT and Salgaocar

But the one team that made it to Indore was Aryans Club and their performance was not something to talk about They were beaten by Punjab Police 2 0 in the final

Ex international defender Gurdev Singh coach of Punjab Police was happy at the triumph of his young side but launched a severe tirade against the AIFF He said The AIFF had done injustice against us We should have participated in the Federation Cup as we are joint league champions with JCT and in the North Zone Police Games beat BSF 3 0 in the final Why was BSF chosen ahead of us or if three teams could be selected from Goa then why not three from Punjab?

Both the semi finals of the Nai Duniya tournament witnessed Bengal vs Punjab clashes Aryans with skilful midfielder Ramen Banik and impressive stoppers Arijit Bose and Sumit Saha prevailed over PSEB However Punjab Police ousted Eastern Railway Yet another Calcutta team Port Trust came last in Pool B of the quarter final league Dempo with India Under 23 years skipper Bruno Coutinho in their team failed to live up to expectations Their coach admitted that their performances this year were dismal At Indore they were the favourites for the title but came third in Group B with two draws and a loss The much vaunted SAI(Delhi) also faltered losing in the first round

The organisers, mostly college lecturers and media personnel were disappointed with the poor gate receipts However they felt satisfied that their purpose of promoting football was served

Gurdev Singh aptly said 'Youthful teams like PSEB and us badly need tournament practice as due to the AIFF restrictions of 12 teams we get few chances to play outside our home state

Ghaus Mohmmed

DR P K JAIN



Punjab Police captain Surjit Singh with the Nai Duniya trophy

NEW DELHI

Steel Cricket

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION (CWC) won the 7th Steel Cricket Trophy by defeating Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) by an innings and 17 runs in the final held at the Feroz Shah Kotla ground, Delhi

CWC wrapped up the final, requiring only 29 5 overs to send the ONGC batsmen packing. Left arm spinner Ajay Sharma (CWC)

took six wickets. He was awarded the 'Man of the Match' and 'Man of the Tournament' award for his all-round performance during the tournament.

In the semi finals, ONGC had trounced Haryana Colts by nine wickets, while in the other semi final CWC had beaten Services by 115 runs.

Rudolph Vance

Inter-University Judo

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI clinched the 5th All-India Inter-University Judo men's team title by winning four gold, one silver and two bronze medals after a gap of two years.

Aggregating 16 points, with the aid of two gold and two silver medals, University of Pune emerged runner-up. Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar, had to be content with the third position.

A total of 177 Judokas from 27 Universities participated in the eight categories. Judo is the latest inclusion in Inter-University competition and it seems to be gaining popularity every year.

RESULTS

BELOW 50 KGS: 1. Jadav Satish Prabhakar (Pune): 2. Gajanam Ram Das (PRKV, Akola); 3: Harjinder Singh (GNDU) and M. Deven (Manipur).

BELOW 55 KGS. 1. Suresh Kumar (Kurukshetra); 2. Dhodve Yogesh Kashinath (Pune); 3. Pradeep Joshi (Barkatullah) and Dharamveer (GNDU).

BELOW 60 KGS: 1. Korde Abhijit Shankar Rao (Pune); 2. Sushil Kumar (GNDU); 3. Parshant Verma (Delhi) and Shailesh (Bombay).

BELOW 65 KGS: 1. Vivek Bharti (Delhi); 2. Sakpat Anil Data Ram (Pune); 3. Manoj Kumar (Kurukshetra) and Suraj Bhan Singh (Jammu).

BELOW 71 KGS: 1. Devender Singh (Delhi); 2. Jashbir Singh (GNDU); 3. Pawan Solanki (Amravati) and Manoj Kumar (Punjab).

BELOW 78 KGS: 1. Yashwant Singh (MDU): 2 Pawan Tokas (Delhi); 3. Virender Dogra (Jammu) and Kapil Kaushal (GNDU)

BELOW 86 KGS: 1. Ashok Kumar (Delhi); 2. Hans Raj (MDU), 3. P.K. Karekar (Shivaji) and Balbir Singh (Kurukshetra).

OPEN WT. 1. Ashwani Kumar (Delhi); 2 R.B. Jadhav (Shivaji), 3. Sadanand Yadav (Bombay), and Yashveer Singh (Meerut)

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP WINNER: Delhi University 24 points; Runner-up. University of Pune 16 points; third place: Guru Nanak Dev University 9 points

Suresh Kumar Lau

MADRAS

National Triathlon

IF ANYTHING, the 2nd National Triathlon Championship comprehensively proved that this new sport is here to stay. Greater number of participants, keener competition and more professional organisation saw to it that the two-day meet conducted by the Tamil Nadu Triathlon Association (TTA) was a success. As N. Ramachandran, president, TTA told *Sportsworld*, on the eve of the meet,"we learnt from the mistakes we committed last year when we had teething problems. This year everything will be more *pucca*."

When the first nationals were held at Madras, a year ago, there were 170 entries. This year the number of participants had swelled to 275 from 16 state units besides those from Union Territories and military and para military units like Border Security Force, CRPF, Central Industrial Security Force, the Coast Guard and MEG

If the competitors last year had some difficulty in overcoming the physical complexities of the sport—which combines running, swimming and cycling—this year they proved that they had come to grips with triathlon. No matter that the course was made stiffer with even the sub-juniors and juniors having to swim in the sea compared to last year when they

The University of Delhi men's team which won the All-India Inter-University Judo championship



enjoyed the relative comfort of the Anna Swimming Pool at the Marina. However, the Coast Guards were on hand to ensure the safety of all the competitors.

The opening day of the weekend meet—when only the sub-junior events were held—belonged to 13-year-old Kokila B.J. Shetty. The sprightly lass from Karnataka made it a start to finish affair right from the energetic plunge into the sea. She completed the 0.5 km swim in 12 minutes, 11.93 sec. Hopping quickly onto the cycle, she pedalled furiously over the six-km distance in 14 minutes, 37.07 sec and then ran the two kilometres in seven minutes, five seconds to finish well in front of the rest of the field.

In the sub-junior boys event, Peter Hakim of Maharashtra and Rahul Ramachandran of Tamil Nadu were declared joint winners after a technical committee ruling. After viewing the video recording of the race, the committee upheld the protest lodged by Karnataka that Hakim had gained support from friends to pace his strides during running. Video clippings, said the officials, clearly showed the violation of the rule. The Maharashtra coach and team officials accepted the mistake. But on an appeal by the former that a lenient view be taken in the interest of an upcoming boy, as also the sport of triathlon, a penalty of a few seconds was added to Hakim's timing. As a result the timings of the two boys were identical and both Hakim and Rahul were declared joint winners.

On the second day, S. Karunakaran of Tamil Nadu, the holder and hot favourite, justified his high rating by keeping his title. The 22-year-old Madras Port Trust employee started badly and at the end of the 1.5 km swimming event was sixth. He made up a lot of ground in the cycling event and maintaining good sped over the 40 km distance he established a clear lead over his immediate rival, Subash Nirmale of Services.

Karunakaran's stamina stood him in good stead in the running event and with good even strides he fluently covered the 10 km road race and completed the three-event gruelling course in two hours, 20 minutes, 41 seconds. Nirmale took the silver and Pradeep Rana of CRPF the bronze.

The women's event was dominated by Karnataka's V.T. Anusuya. In the absence of teammate and defending champion Farnaz Engineer, who was nursing an injury, Anusuya brushed aside all opposition and made it a start to finish affair returning a timing of two hours, 44 minutes, 44 seconds. Khushnaz Subedar of Maharashtra and Ilia Paul of Bengal were second and third respectively.

The junior boys title was taken by V. Rajaram of CRPF while C. Amudha of Tamil Nadu won the junior girls title.

Karnataka, Maharashtra and Border Security Force took the team titles in the various categories.

Partab Ramchand

HYDERABAD

Kingston Equestrian

THE Kingston Equestrian meet was sponsored by VST Industries and organised by the A.P. Riding Club. As part of the annual horse show organised by the A.P. Riding Club, this meet attracted Police teams from Mysore, Gujarat, Punjab, the Border Security Force, the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and the MP Police. There were local teams from the Hyderabad Race Club, National Police Academy, NCC, AP Mounted Police and the AP Riding Club themselves.

The meet gave the local riders an opportunity to compete against national and international riders who had come to take part in this event.

Ajmer Singh (BSF), who is an international class tent pegger and has represented India several times abroad, was the main attraction. There were over 90 horses and riders seen in action, spread over the whole day. In fact there were so many entries for the tent pegging events that elimination rounds were held a day earlier.

An excellent show was put up by the Punjab Police in the Team Tent Pegging. With a war cry they picked up the pegs accurately, though the BSF finished very close behind.

The Managing Director of VST Industries presents the Kingston Trophy to the Punjab Police team which won the team tent pegging championship



Ajmer Singh of the BSF never missed a single peg and his team was rather unlucky to finish second.

L. Ashli

CALCUTTA

Thums Up Cricket

FOR the second year running, Agarpara Mahajati Vidyapith emerged champions in the Thums Up East Zone meet. The North 24 Parganas school, which has produced quite a few junior level State cricketers, had it all too easy against Ram Krishna Mission, Narendrapur in this year's final played at the latter's ground.

In a rather one-sided final, Agarpara Mahajati made short work of a victory target of 106 in 30 overs, hitting up the runs in the 26th over with seven wickets to spare.

Ram Krishna Mission's final performance was some kind of an anti-climax, considering they had surprised last year's runners-up and former champions South Point by three wickets in the semi-final. Agarpara made the zonal final by virtue of defeating Midnapore's Vidyasagar Vidyapith at the Chinsurak DSA ground.

In the zonal final, RK Mission made 105 for eight in 30 overs with Santanu Banerjee top-scoring with 25 runs. Sibnath Samanta's unbeaten 35 and Rajarshi Bal's 29 were good enough for Agarpara to romp to a comfortable win after a jittery start.

Soumitra Bose

State Sports Award

SPORTS journalists Rupak Saha of Vernacular Daily *Ananda Bazar Patrika* and Shyam Sundar Ghosh of *The Statesman* have been conferred the "sports awards" by the State government for 1992. The annual awards are given in recognition of exceptional achievements, including promotion of sports in the State.



PAUL BRENNAN DAS

The others conferred sports awards this year are: Manik Banerjee (for mountaineering), Runa Bose and Mithu Mukherjee (women's cricket) Anita Sarkar (women's football), Kamal Bhandari and Gour Sarkar (bodybuilding) and Dr Purnendu Bose, Abdur Rashid, Sailendra Nath Sinha, Surendra Nath Sikdar, Dinesh Roy and Nihar Chatterjee as sports promoters.

S.B.

Merchants' Cup Badminton

INDO-JAPAN became the new champions of *The Telegraph* Merchants' Cup Badminton meet. In the final held at the Saturday Club, Indo-Japan, last year's runners-up, did one better by dethroning *The Telegraph* in a final showdown which finally turned out to be too easy for the winners.

Arindam Chakraborty, a well-known figure in the state's badminton circles, gave *The Telegraph* a flying start with a comprehensive 15-1, 15-3 victory over Indo-Japan's Satish Matta.

But Indo-Japan roared back with Suku Ranjan and Tapas Roy disposing of *The Telegraph's*



PAUL BRENNAN DAS

Indo-Japan, winners of the Merchants' Cup Badminton; (inset) runner-up, The Telegraph team

Bikash Banerjee and Subroto Banerjee 15-8, 15-8 in the first doubles.

The second doubles, the decider, was woefully one-sided with Indo-Japan's Sajjan Agarwal and Denu Raj handing a 15-4, 15-2 drubbing to *The Telegraph's* Asish Dasgupta and Asit Mukherjee

Both semi-final matches turned out to be one-sided affairs with Indo-Japan outplaying Multicon and holders *The Telegraph* cruising past Dunlop.

S.B.

SPORT SHORTS

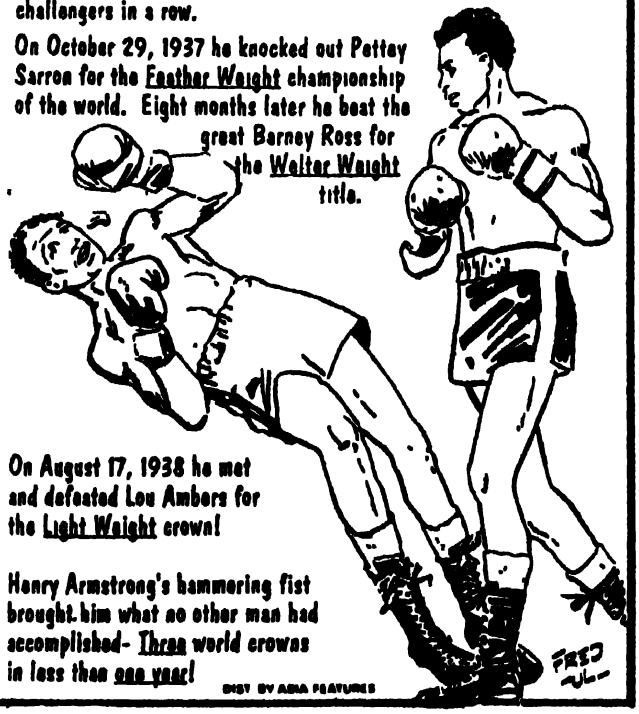
By Fred Hull

HENRY ARMSTRONG

THE CYCLONE WITH THREE CROWNS

Just under 21, fighting his first pro bout, Armstrong was an untiring human cyclone. He took on all comers, KO'ing 27 challengers in a row.

On October 29, 1937 he knocked out Pattey Sarron for the Feather Weight championship of the world. Eight months later he beat the great Barney Ross for the Welter Weight title.



On August 17, 1938 he met and defeated Lou Ambers for the Light Weight crown!

Henry Armstrong's hammering fist brought him what no other man had accomplished- Three world crowns in less than one year!

DIST BY ASIA FEATURES

PAVVO NURMI *"THE FLYING FINN"*

Pavvo trained by chasing streetcars in his home town of Abo, Finland, always with a stopwatch in hand to time himself.

Beaten in his first Olympic event (1920) because he ran against the watch, he learned to run against his opponents!- AND RUN HE DID! In his next race (the 10,000 meter run) he beat the field.

In 1925 headlines proclaimed his shattering world record time of 4:10.4 for the mile. In the '24 Olympics, he shocked the world by winning the 1,500 and 5,000 meter races on the same day and two days later winning the 10,000 meter steeplechase on a day so hot that two-thirds of the field quit!

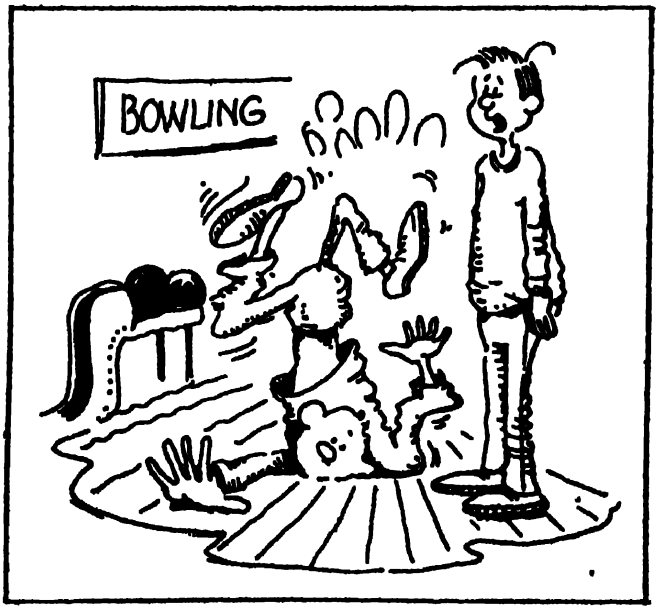
A year later the U.S. invited the "Flying Finn" to race against the pick of the world runners. He broke world records in his first three races! In his 24 day visit he never lost a race, establishing 16 new world records and 38 track records.

He is a running legend!

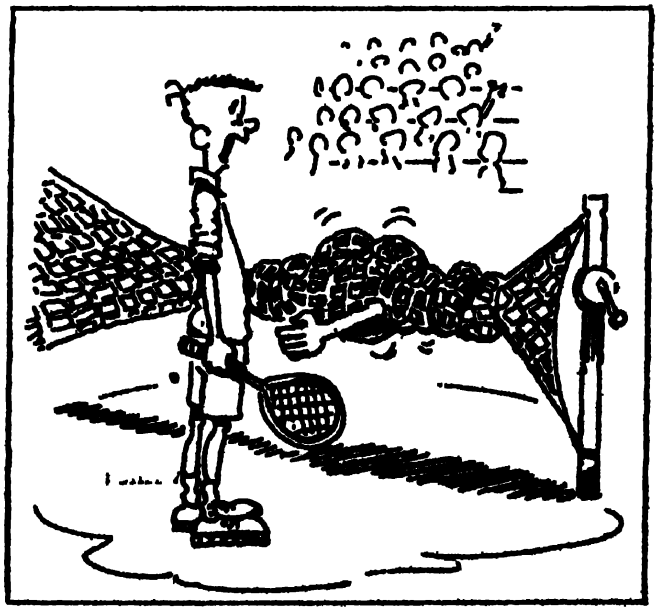


Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"Is that body English or did you trip?"



"Jumping the net to shake hands is not mandatory."

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the first Englishman to score four Test centuries in an English summer?
2. Which famous wicketkeeper picked up the cruel nickname of "Iron Gloves" early in his Test career because there were times when he failed to hold on to vital catches?
3. Which England spinner was killed while serving as an army captain in Sicily?
4. Who scored a century against England in the Centenary Test at Lord's in 1980? What was so special about the century?
5. Who became the first player to score centuries in four consecutive Test innings?
6. What is common to Kapil Dev, Bjorn Borg and Valene Brisco-Hooks?

ANSWERS

1. Herbert Sutcliffe
2. Rodney Marsh
3. Hedley Verity.
4. Kim Hughes (117). The century was spread over three rain interrupted days.
5. Jack Fingleton.
6. Each of them was born on the 6th day of the month, (Kapil Dev-6 1.1959, Borg-6 6.1956, V. Brisco-Hooks 6.7.1960).

CHESS

KASPAROV-KARPOV encounters always generate a special level of tension. Despite their preeminence, the Super Ks have not always managed to control their nerves. Quite often ridiculous blunders have happened. For example, here in their 157th encounter, the world champion had overpressed and in the diagrammed position Karpov could have wrapped up the point. In fact, most tournament players would fancy their winning chances with black against anyone, but see what happened.

White: Kasparov Vs Black: Karpov, Amsterdam '91. White to play.

46 Ra5 c1-Q 47 Bc1 Bc1 48 Ra6 Rd5 49 f6 g6. White is looking for cheapos like 49—gf6 50 d7!

50 g4 g5! Again black avoids the drawish 50-Kf7 51 g5 Bg5 52 Ng5 Rg5 53 Ra7 Kf6 54 d7!

51 Ra7 Bf4 52 f7 Bf7 53 d7 Kf8 54 Ng1! Rd2? The last try for Kasparov works Karpov in time trouble misses the trenchant 54—Be6 55 Nh3 Bd2.

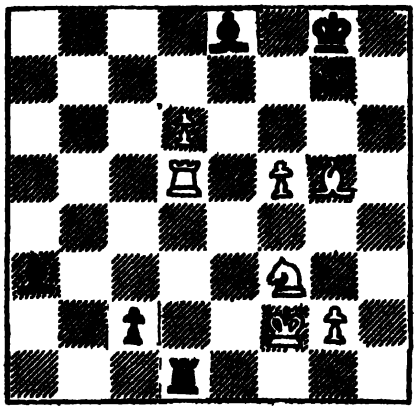
55 Ke1 Rd5? This finally throws away the win. Karpov still had 55—Be6 56 Nh3 Rd7 57 Nf4 gf4 58 Ra4 Rf7 when the f4 pawn triumphs. 56 Nh3 Rd2. Now the draw is certain. 56—Be6 57 Nf4 gf4 58 Ra4 loses the f-pawn and after 56—Be3 57 Ra8 Ke7 58 Ke2 Bc1 59 Rc8 kicks the bishop off the c1-h6 diagonal.

57 Ke2 Kg7 58 Ra2! Bc1. The rook is immune because of 58—Re5 59 Kd2 Ba2 when the pawn queens.K-K.

59 Rc2 Ba3 60 Ng5! Bg8 61 Rc7 Kg6 (1/2-1/2) The draw is obvious after 62 Rc8.

Devangshu Dutta

WHITE TO PLAY



BRIDGE

WEEK before last I had mentioned how I had got special pleasure from the fact that I managed to get the better of Archie's team in the Nagpur nationals in January after a long while (my HCL teammates had often beaten them but in Bombay when I wasn't around). However, Vinay Desai of Archie's managed to get the better of me on this deal from the Holkar Open Pairs elimination:

Dealer South — None vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ Q85
♥ A654
♦ K973
♣ 54

WEST
♠ 10743
♥ 8
♦ Q1084
♣ AQ92

EAST
♠ AJ
♥ J10973
♦ 652
♣ 763

SOUTH
♠ K962
♥ KQ2
♦ AJ
♣ KJ108

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 NT (15-17)	Pass	2♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT			

All Pass

I led a low diamond from the West seat, losing to the jack as East signalled an odd number of cards in the suit. At trick two, Vinay Desai, South, due to the paucity of entries to dummy, led the ten of clubs from hand—it might have been better for me to win and play back a diamond though declarer can still make, but in actual play I ducked.

Now Vinay changed tack, leading a spade to the queen and East's ace. Back came a heart to declarer's queen and a second low spade led to the eight and East's jack, South retaining all-round control. Winning the club return I played back a diamond to South's ace but on the king of hearts West, yet to discard, was squeezed:-

NORTH (dummy)
♠ 5
♥ A6
♦ K9
♣ —

WEST
♠ 107
♥ —
♦ Q10
♣ A9

EAST
♠ —
♥ 1097
♦ 6
♣ 8

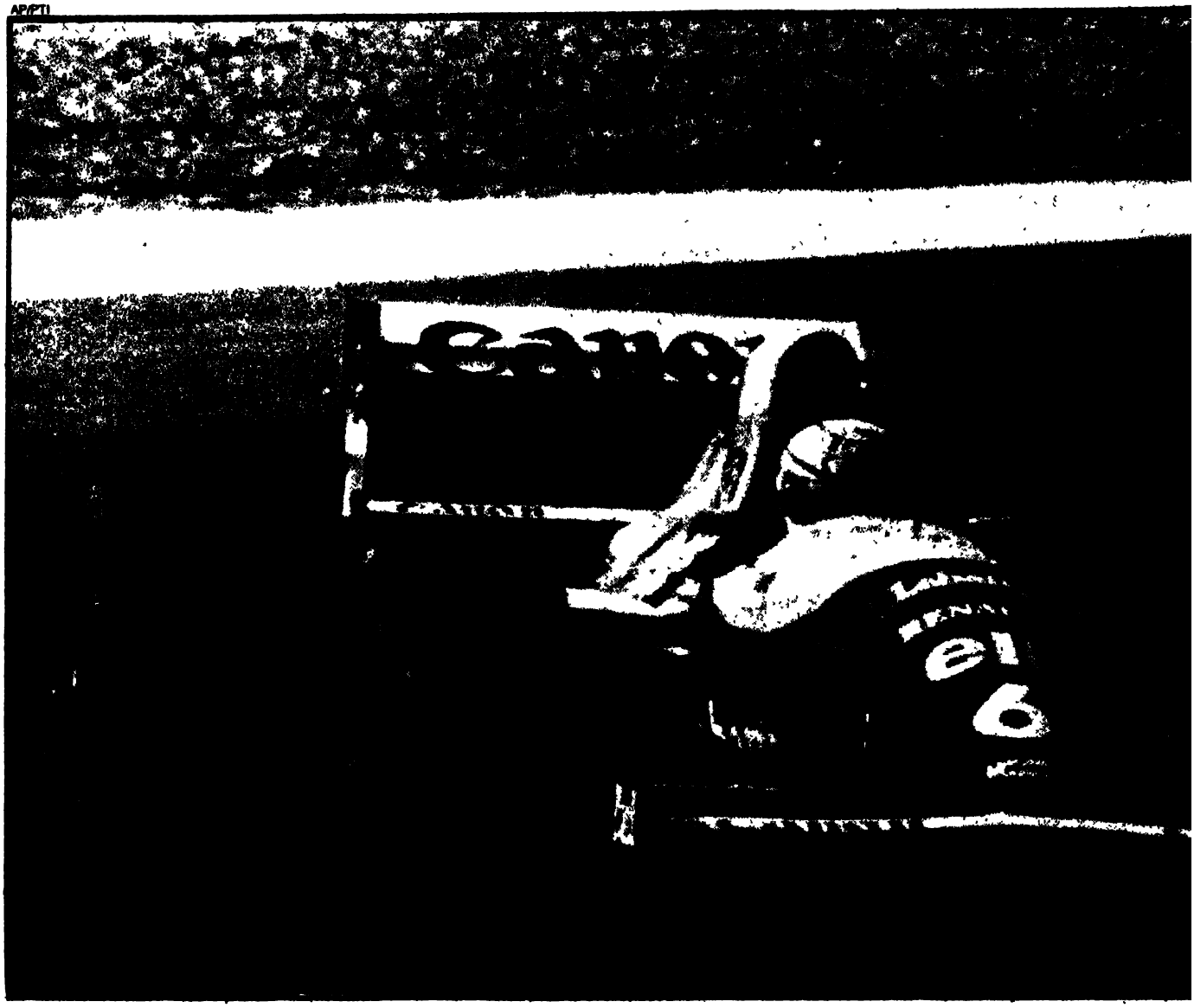
SOUTH
♠ K9
♥ 2
♦ —
♣ K8

With the heart entry to dummy, I could not throw a diamond, nor could I pitch a spade. The actual club discard South to fell my now-bare ace by playing a low club from hand to set up his king as the ninth trick.

Santanu Ghose

TRACKS ON

AP/PTI

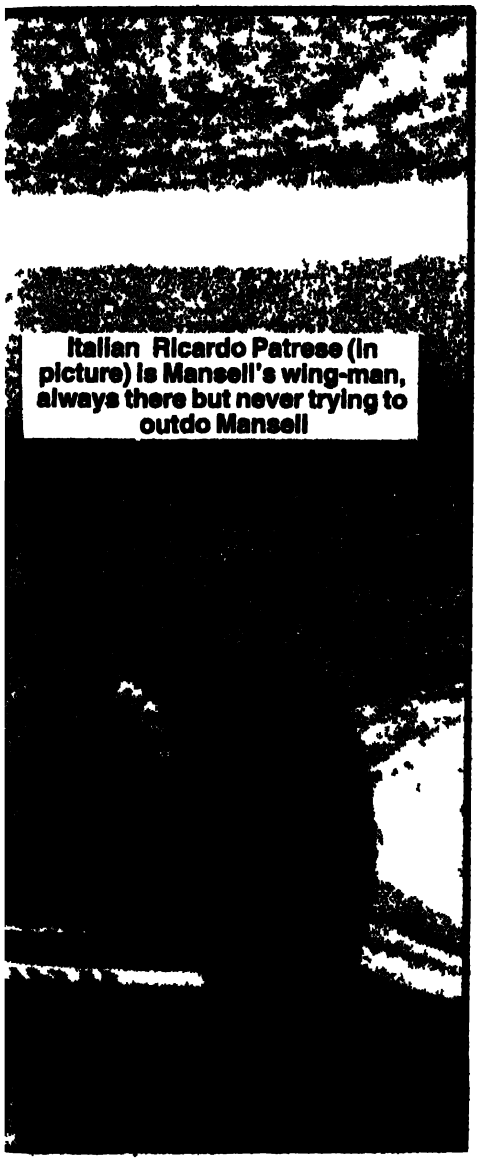


FORMULA ONE racing is a business which exerts an almost hypnotic level of commitment over those involved with it. It demands complete financial, technological and organisational devation. "More than anything, Grand Prix racing represents the ultimate motor racing challenge and continues to polish the image as probably the most colourful and spectacular of international professional sports," says Ken Tyrrell, whose team has been a part of the Formula One circus since

"Such close fights make up the essence of Formula One and that's what makes the sport so interesting for the watchers SENNA on his rivalry with Mansell

FIRE

The 1992 Formula One season is going to be fierce and competitive, like never before



Italian Ricardo Patrese (in picture) is Mansell's wing-man, always there but never trying to outdo Mansell

1961.

The year 1991, even though the script was hackneyed, has had its share of edge-of-the-seat excitement and the performers surpassed themselves. Despite the challenges posted to him by Alain Prost and Nigel Mansell, Ayrton Senna, won and became the world champion for the third time in the last four years

The highlight of the season was an intense on-circuit rivalry between Senna and Mansell The latter who faced a plethora of problems early on in the season emerged as the strongest challenger for Senna's throne in years and pushed him to the very edge Senna said, 'Such close fights make up the essence of Formula One and that's what makes the sport so interesting for the watchers

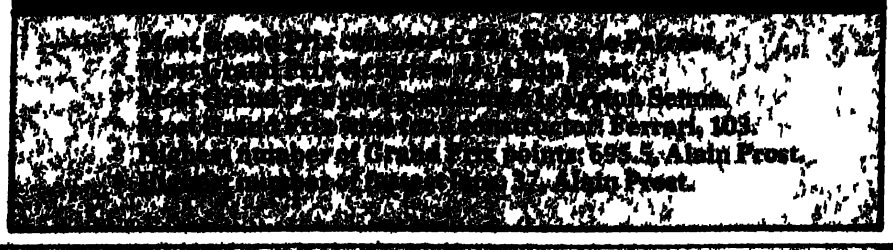
After two poor years at Ferrari, Mansell returned to Williams for one final fling at the title—an honour he twice came so agonisingly close to winning when last with the Oxfordshire team It happened once again, but Mansell, far from being disappointed is charged up for the upcoming season I'm more fuelled up than ever before I've had my share of headaches and disappointment but for 1992 I'm in my most positive frame of mind, said Mansell. 'The buzz is still there I've matured and I know now what it means to win the title I'm putting everything I've got into the 1992 season

But to win, Mansell would have to reckon with Senna Senna and McLaren once again proved that they are still the most efficient and professional outfit in Formula One. Senna said, 'I expect a much stronger challenge from Williams this year, and Ligier too. The new Renault V-10s are very powerful, almost as good as the new Hondas. So instead of drivers, the whole outfit will have to contribute to the championship And there, McLaren have an advantage because Ron Dennis runs a very tight ship

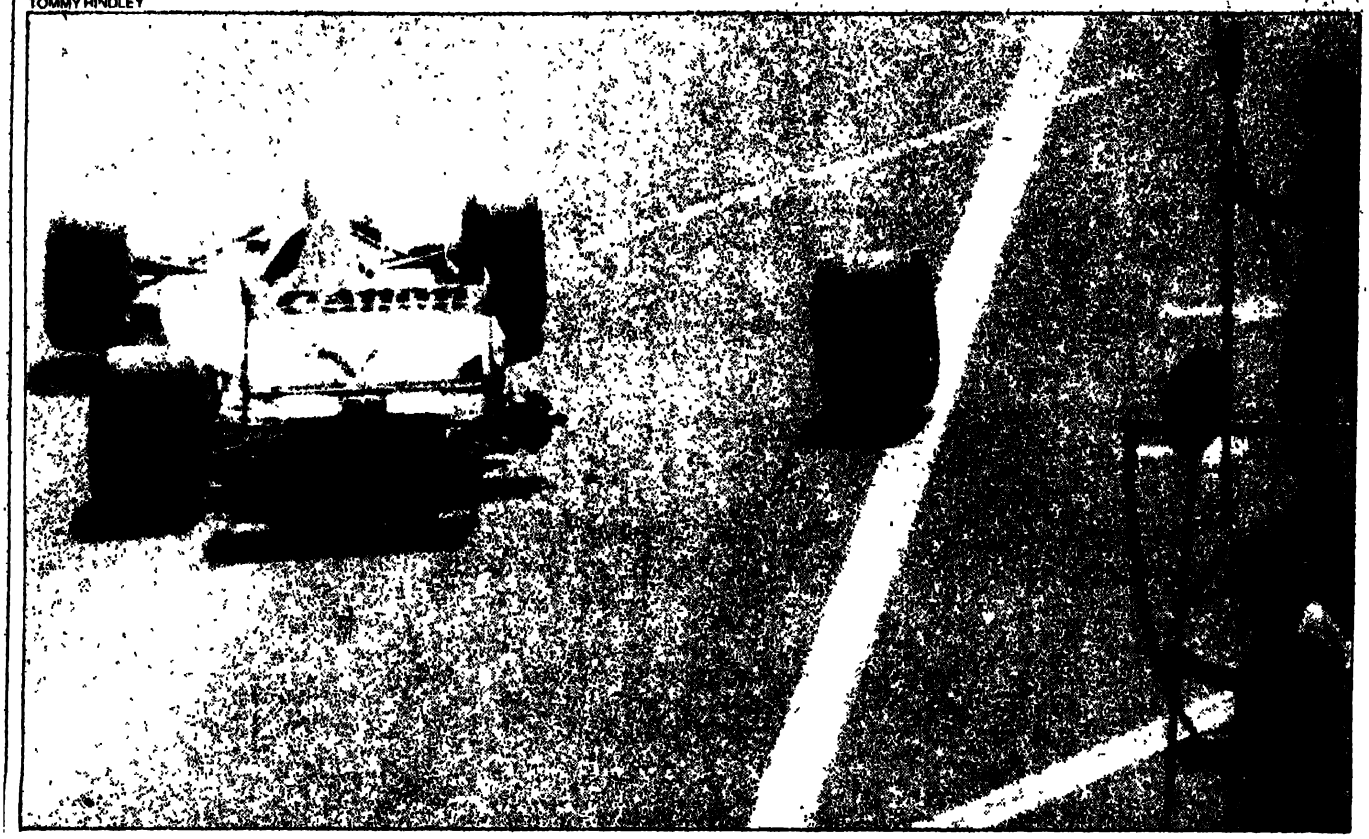
According to Dennis, "Since we are quite closely matched by both Renault and Ferrari in terms of power, I think the weight cuts, fuel and all other peripherals will make

"More than anything, Grand Prix racing represents the ultimate motor racing challenge and continues to polish the image as probably the most colourful and spectacular of international professional sports" KEN TYRRELL owner of team Tyrrell-Illmore

FORMULA ONE FAST FACTS



TOMMY HINDLEY



the winning difference".

The Ferrari outfit on the other hand is desperately trying to forget the disappointments of the last season, but John Watson, a former McLaren driver said, "As far as I am concerned, Ferrari have problems, big ones at that. I don't forsee any major impact from that team on this year's championship." The Ferrari management, however, feel otherwise and is pretty optimistic about its all new red racing car, codenamed 'F92A'.

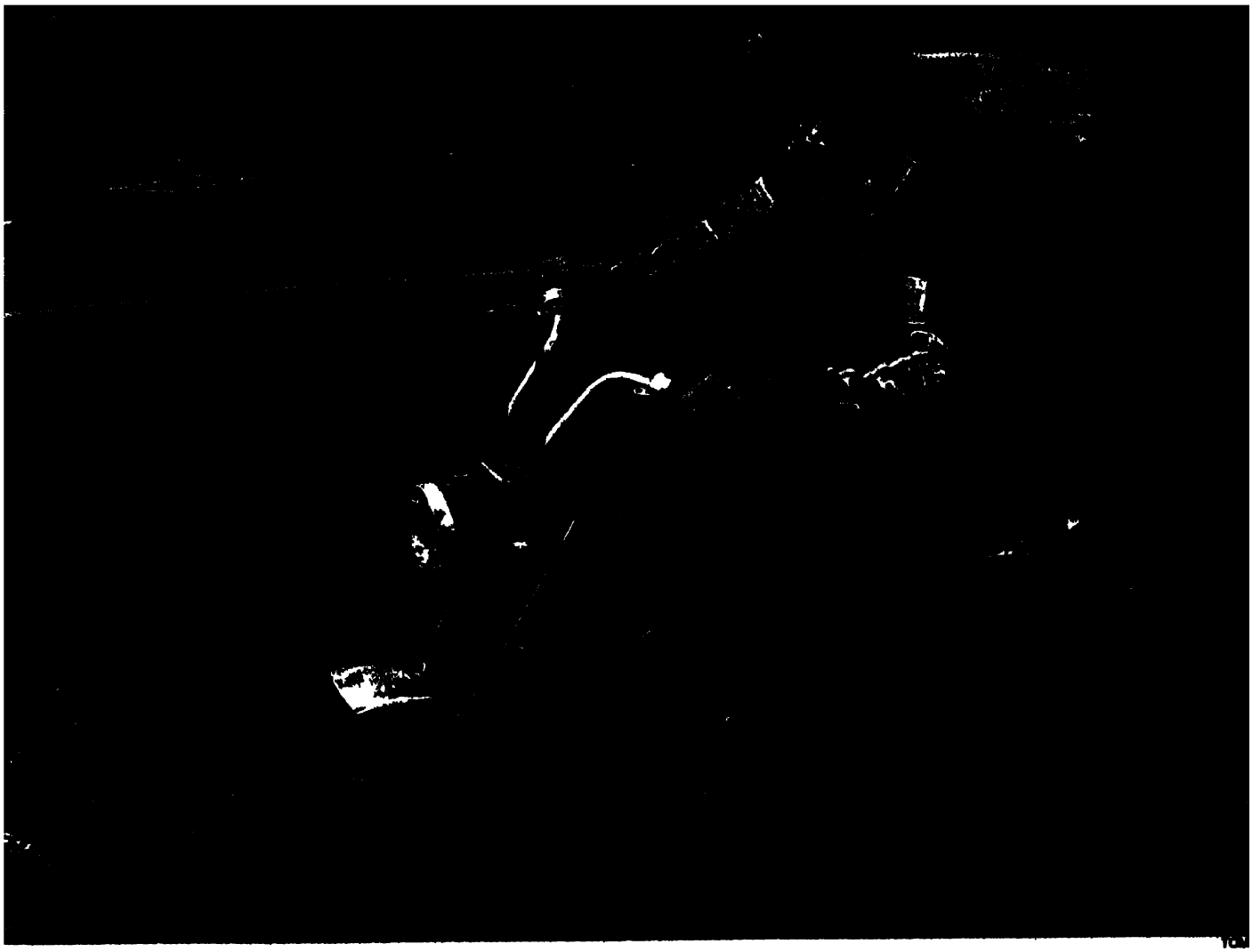
Nigel Mansell's wheel comes off in the pit lane at the Spanish GP, '91. Mistakes like this should not happen this year if Mansell wants a shot at the title

The Maranello outfit has also brought back Ferrari's 1970s heroes—Luca di Montezemolo and the indomitable Niki Lauda—who will act as advisers for the team. The new manager Sante Ghedini, also a Formula One veteran, brings with him years of experience on the racing track. The new car runs on unleaded petrol, and is a technical marvel, even though one does not know how it will handle in the hands of new drivers Jean Alesi and Ivan Capelli. Says Montezemolo, "I don't know why everyone is so pessimistic about our chances. We are making a new beginning this year. We'll need time and patience. We have not got a magic wand but still."

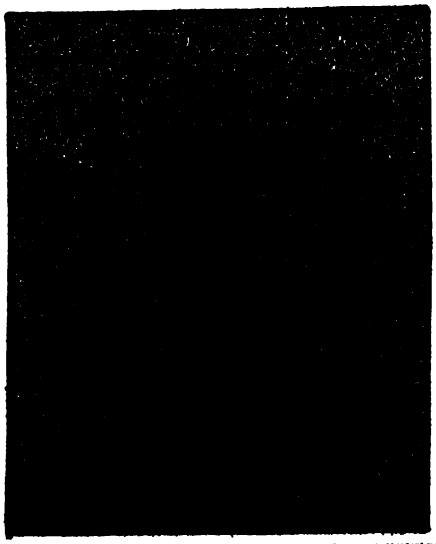
Most observers feel that the inclusion of Niki Lauda will not only help the team analyse data and upgrade the technology, but also guide the young drivers on how to make the most of the situation at hand. Says Alesi, "Lauda can give us a lot of tips about how to handle pressure situations and will definitely help us by his years of experience".

1992 TEAM LINE UP

TEAM		DRIVERS
Andrea Moda Judd	:	Alex Caffi & Emilio Bertaggia
Benetton-Ford	:	Martin Brundle & Michael Schumacher
Williams Renault	:	Nigel Mansell & Ricardo Patrese
Venturi-Larrousse	:	Berhard Gachot & Katayama
Ferrari	:	Jean Alesi & Ivan Capelli
Footwork Honda	:	Michele Alboreto & Aguri Suzuki
McLaren Honda	:	Ayrton Senna & Gerhard Berger
Jordan-Yamaha	:	Stefano Modena & M.Gugelmin
Ligier-Renault	:	Thierry Boutsen & Alain Prost/Eric Comas
Tyrrell-Ilmor	:	O. Grouillard & A. Zinardi
Lotus-Judd	:	J. Herbert & M. Hakkinen
Dallara-Ferrari	:	JJ Lehto & P. Martini
Minardi-Lamborghini	:	G. Morbidelli & C. Fittipaldi
March-Ilmor	:	P.Belmondo & K. Wendlinger
Brabham-Judd	:	Eric Van de Poele & Giovanna Amati



Benetton Ford which has been in a state of flux ever since designer John Barnard quit last season is looking forward to the 1992 season. Tom Walkinshaw, the man behind Jaguar's sportscar racing success acquired 35 per cent of the



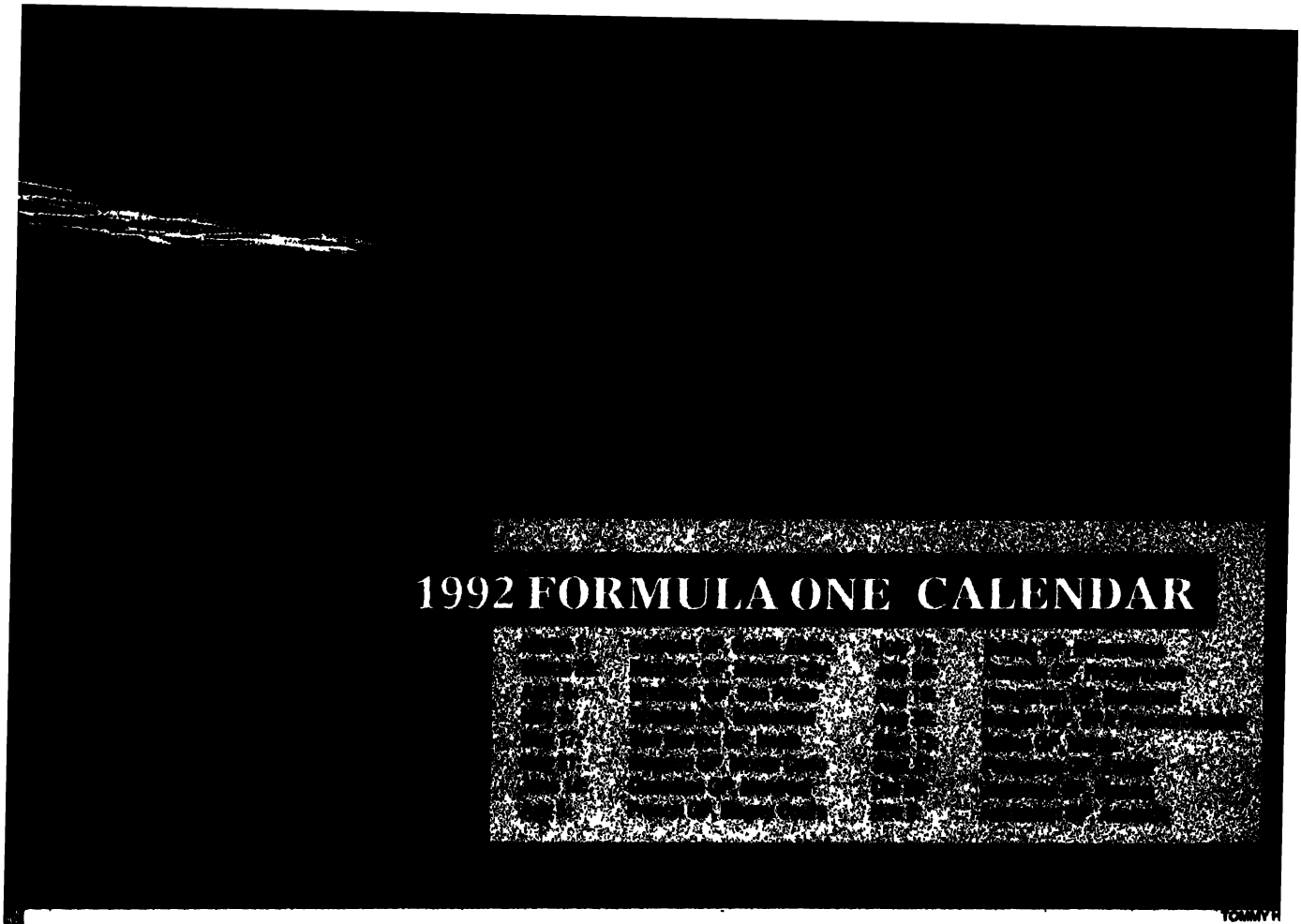
When he is racing he loves the power of the Williams Renault, but off the track, contender for the title, Nigel Mansell feels safer on a moped!

Italian team and has gained control of team affairs. Walkinshaw said. "I think the Benetton team could put forward some surprises this year." Experts feel otherwise. The team line-up for this season is Michael Schumacher with the other drive going to Britisher Martin Brundle who left the Brabham-Yamaha outfit last season.

The three other teams which are likely to make some impact this season are Ligier-Renault, Jordan-Yamaha and

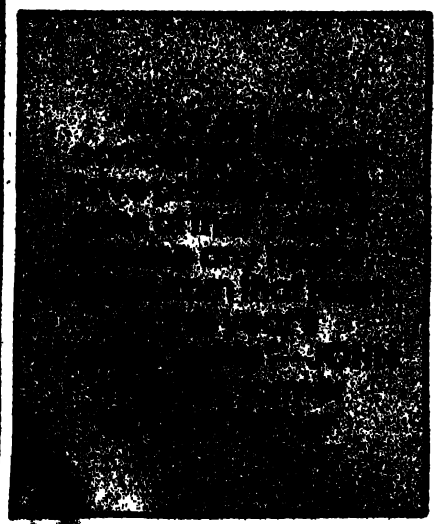


Ayrton Senna looks worried, and rightly so, because Mansell is ready to take up the challenge and, maybe, come out as the winner

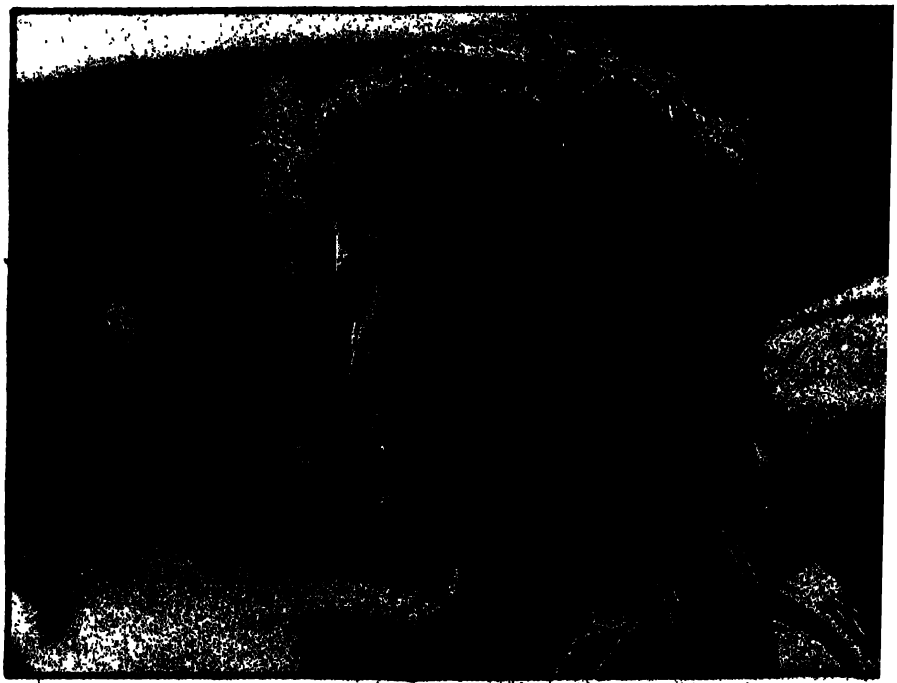


Footwork-Honda. Following the spectacular rookie season, Team 7-Up Jordan needs a string of good results this year if it has to survive the dog-eat-dog world of Formula One racing.

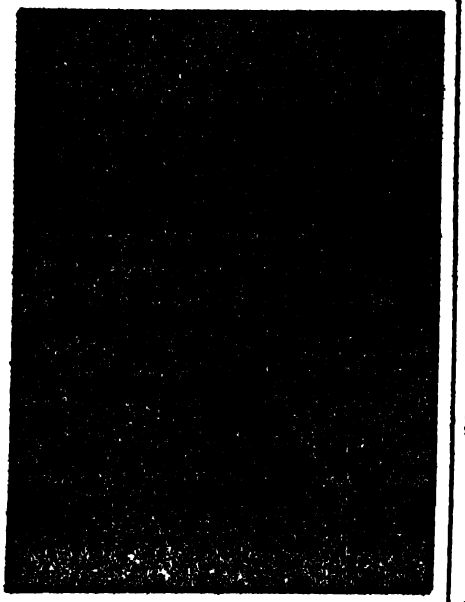
Driving for Jordan will be Stefano Modena and Marucio Gugelmin. According to John Watson, "I have a gut feeling that despite the bulky Yamaha V-12, the team will perform well. Both our drivers are young and have that vital something to win the races."



'Should I shouldn't I.' Alain Prost is in a dilemma on whether he should risk his reputation by joining team Ligier



Modena in particular is no push over because he picked up 10 Formula One points last season for Tyrell. After two top three finishes in the last three seasons of Monaco, Modena has proved his class. His second place at Montreal merely reinforced the fact that he is talented. In other words, this



Italian homeboy is the man to watch this season.

The team to throw up a major surprise this season is Ligier which has been floundering for several years, despite lavish facilities and considerable sponsorship. Going into the new season with a desperation to prove they are no write-offs, Ligier has been courting Frenchman Alain Prost.

But Prost is in a dilemma because he doesn't know whether he should risk his reputation with the French team or take a one-year break as he had planned. Just to help him make up his mind he has test driven the Ligier which has a Renault V10 engine—similar to the one that propelled the William cars so well last year. Prost's comment on the car was, "It is a very safe car and I'm impressed with the engine...but I will have to be careful about my decision."

Team owner Guy Ligier said, "It

Ferrari's new car, codenamed 'F 92A', runs on unleaded petrol and is a technical marvel, but there is no information about its performance



Niki Lauda's return to Ferrari—as an adviser—should give them an edge over the other teams

was a great pleasure to see him in the car, but now we have to get him to sign with us. We have a good machine and we can finish in the top five."

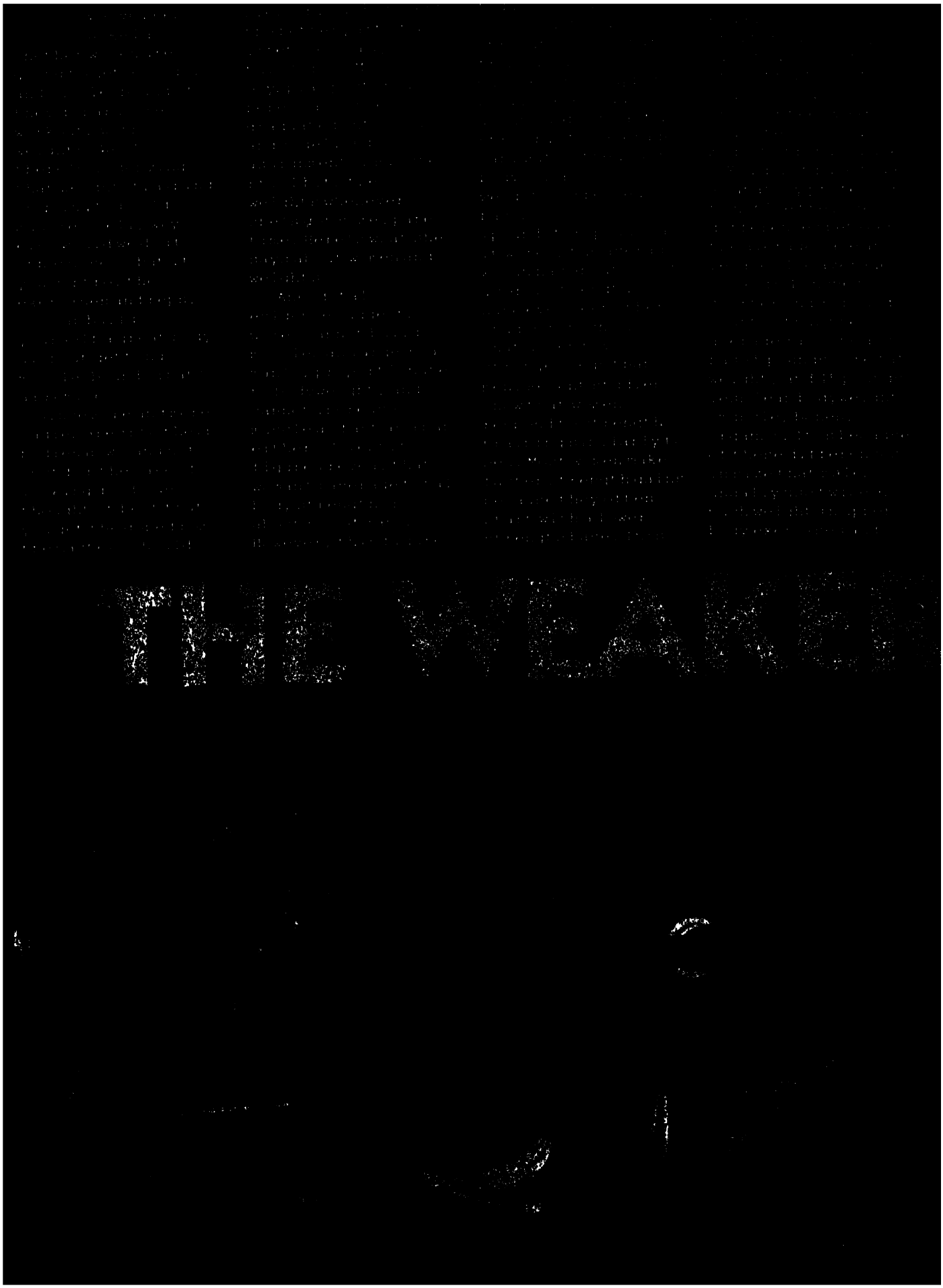
Similar surprises are in store from Footwork, a total Jap outfit powered by Honda V12s, who have just been part of the tail-enders. The new chassis and the Honda powerpacked engine will help drivers Aguri Suzuki and Michele Alboreto get some valuable points before they get to use the Mitsubishi V12 in 1993. Circuit sources reveal that the new Mitsubishi V12 is much faster and more dependable than anything Honda has ever produced.

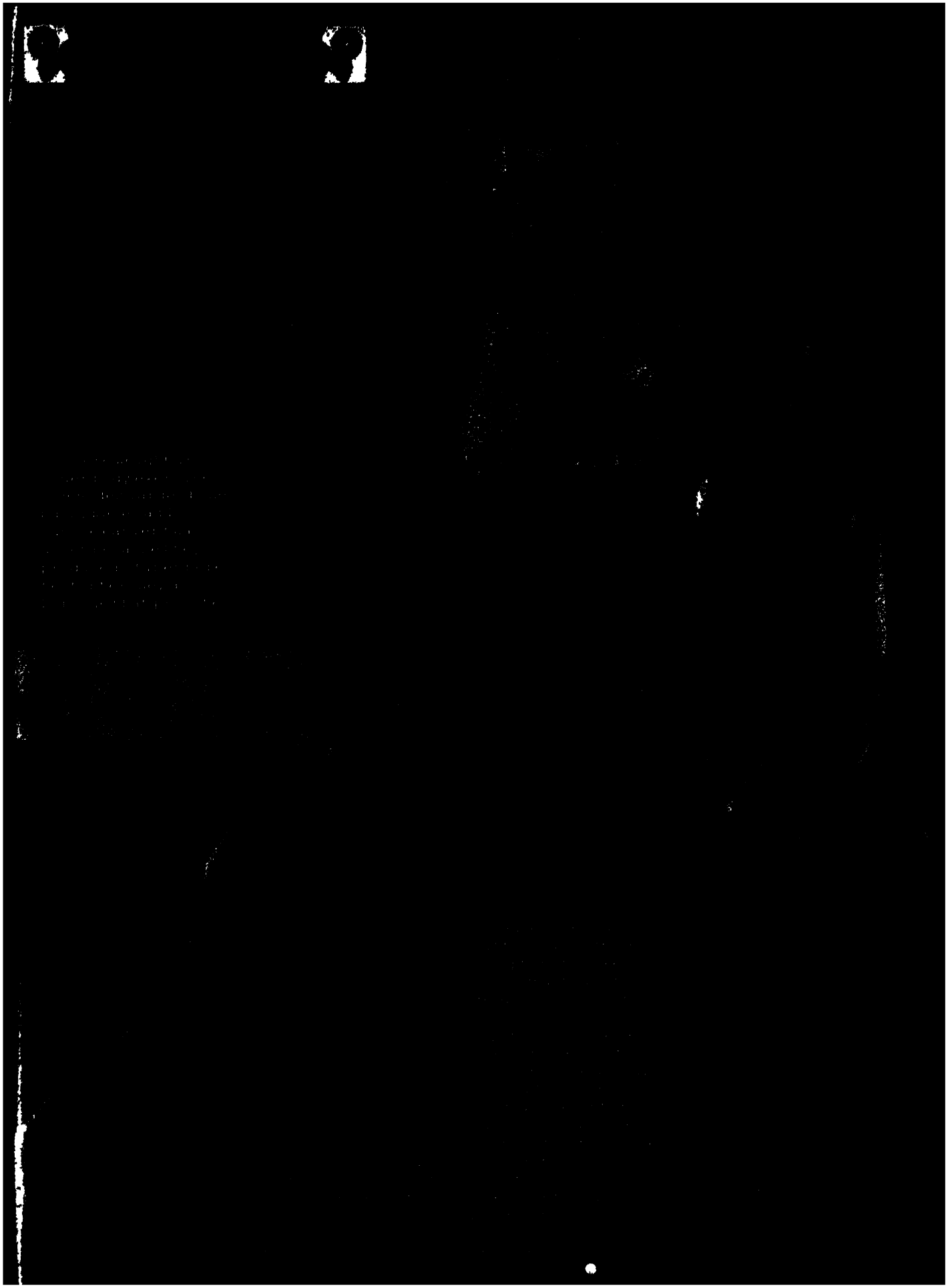
Making their debut this season are three extremely talented newcomers, Christian Fittipaldi, 1991 F-3000 champion and nephew of Brazilian racing hero Emerson Fittipaldi, Paul Belmondo, son of French actor Jean Paul and the last is a 26-year-old Italian, Giovanna Amati. She is the first woman Formula One driver in 15 years.

Even though their competitiveness will be a debatable issue, according to Sir Jackie Stewart, "The permutations and combinations of Formula One are so intriguing that one can go on for days. But it is also sad that a majority of the teams are mere numbers on the track".

Jason Havelock
NEWSMEN FEATURES




THE VATICAN



PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

FROM RUSSIA, WITH LOV

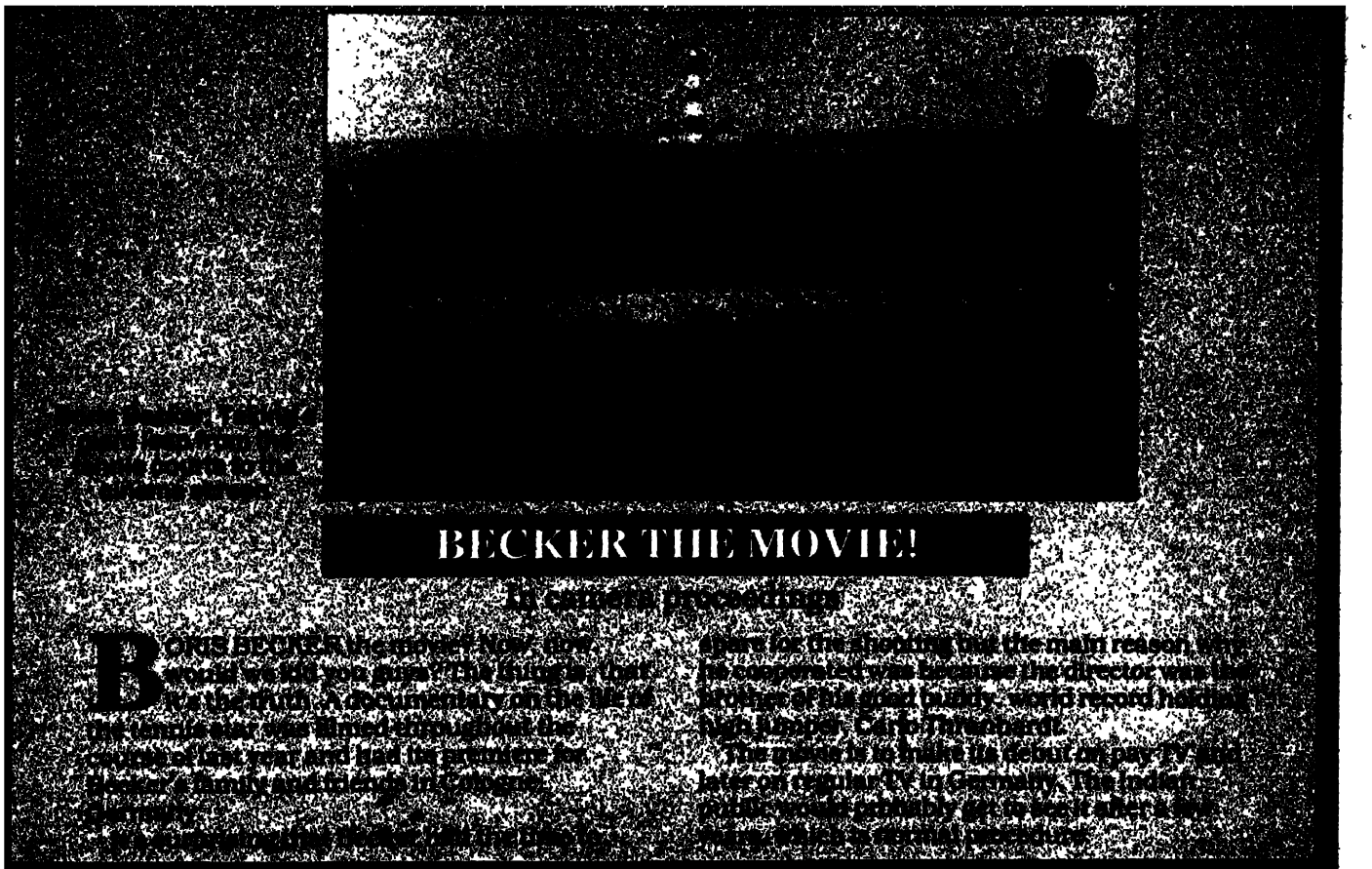


IF you're totally fed up with life and don't wanna live any longer, here's a friendly tip: gather your courage, ring up tennis player Andrei Chesnokov and call him Soviet. Having said this, say a quiet prayer and wait for a reaction.

Just in case you live to tell the tale, you can tell your buddies that Chesnokov is totally in touch and in love with his Russian roots. The Moscow native has asked that he be referred to as a Russian, not a Soviet.

"I know Russian history," he'll argue. "The country was Russia until 1917. After that we didn't build anything, we just destroyed." Having said that he might do the same to you. Destroy you, that is.





BECKER THE MOVIE!

By [illegible] Proceedings

Boris Becker has signed [illegible] to make a movie about his life. The movie will be filmed [illegible] and will be released [illegible]. The movie will star [illegible] as Becker and [illegible] as his wife. The movie will be directed by [illegible] and will be produced by [illegible]. The movie will be released in [illegible] and will be distributed by [illegible].

OVERTAKE YOU.

SLEEK



freewheeling

MELBOURNE versus Sydney is a long standing rivalry. Whom in Sydney, never claim that you prefer Melbourne and vice-versa. Melbournians claim that though they happen to be in the same time zone as the capital of New South Wales, they are perceptibly ahead in civilisation. Every state in Australia has a name: Victoria who's capital is Melbourne, is the 'garden state'; but New South Wales proudly proclaims itself as the 'premier state' or the 'first state'. It is mandatory for every car number plate to have the name of the state as well as the number's.

Sydney claims that it is the 'first state', because that's where the British's landed their prisoners to form the country of Australia. Melbournians claim that the first jail that landed at Sydney were the gallows, while the first thing they unloaded at Melbourne was a grand piano. Each claim their city to be better than the other. Melbourne's presidents claim that their city was built on the mistakes of Sydney and therefore is a better place to live in.

If you happen to have [illegible] into Sydney in a [illegible]ourne registered, [illegible] ask for [illegible]a, then go this [illegible]ay that you [illegible], you'll [illegible] that [illegible] street [illegible] you [illegible]

[illegible] the first [illegible] International [illegible] the World Cup finals will be played in the Victorian capital. But it was by no means certain that the MCG, the ground that had also hosted the first Test in 1877, would be awarded the final. Australia's cricket administrators even began a power play over whether Melbourne or Sydney would host the event. In the struggle what cricket lost was the Hill at Sydney, and Bay 13 at the MCG, both giving way to concrete stands.

When the Australian Cricket Board met to determine the venue of the final, the fight was the purse politics, the strength of the new Southern Groundsland which was still nothing more than margin on the architect's plan. Piece by piece, the story which witnessed Sir Donald Bradman's 29 against the Englishmen in the first few years of his life and produced more [illegible] including [illegible] hanging the RAAF during World War II—disappeared.

Melbourne watched with a mixture of [illegible] was translated before their eyes into a 150-million concrete edifice. Sydneysiders giggled in pleasure, for their rivals after all had to pay for depriving them of the World Cup final.

On Wednesday March 4th, 1992, Melbourne's weather permitting of course, the MCG will join one of cricket's most exclusive clubs which includes only Lord's and Eden Gardens.

The same evening with the MCG hosting its biggest sporting event since the 1956 Olympics, the largest grandstand in Australia will be officially opened. So tell anyone in Melbourne that the Eden Gardens is still a bit better place for a cricket match and you won't be a very popular fellow around. The Eden Gardens was refurbished for the 1987 World Cup giving it a capacity of over 80,000, which as widely travelled English cricket writer, Mathew Engel noted in *The Guardian* at that time, 'is more than the attendance at all the [illegible] put together.'

[illegible] Melbourne will be all dressed up on March 4th to beat that. People claiming that with 100,000 people witnessing the finish, the MCG will take over as the premier cricket ground in the world. I being a Calcuttan, am not arguing, though some friends in Sydney are encouraging me to needle their rivals in Victoria.

Till March 25 I guess we are stuck with the Melbourniane gloating over their stadium, just as we are stuck with the Melbourne weather. There are some in Sydney who are actually hoping that Australia don't make the final. Then they will sit back and watch what Melbourne does with its 100,000 seats, for as in Calcutta there won't [illegible] going to be 1,000 policemen to fill in the gaps.

I ain't taking sides in the Sydney-Melbourne [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]



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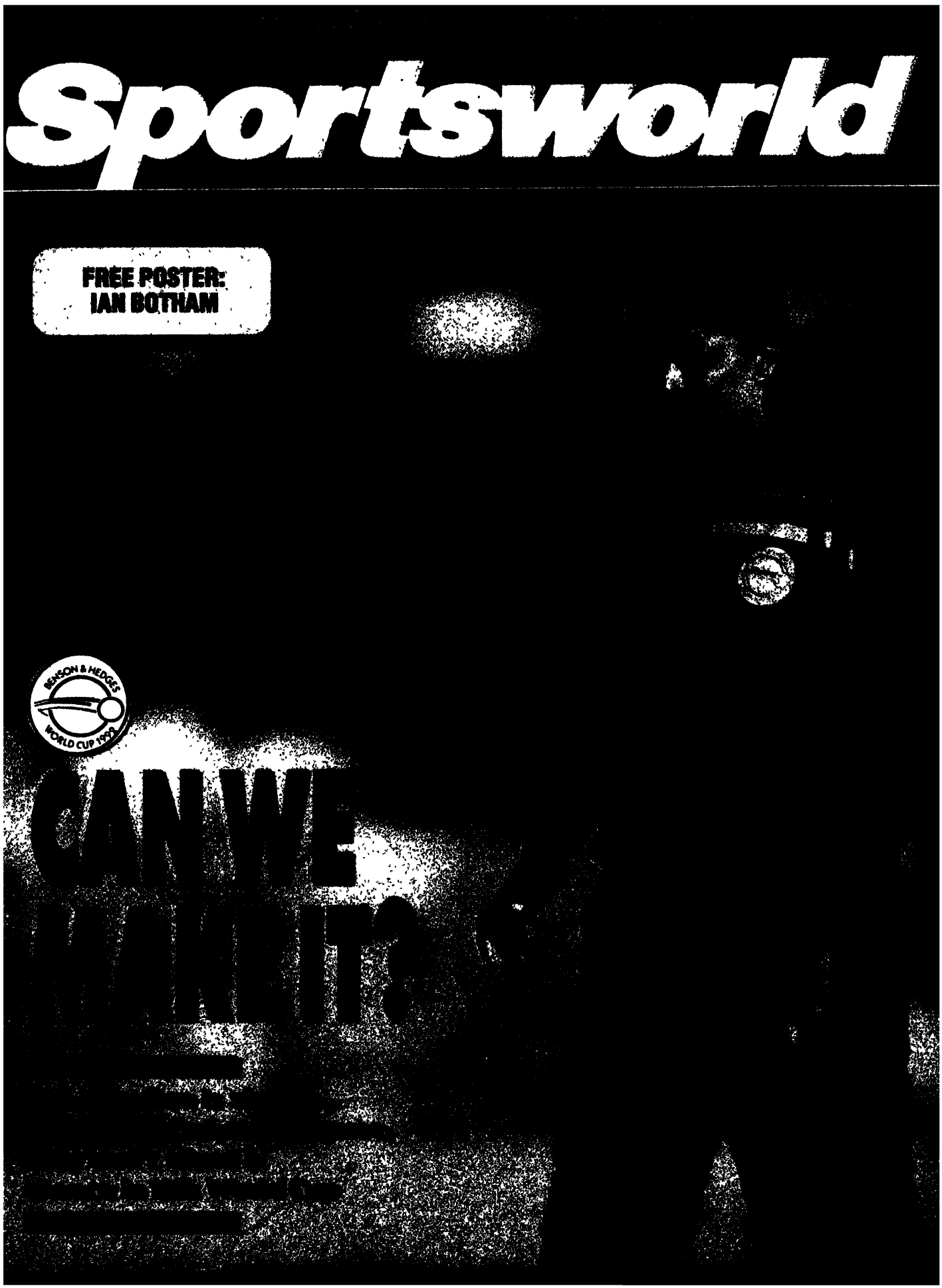
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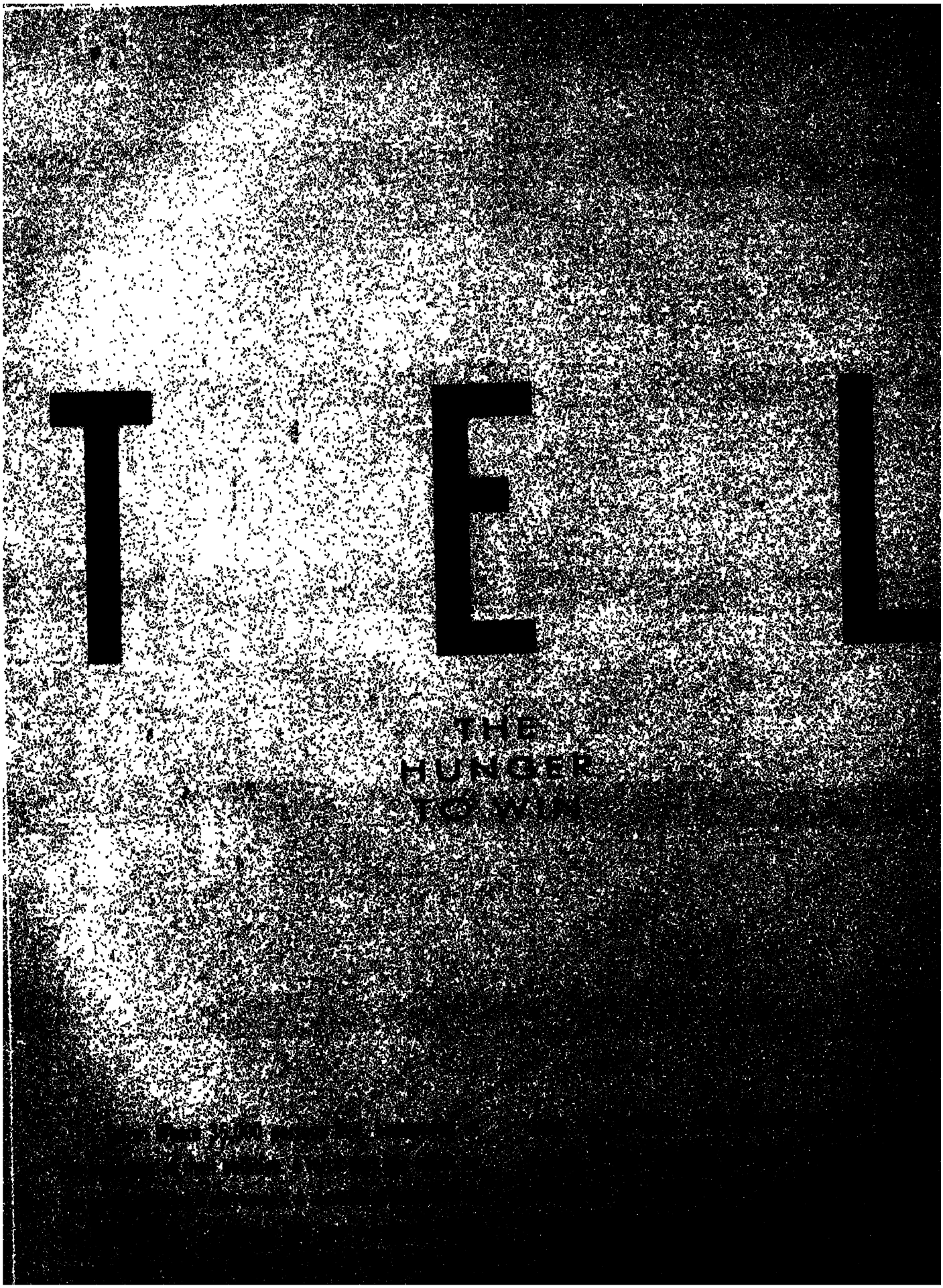
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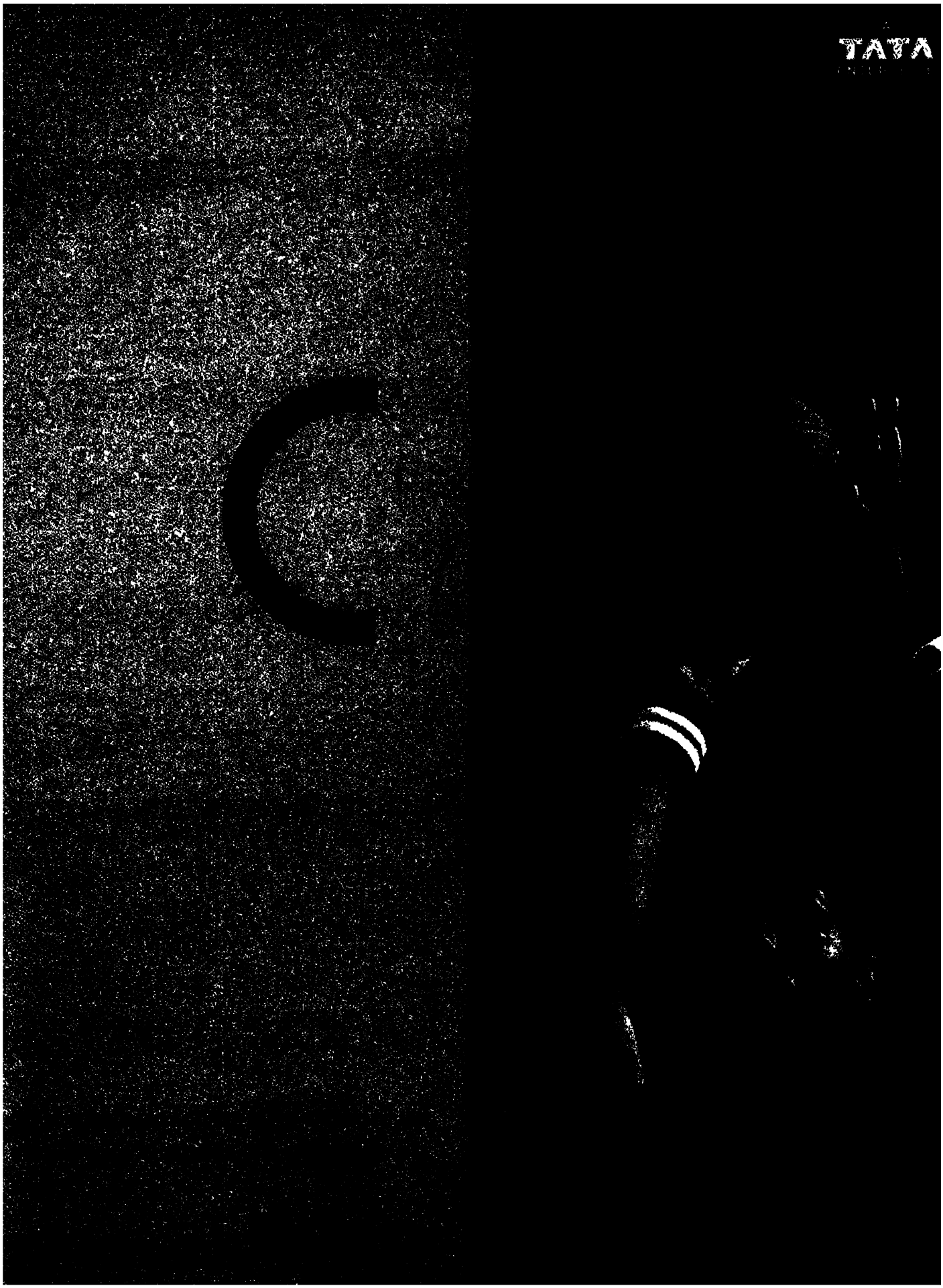
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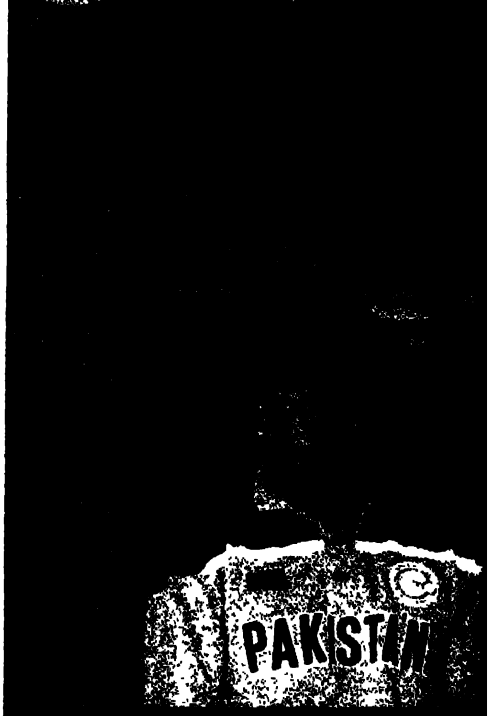
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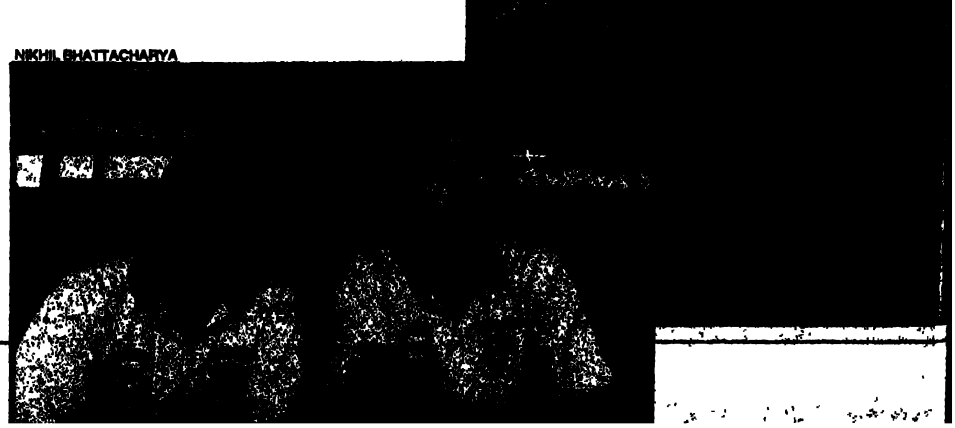
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WORLD CUP '92: THE HEAT IS ON!

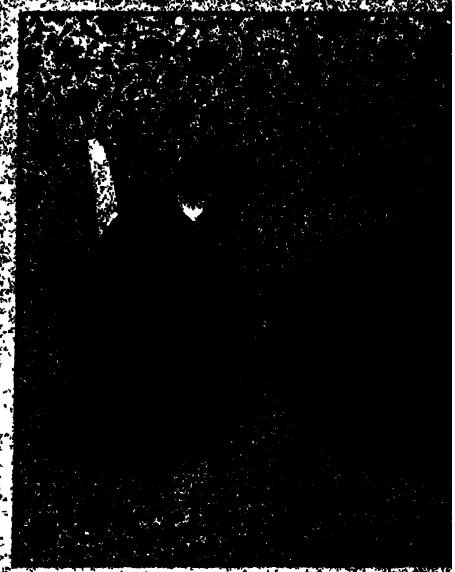
If it's seagulls on the cricket field, it's gotta be Australia. But cricket's biggest tournament isn't going to stop for anything. Even for birds...especially of the feathered kind!

DIFFERENT STROKES

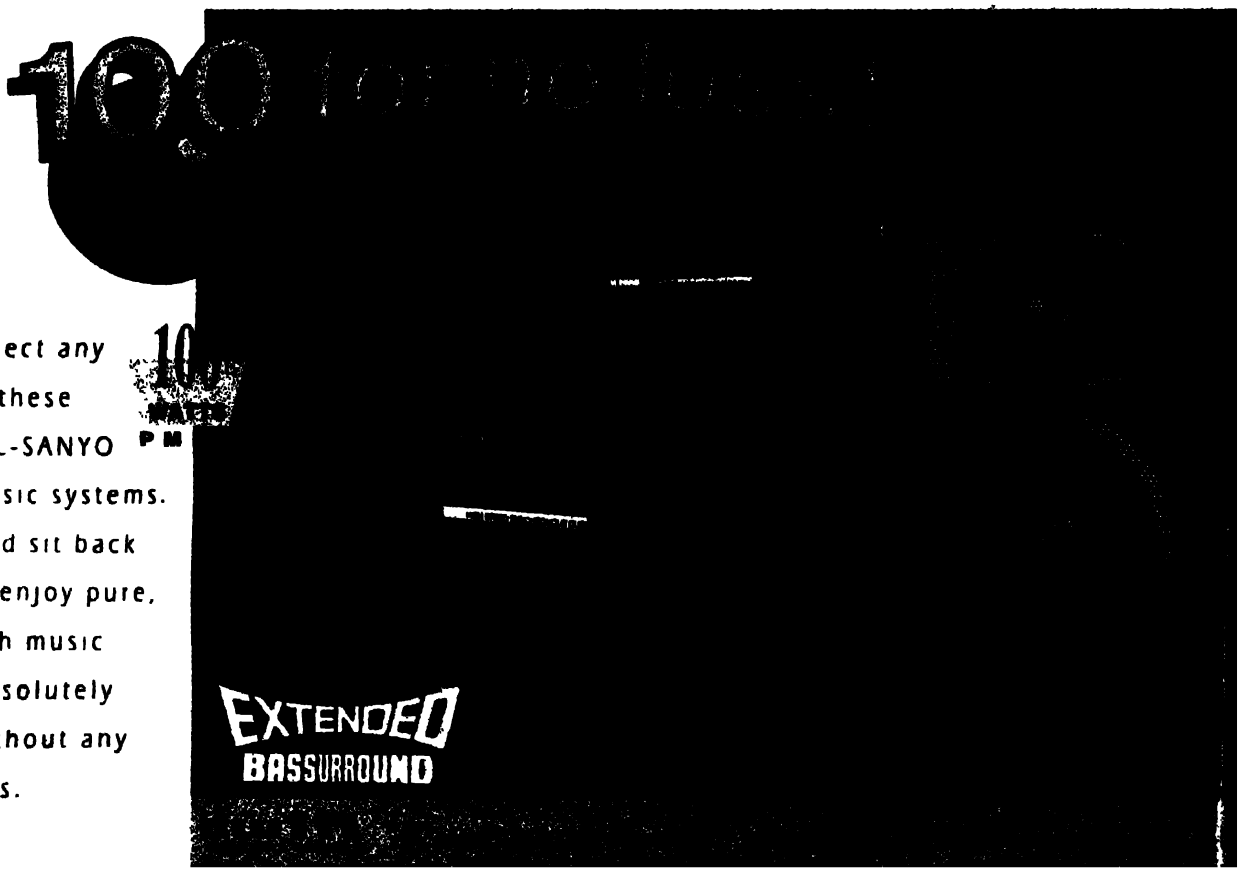
CRICKET, A'LA CARTE

P[illegible]ZA and corporate companies tend to do crazy things everytime a mega sporting event comes around the corner. But Bengal's theme for the World Cup is certainly interesting and innovative. World Cup 1992 could take on a [illegible]





Customers watch the TV screens intently while deciding their meals, with [illegible] (right) a menu card on display





SEARCH FOR A CHAMPION

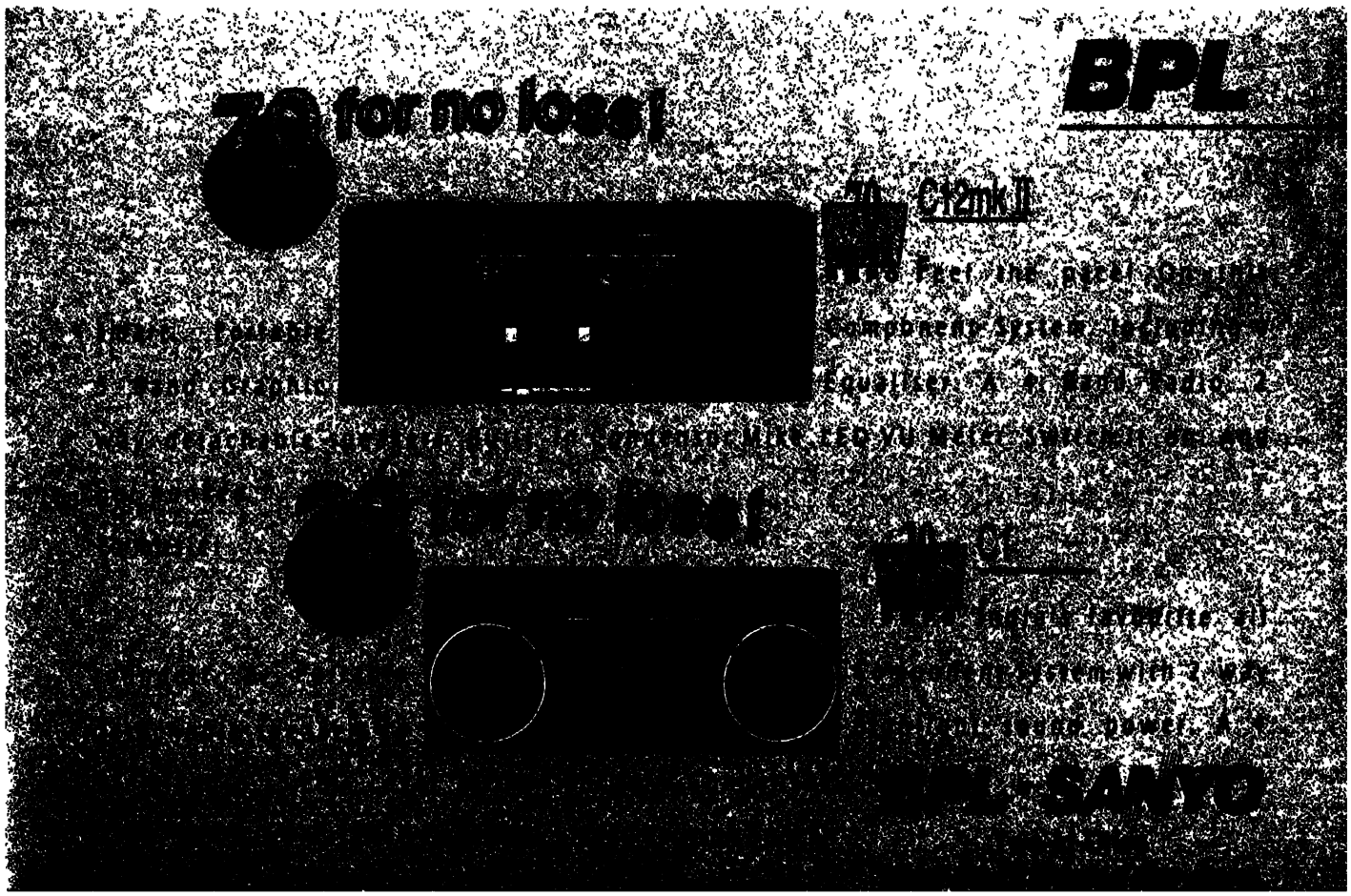
With virtually [illegible] Australia isn't producing tennis champions nowadays, we've got a small suggestion: ask John Newcombe. In fact, Newcombe, Wimbledon champion turned tennis tycoon is quite surprised himself.

"While there are some magnificent players today such as Todd Woodbridge, Richard Fromberg and Rachel McQuillan—all of whom have the potential to be great—I still wonder if we'll ever see another Australian champion [illegible]. However, I know [illegible] of my own and be a worried about the fact that he hasn't produced a champion yet. "We should have been able to maintain the talent of yesteryear," he admitted. "I've spent 10 years involved in these schools and with McDonald's promoting junior tennis." Apart from tennis coaching, Newcombe admits that he isn't doing anything strenuous nowadays. He met his wife Angil in 1963 and now that their children have grown up, they tend to spend more time together. "It may sound corny, but we both want to stop and smell the roses and take it easy for a while."

Looks like their love has started blossoming again.



John Newcombe: Doing his bit for Australian tennis





CAN WE MAKE IT?

The equation is simple...unless India raise their game, they don't stand a chance in this World Cup



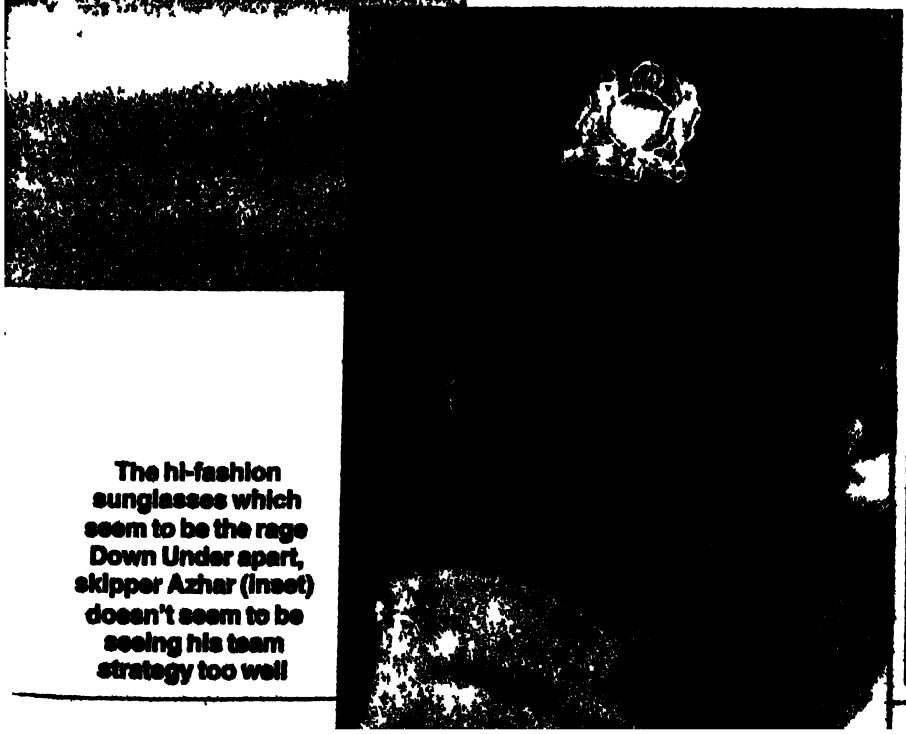


India's man-in-form Sachin Tendulkar touches up the paintwork on his pads. Not that the rival bowlers managed to hit him there too often

REMEMBER those times in your adolescence when, as a teenager, you misbehaved or did something wrong and then had to face the wrath of your parents And mom and dad also blasted you, and then ended things by saying that the scolding was "only for your own good , that they resorted to it only because they 'love you' Remember those days?

The Indian cricket team, has in the course of this tour to Australia and more so during the World Cup, gone through a similar experience They have been ridiculed, written off and criticised And they will be even more vilified over the next few weeks, unless they pull off a couple of miracles In the course of this article too, there will be plenty of criticism, plenty of opinion some debatable, some perhaps not, but all written with an absence of malice This is no advice. our skipper gets very annoyed when a journalist ventures to give him any advice on the tour Written after bad weather and Dame Luck both turned against the Indian team, this is going to be spontaneous thought, feeling put into words

Yes, there is no doubt that the World Cup produced, in some ways, the old rough end of the pineapple for India In so many ways the lot of Azharaddin and his team have been rotten Rain in Mackay prevented any play, denying what in the normal course of events should have been two points. In Sydney, they were severely handicapped by bad weather again an an extraordinary rule, which denied them the



The hi-fashion sunglasses which seem to be the rage Down Under apart, skipper Azhar (inset) doesn't seem to be seeing his team strategy too well





Australia must be very relieved to have got two points from India

benefit of three overs yet asked them to score only two fewer runs Australia with the rule book and the weather on their side just managed to pip a luckless India, cruelly at odds with both these variables.

On the other hand, it was Australia, Pakistan and even Sri Lanka on whom the weather gods smiled and bestowed favours. Because of the controversial weather rule (see box) India had to face only 47 overs for a target two runs short of Australia's 50 over total of 237. The difference might well have cost India a needed victory, which would have sent Australia to their third successive defeat and allowed India to break the shackles of despair. Instead, a last ball, one-run, decision saw Australia spill their first champagne froth of the World Cup. Probably the most tragic hard-luck story of the tournament.

If only Srinath's heave off the last ball had carried a mere five metres more. If only Venkatapathy Raju was not two metres short of the crease, thus denying us a point (if Raju completed the run, the teams would have split points since the scores would be tied and there is no rule about the number of wickets lost). If only... instead, India were down and Australia, at least for that moment, flying.

Is it Shastri's reluctance to bowl or his slow batting that's doing India most harm?

Oh yes, the World Cup may not see a better match. Oh yes, India after having no chance for victory, especially after the rain break, rallied brilliantly. Oh yes, India's batting was as full of valour as a cavalry charge into blazing guns. Oh yes, even Allan Border admitted that his team had stolen the match and that Indian deserved to win. Oh yes, we all sympathised with the Indian team and felt sorry for what fate had done to them. And how luck had deserted them. But if we put sympathy, patriotism and all such emotions aside for a brief while, the bottom line was that India's heroic effort ended not in glory, but in the despair of defeat. The point is, that India could have won anyhow, despite and in spite of the circumstances. And after having hardened our hearts we may ask, what counts in the end, glorious defeat or victory?

A relieved and sighing Allan Border probably didn't mean it, but if one were to read between his post match lines therein lay the truth to the Indian performance. "We stole the match from India. They deserved to win". Looked at from a different angle that was in fact a backhanded compliment. The fact was that India let it slip away. Just as they had done against England at Perth in the first game.

"You can't beat the weather," Azhar declared after that fascinating match at Brisbane. Of course you can't. There was nothing he nor anyone else could do about what happened at Mackay, but at Brisbane, the weather at least allowed them to stay in the game. That they couldn't pull it off, in spite of such a brave and praiseworthy effort, only goes to prove that maybe the Indians don't possess that edge. If they had, they would have, with five points, been at the top of the table after New Zealand. Instead after losing two of the closest matches in the tournament (at least till then) they lingered at the bottom above only Zimbabwe.

Accepted and agreed that Azharuddin and his team have not got the best of breaks so far in the tournament; luck hasn't been their bedfellow. Yet, at the same time, even a great sympathiser like me will admit that when the breaks did come their way, ever so irregularly, they failed to cash in on them.

Luck is what Pakistan had when they managed to steal a point after being bowled out for the lowest score ever made by a Test playing nation in one day cricket. Fate is, what happened in that small town in Queensland when Srikkanth faced two balls before things were washed out. And determination is what may be Australia's only hope for a remarkable comeback in this World Cup.

Why is it that the Indian teams seems to look so contented (happy and relieved would somehow border on sounding too unfair) when they have done a good job, but have lost? Greg Chappell recalls the smiling faces of the Indians after the Adelaide Test where they fought a heroic battle before losing the fourth Test. "The point is that they had lost. It seemed not to register with them. They had done a good job and that's it," says the former Australian captain.

A similar condition seemed to prevail at Brisbane. Oh yes, there was sorrow and despair in the dressing room. One could see that through the glass windows that surrounded the room. But at the same time there was this underlying feeling that 'we made a fight of it despite the conditions being against us, so there's no harm'. Which makes one wonder if it's true that our team is happy with mediocrity and takes no pride about winning or losing?

That might not be the absolute truth, but judging by the attitude of other teams one would actually be tempted to endorse that statement.

After his team's sensational defeat by South Africa Allan Border was a different man. Almost a man possessed. The normally easy going Border reacted rudely and harshly at reporters who approached him,with questions at the nets, the day before the Brisbane game. It was shocking to see what pressure had done to a usually gentle person. But the

It will take a lot of hard work at the nets if India is to make the knockout stage

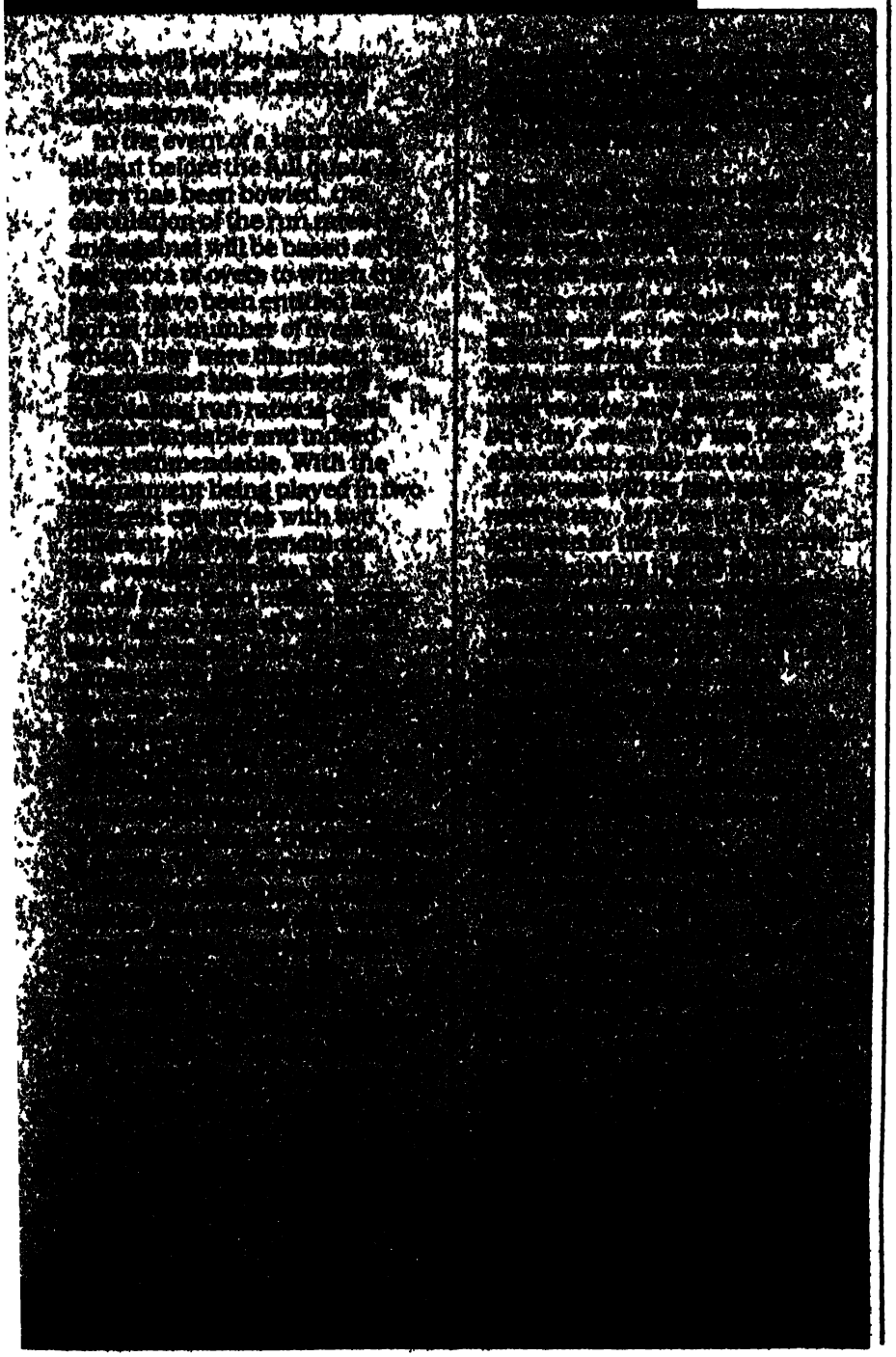


WORLD CUP RULE

Guaranteed T

Shastri just can't figure out why everyone's uptight about his batting

Confuse



point here concerns the intensity of the man. And he was not alone. When one spoke to David Boon about how he was holding up the Australian team by his own individual batting efforts, Boon in turn, preferred to talk about his 'team' and how they must go about their comeback in the World Cup. All that seemed to matter was the team'

The Indian team, blessed with some brilliant individuals, lack this same intensity and oneness Or unity if you want to call it that.

Why is it, that in spite of many critics calling India 'dangerous opposition ' the team is struggling to make it to the last four stage of the tournament? The answer does not lie as much in their cricketing competence as it does in their attitude

I think it's got to do with something that s called well, eh professionalism' says manager Abbas Ali Baig Normally diplomatic to the extreme Baig talks openly about how his team moves in for the kill but fails to finish off the enemy

If that's the case then Indian cricket players should be reminded that professionalism is not so much a question of economics, as it is a frame of mind And in spite of their best efforts, that's where our team lacks The talent is there To be even the best Trouble is, one win seems to quench their thirst for success The World Cup victory over Pakistan on March 4, was the Indian team's first tour victory since they beat the West Indies on January 16 at the MCG to qualify for the World Series final Prior to that, their last victory was in mid-December, also in the WSC competition

Is it, that in the last four months the Indian team has run into luck a mere twice?

No, the answer simply is that the intensity is just not consistent Coincidentally, the two victories in the last four months have come at crunch times; in the WSC game which meant making it to the final or being eliminated, and then against Pakistan in the World Cup, where a defeat would have all but erased any hopes of India being in contention for a place in the last four.

As Kapil Dev explained after that

wonderful evening at the SGC We had to win this one Not only because we now remain in the tournament but also because it was against Pakistan We owed them one after all those defeats in Sharjah Yes it seemed that for once the boot was on the other foot For too long now we have witnessed the Pakistan team lifting their game when it came to a match against India At the SCG the intensity showed in the eyes of the Indian players it showed on Azhar s face when Miandad and More were involved in an exchange of words but more importantly it showed in the batting fielding and bowling We haven t fielded like that for a very long time said the skipper, obviously hoping for some more repeat performances

The very manner in which the Indian team took the field to defend their total of 216 in 49 overs was different Normally our boys merely stroll lazily onto the turf That evening under the bright lights of the SCG and the red sky in the horizon the Indians ran onto the field as if they really meant business Their enthusiasm matched that of the horde of seven year olds, who participated in an exhibition run around the SCG during the dinner break The winner of the race won a trip to Disneyland and the Indians made Mickey Mouse of the Pakistan batting

In spite of admitting that it was a superb performance after a long time the Indian captain was reluctant to admit that it was the lack of intensity, that had previously robbed them of four points from two close matches first against England and then against Australia

'That was just bad thinking,' said Azhar What he meant by that is this team, keeps doing the right thing but makes mistakes at vital moments

I just think it's bad running, bad thinking, bad form bad everything that comes together when you are not in form and you pay the price, says the skipper, probably also subtly hinting about his own return to form

But the captain admits that one good innings doesn t mean you are in form 'You have to start from zero in the next innings don t you he says He maintained the same philosophy of one swallow not making a summer after the victory against Pakistan saying, One victory doesn t make seven

No it doesn t unfortunately But if India are to make anything out of this tournament they will firstly have to maintain their intensity at the highest possible level Then they will have to view themselves as a team—a single unit and not as a group of individuals brought together for a cause

THE captaincy problem had taken its toll on the team s unity in the early part of the tour While it still lurks in the background, the controversy over Ravi Shastri has come to the forefront, in its own way damaging the atmosphere within the Indian dressing room

In spite of his apparent unpopularity even the greatest cynic will agree, that Ravi Shastri does have a place in the Indian team Unfortunately, Shastri's mentality—which, whatever it's worth, is more professional than many of his team-mates—has clashed with the interest of the team

Many believe, that Shastri may have to adjust his attitude so that it falls into harmony with what the team requires. While it may be true, that indeed Shastri as vice captain and a voting member of the Indian think-tank is dictating terms about his selection and what he will do, and not do, on the field, it would be absolutely ridiculous to







Party time: Tendulkar and Srikkanth are on cloud nine, reason perhaps why umpire Shepherd is looking upwards

think that he deliberately goes out of his way to slow things down or damage the performance of the team

Shastri may be adamant about when to bowl, or when not to, and may insist on opening the innings, but only a fool can accuse him of not trying his best 'If after you do try your best for your country people still stage sit-ins outside your house then they can f off," he told a group of pressmen when news of his Bombay apartment sit-in got to his ears

Shastri is absolutely right in thinking that what happened was 'not on', but statements like that give people the wrong impression of him If, as some people maintain, Ravi Shastri has been allowed to get away with too much both before and during this tour (i e he does what he wants to do, bowls when he wants to and bats where he wants) then some fault must lie with the way he has been handled It's like creating a monster and then not managing to subdue it when it becomes too overpowering

Shastri's 25 off 70 balls against Australia was not the best thing that could have happened to the Indian team, but being Ravi Shastri it came in for even greater criticism than it should have And the fact that India lost by a run made his innings the scapegoat Yet, no-one said a word when Srikkanth did precisely what Shastri did—and even worse—in the game against Pakistan, when the swashbuckling opener dumped the Indian innings in the gutter with a mere five runs off 39 balls That India won the game, perhaps washed away all Srikkanth's sins—and all criticism

Seeing Geoffrey Boycott in the Press Box that evening, one wondered how many sit-in's his home would have seen, had people reacted to a slow innings from him as they do when it comes from Ravi Shastri No wonder Boycott's mansion house has almost fort-like walls around it.

Shastri has his limitations as a cricketer and his ego problems as a man—let no one tell you otherwise If he deserved to be dropped for the



Prabhakar: the Indian cricket team's angry young man...and he's bowling with a vengeance

match against Pakistan, is not up for debate in these columns. What is, is the manner in which the incidents, that led to his dropping, were handled.

Not throughout this entire tour has India ever named a team a day before the game; an exception was made for that Pakistan game only because Shastri was the one to be axed. Being a member of the selection trio on the tour, Shastri wasn't even consulted about the composition of the team. He was merely told, matter-of-factly, by the captain and manager that he was out of the Pakistan game. Shastri's reaction was typical of him. He was ready to call a press conference, to tell the media his side of the story and how mad he was. In fact, the situation became so bitter, that when Shastri was asked whether he knew he was going to be dropped, he said, "I haven't been told anything. But I'm a selector, so we will see". There was even talk among some about how BCCI president Madhav Rao Scindia is keen to see the end of Ravi Shastri in Indian cricket. But that is all hearsay and innuendo. What is a fact is Abbas Ali Baig's attitude towards Shastri. For long both he—and the captain—had reservations about Shastri's fitness and his ability to open in a limited-overs game. Instead of nipping the problem in the proverbial bud by letting Shastri know what they felt, they allowed Shastri to get away with whatever he wanted.



In the Indian team, players decide whether they are fit or not. So obviously Shastri decided, injury or not, he would play

The refreshing influx of youth into the Indian team, spearheaded by Tendulkar, saw Jadeja go from waterboy to opener



It is funny, that while in other teams it is the team doctor or physician or physio who endorses the fitness of an injured player, in the Indian team it is the player himself who declares whether he is fit or not. Just another example of the individualism prevalent—or allowed to prevail—in the team. Inquiries about Shastri's fitness were always met by, "he says he's fit and will play". It's only in the Indian team that you hear things like that. Much worse, of course, was manager Abbas Ali Baig saying "I hope not" when asked if Shastri would open the innings against Pakistan. Such an attitude—from captain, manager and players—only results in bad blood and tension in the dressing room.

And this vague attitude is hardly new. One recalls the comments made by the manager and captain when Kapil Dev failed to show up for the Opening Ceremony. When asked about Kapil's whereabouts, Baig said, "Maybe he might just come back by February 23" (India were playing England on February 22) Azhar's answer was as sarcastic: "What difference does it make when he comes?" Neither Baig nor Azhar, of course, meant it as an insult to Kapil, but rather they wanted to show how they did not know what was going on. And how the powers back home were dictating things to them.

It is amazing, that people sitting in their arm-chairs, thousands of miles away, tell people who are in the middle of the action what to do with who. Only, with the Indian team does such absurdity occur.

It's only in the Indian team that while the manager is in serious conversation with a few members of the Press, the captain feels it necessary to ignore what is being said and bury his head in a book instead.

It's only the Indian team that has got a captain who does not do any homework to learn about the opposing teams. The Aussies had 'spies' following the unknown South Africans to study the team's strengths and weaknesses and even studied video-tapes of their games. Yet, the Indian captain has the audacity to ask journalists before the Perth match against England, what kind of a bowler Phil Tufnell was. That the captain, and many others, have played on the county circuit, that they had ample time and opportunity to study the teams in the World Cup, didn't seem to make a difference. Homework, as far as the Indians are concerned, is for schoolboys and not for professional cricketers. Just as experimentation is something the Indian team left behind in their school chemistry lab, along with 'spirit' and 'intensity'.

Yet in all fairness it must be said that maintaining all these together with form, keenness and all the ingredients that make a successful tour, over a period of four months, is, to use an Australian cricket term, 'a tough task'.

The Indian Board will never be able to live down—and they shouldn't be allowed to do so—the schedule they carved out for the Indian team. The problems that go with being in an alien country with alien food, alien ways and alien atmosphere will show, as indeed they have. Cricketers apart, it even shows on the journalists who have traversed the length and breadth of Australia. It is common knowledge that we on this tour, have seen, and

Srikkanth and Manjrekar's search for runs took them to Boycott and Gatting... one known for his tenacity, the other for his pugnacity

PHOTOGRAPHS
NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA





perhaps know, more of this large island continent than the people who live here The day the 'circus flew in from Brisbane (after the match against Australia) to Sydney (for the game against Pakistan) one of my colleagues claimed, without exaggeration, that it was the sixteenth time he had passed through Sydney Airport, and that was only half way through the World Cup.

As trivial as it may sound the Indian team diligently tracks down restaurants where good Indian food is available They have made so many friends, having been in and out of Australian cities so often, that players' passes for matches—each player gets four per match their team plays in—disappear as soon as they leave manager Abbas Ali Baig's hands.

Vinod Kambli is reputed to be a fun loving youngster, and it was thought that he would enjoy the tour of Australia. Having joined the team for the World Cup only, he too didn't sound too enthusiastic. "Australia is a good country only for playing cricket. I can't say overall that it's fun touring. I prefer England. You don't feel as homesick there as compared to here, said Kambli, who has only been here a few weeks

If it is said that the long stay in Australia has helped the team in terms of acclimatisation to weather, wickets and the rest, then there might be some truth in it Equally true though, is that such a long tour takes the sting out of the Indian tail Moreover, India play three vital matches in New Zealand where the conditions are quite different to what they have become accustomed to in Australia.

Indeed, it is ironic that the two teams which now head the World Cup table probably had the ideal preparation for the tournament Australia and India probably had too much of a good thing, the West Indies, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, South Africa and Zimbabwe had a tight schedule early on, but their preparations eased off as it came closer to the World Cup New Zealand and England had the ideal mixture They had competitive match practise—and yet not too much of it—right till the eve of the tournament, against each other Having been here so long, it seems that the Indians are so eager to go home, that winning the World Cup would be a mere bonus, not a necessity And therein lies the difference and weakness of the Indian campaign



At the time of writing, there is still hope; in such a fascinating and unpredictable competition it is generally considered that five or even four wins might be enough to win a semi-final position. Azharuddin too is hopeful, "If we can string together three or four wins, the strength of the competition will keep us in the hunt."

Question is, are the Indians capable of overcoming bad luck and all the ills that plague them, to go in for the kill.

"It's do or die," says Azhar

No skipper, for you and your team, it's kill or get killed India has the weapons. Do they have the courage? ●

THE MANJREKAR MUDDLE

TELL any Australian cricket fan that one Sanjay Manjrekar is potentially the best batsman in the Indian team—if not the world—and he'd probably think you know as little about cricket as the Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating knows about his people's problems. And you couldn t blame him really for thinking so

Arriving here with the reputation of being the backbone of the Indian batting, the Bombay batsman has been one of the big disappointments of the tour so far It's not that he hasn t played that occasional match-saving innings he is so reputed for, but Sanjay Manjrekar hasn't lived up to the expectation of people ,and the high standards that he has set for himself Standards which prompted people to regard him as one of the world s best batsmen, well, at least in technique A clean striker of the ball, so crucial is his role as first drop for India that therefore many would be inclined to point to Manjrekar's poor form as one of the major reasons for India's below mediocre performance this summer Down Under

Always underestimated as a one-day player, Manjrekar showed that he was not averse to adapting his game when he walked away with the Man of the Tournament award at Sharjah last October, with scores of 72 56, 43, 49, and 52 That was followed up with the shared, with Kepler Wessels, Man of the Series award in the three-match South African tour with scores of 1, 52 not out and 105

In comparison his string of scores in Australia are nothing to write home about In the one-day matches he has played till the India Pakistan World Cup clash, he has scored 15, 2, 57, 55, 12, 1, 16, 2, 18, 47 and O And in the Test series he tallied 25, 30, 34, 2, 45 31, and 8 Such was his form that, inspite of the Indian batting not having too many in-form batsmen, Manjrekar was dropped from the opening two games of the World Cup And then came his return—also his World Cup debut—against Australia, certainly one of the more memorable innings he's had this Indian summer'

What, then is wrong with Sanjay Manjrekar?

Even those experts who haven't seen the best of Manjrekar accept that as a batsman his technique is sound close to being the best in the world But there are other reservations Ian Chappell, for one, feels he s had faulty coaching 'A coach should teach his batsmen all the strokes in cricket After that it's up to the batsman to pick and choose what strokes he plays in an innings depending on the circumstances But Manjrekar doesn't have the luxury of having all the strokes to choose from as Tendulkar does " says Chappell, while his younger brother Greg feels that Manjrekar is too much of a one gear player Others feel that a mixture of bad form a series of unfortunate run outs combined wih the extra bounce oil the Aussie wickets have done Manjrekar in

Manjrekar himself isn t ready to talk about the problem At this stage I don t want to say anything about the Australian tour because the World Cup is still on," he says when asked his opinion of what is going wrong with his batting Reassuring him that I had the permission of manager Abbas Ali Baig to speak to him I try again Sorry " he says politely I don t want to give any interviews at this moment about the Australian tour

I try my luck once again saying we won't

If anything, it's his running between wickets that needs to be looked into

talk about the Australian tour only about the problems of adapting from Test to one day cricket Andy, let's just drop it," he says politely yet firmly I promise I will talk to you about all this the minute the tour is over The minute we're out of the World Cup "

Hopefully that will be after the final, I say

'Yes, hopefully Then I ll talk to you on the flight out of Melbourne " he responds

It s a journalist's occupational hazard, you know Very often we are accused of not having cross-checked with a sportsperson when doing a story on him or her Yet when we do ask them their side of the story they often refuse to speak to us

Maybe I should have just scrapped the idea of a Manjrekar story and spoken to Sachin Tendulkar instead, especially since everytime I called Manjrekar in his hotel room it was roommate Tendulkar who picked up the phone to tell me his mate wasn't in.

But Manjrekar's reluctance to talk is quite understandable. "You must



SANTOSH GHOSH

understand", Manjrekar told me, "why I don't want to talk now." Yes, I do. Maybe Manjrekar is waiting for the next few games to make a couple of good scores so that, at the end of it all, people won't ask him questions about poor form etc. Maybe, on the other hand, the man is so foxed about his poor form that he doesn't want to talk about it because he doesn't really know what to say or how to explain it.

At the nets, Manjrekar has all along this tour hit the ball well. Yet, out in the middle he didn't look all that comfortable. To say that he is uncomfortable against fast bowling, as some have suggested, is ridiculous. Manjrekar had the toughest debut any young cricketer can have—of which he came out a success.

If anything, it's his running between wickets that needs to be looked into. Manjrekar has been on the wrong end—and sometimes the right end—of many run outs throughout this tour. Had he been Australian he would surely have been nicknamed 'the kamikaze kid' because of his tendency for suicidal runs.

And 'kamikaze kid' he was against Australia at Brisbane; he played an innings not normally associated with the correctness of a Manjrekar innings. Heroic improvisation—not exactly the Manjrekar forte—ended with his partner Azharuddin being run out with Manjrekar following soon .. also run out.

But that day Sanjay Manjrekar proved to many critics—and perhaps to himself—that he is capable of being a dashing batsman even if it means throwing his technique to the winds of improvisation.

Sanjay Manjrekar isn't ready to discuss his disappointing tour of Australia at this time because he knows that he is too classy a batsman to be kept down for too long And that it will only be a matter of time for him to return to 'normal cruise control.'

While there has been talk about promoting Manjrekar to open the innings because of his superior technique, there is no denying that his good buddy Tendulkar has stolen his thunder. Maybe even making him feel a little overshadowed. But Manjrekar is a batsman of the highest calibre, with amazing confidence, grace and charm. He also possesses an excellent temperament which not too many cricketers obtain in an entire lifetime In short, Sanjay Manjrekar has a super abundance of qualities required to succeed in cricket. And the most important thing is that he knows it

Andy O' Brien, Sydney



The big guns: Azhar, Shastri and Kapil

CRICKET ISN'T NURSING IN



FOR DIVIDUAL EGOS

FOR those of us who like watching cricket and dislike paying taxes, March 1 was quite a memorable day. Though, it did seem a little unfair that earlier the Indians had been undone by rain when scheduled to play against a supposedly weaker side and then lost to the supposed favourites by a minute margin; also that Dr Manmohan Singh has refused to extend his liberalism to allow me to stay in my own house without paying for it.

But, unlike Azhar, I am not complaining about the rules. They are the same for all.

On the other hand, if the Finance Minister had leaked the budget to me, I would certainly have informed the Indians that there were some incentives being considered for sportspeople in the new order of things. It might have made that critical difference in the performance, an edge that has been missing this summer (or winter, depending where you are).

And yet, one cannot think of any benefit that could accrue



BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

to the Indian cricketer since not one that I know of pays any tax on the money he earns from the game, even though it may go into lakhs in any given accounting year.

Nor do I see any cricket bags coming back with kilogrammes of gold (does it not seem that the boys have been away at least six months?) because it is now going to be pretty tough to get into the semi-finals, and if the Indians fade out against the weaker teams they can hardly expect a bonus from the BCCI or the many well-to-do Indians living Down Under.

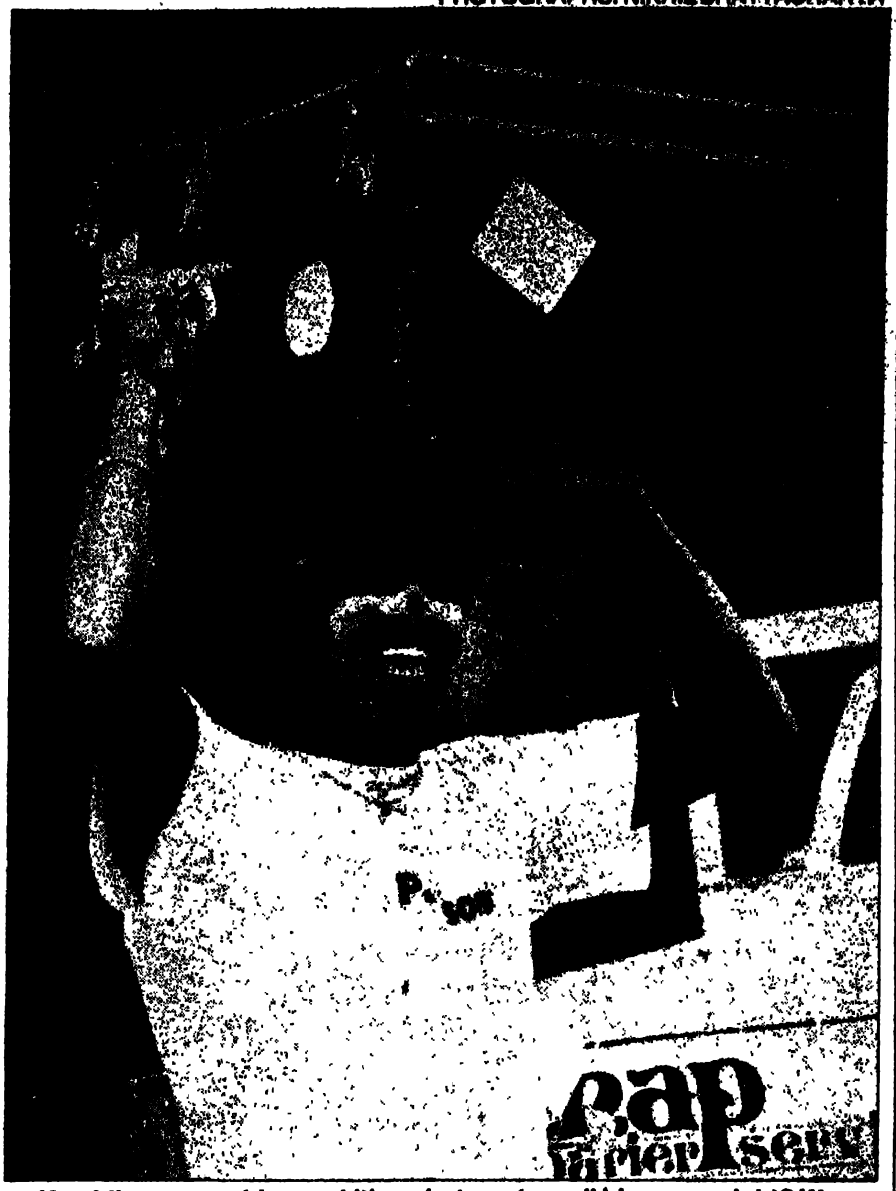
Kapil Dev is, of course, not bothered (I'd better watch it here while I am still working for one of his companies). He has actually returned his remuneration for the World Cup to the BCCI, considering it a pittance not commensurate with the financial standing of the event. He has asked the President to donate his share to some appropriate charity.

What he intends to do with the Rs 1 lakh (as the papers say) that is going to be presented to him, when he and Jadeja are to be honoured on their return I have not the foggiest. But some nice guy did mention to me quietly that Pataudi was also in Haryana and that some octogenarians were sure to remember that



Kapil has asked the BCCI to give his remuneration for this World Cup to charity

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Kambli can carry his own kitbag, but can he pull his own weight? We hope so!

father and I did captain the country in the dim past (though not simultaneously as we were not playing hookey) and since the wife refuses to work anymore and the son and daughter-in-law have yet to contribute to my welfare, maybe Mr Bhajan Lal might consider passing on a bit of Govt. largesse this way.

But I have not had the courage to ask and I don't suppose the Haryana Chief Minister reads **Sportsworld.** *More's the pity.*

It was sad that it rained in Mackay (wherever that is) and not in the first game against England or against Australia at Brisbane. But the Indians will just have to accept a couple of facts, no matter how unpalatable they are: that luck will tend to favour the better side and that this law does not apply to Imran Khan who is pretty well connected with both terrestrial and extra terrestrial goddesses.

So why should Azharuddin crib especially since he has come so close to winning (either almost getting there from an impossible position or giving up the ghost having nearly got there) that even his most ardent fan will not accept that it was luck, the weather, or the umpires that India continues to be denied her due.

I am also fast running out of suggestions, not that anybody listens to them, but I still continue to remain an optimist, even though India continues to play Shastri. India had to get past Pakistan, a task infinitely easier in Sydney than in Sharjah, and then beat the others it has yet to meet. Fortunately these sides are not the strongest (yes, I know what you are thinking) but India can only hope that none of these teams over-excels itself on that day.

Finally, must we keep reminding the players and the management which has been a little vague recently that this is a team game; and if it is being played to nurse individual egos, the BCCI had better clamp down hard and fast, and in some cases permanently. ●


ENGLAND



INTERVIEW

IAN BOTHAM

THE ENIGMA..



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

...the cricketer, the entertainer, the man. Botham is a mystery even to himself. An exclusive interview by

GAUTAM BHATTACHARYA

SPORTSWORLD: Is it possible for you to objectively analyse yourself, your success, your cricket...?
IAN BOTHAM: Well, I can tell you one thing, a lot of people try and make cricket a complicated game. And it's not a complicated game. At the end of the day, cricket is very simple. The bowling side has got the ball and the batting side a bat. My attitude towards the game of cricket is very simple, I consider myself an entertainer. If I go out there and I enjoy it, be it batting, bowling or fielding, if people see me enjoying it, then that's entertainment. You know, I get bored very easily. So if I wasn't playing well or wasn't hitting the ball or wasn't enjoying myself I wouldn't waste people's money. No chance.

Which means even after 15 years of international cricket, you still enjoy playing the game?
Oh, yeah. For instance, I wanted to play this World Cup very badly. I didn't play the last one that was played, so I am really hungry this time. I think we're quite capable of lifting the Cup this time.

What is the special motivation for this World Cup?
The motivation derived from the fact that we've never managed to win the World Cup. I mean, I've been a member of both the sides. One that lost in the '79 finals and the other, that couldn't make it to the finals in '83.

Your World Cup record, as compared to your Test match record, doesn't seem to be that impressive...
No, but you'll have to keep in mind in most of the matches I batted at No. 6. When you bat at six, more often than not, you find yourself in either of the two situations. You are either in at 40 for four after 15 overs or you are in there at 240 for four with five overs to go. So this never seemed to be a happy medium.



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Statistics don't mean a thing. Botham enjoys playing cricket and that's where it ends

Statistically, my record (in one-dayers) may not look that impressive, but then I am the kind of person who doesn't have much interest in statistics. I've never paid any interest to it, because statistics don't give you the full picture.

An endless debate goes on about who is the greatest all-rounder of them all—Kapil, Imran, yourself or Hadlee. What is your opinion?

Well, (thinks for a while) at the end of the day I would say that all of us, all four of us, have been good for each other. Four world class all-rounders at the same time means fierce competition. This competition motivates you to go beyond the limit, and when you've such people competing there's bound to be intense rivalry. Because you're always trying to outsmart the other three. But now, at the end of the day, I would say we're the best of friends and hope to be the best of friends for many years to come. It's a competitive game and if you're pushed to the maximum it is basically good for yourself. So as I told you, we've been good for each other.

You have the image of a person who is very rude, one who is always taking on the authorities, caring two hoots for discipline. On the other hand, my personal experience tends to suggest that you have a good heart. Now, which one is the real Botham?

Well, (laughs) you're talking about the British Press (laughs again). Again it's a very simple solution. I can't stop people if they want to write something about me. That's okay. But if they make it slanderous, then I sue. But as long as they restrict themselves to their personal opinions it doesn't bother me. People judge me as I judge people. I judge people as I see them. I don't get affected by what I read about them, or what someone tells me.

"I see no point in doing anything where I may come second. My theory is, you don't compete where you may come second. So whatever activities I take part in, I always strive to become No. 1 ... go what success [illegible]

There is a theory that you would have been a greater cricketer, but for your diverse interests. This theory seems to indicate that you lacked the single mindedness of some of your rivals...

No. I don't agree with this notion at all. I don't think it is very wise to put all your eggs in one basket. And I have had to dedicate the first 10 years of my professional career to cricket. I was extremely singleminded then. Now the situation is different. I am 36, so I can't play cricket for a long time; say another eight to ten years. So if I stop playing cricket at the international level what am I going to do? So I've had to start making plans for the future.

You know you can't please all the people all the time. If I had just concentrated on cricket without making any plans for the future even then, it would've been difficult to satisfy everybody. They would've still said, 'oh, this was a very foolish thing to do. You must start making plans for the future, you should do this, you should do that.'

How do you forsee your future 10 years from now?

Ten years from now? Well, I don't know what I'll be doing two years from now. Hopefully I would still be playing cricket. After that I'll worry about the next 10 years.

Would you like to be associated with the game in the future?

I don't think so. I don't really know. I wouldn't like to commit myself so early. I take life as it comes. I've got my wife and children and I have to plan for them. Plus, I've got a lot of other responsibilities.

I believe your son Liam is coming up very well. Does he have the potential to play for England?

He is a very good cricketer and has

the potential. But let us wait and see.

In retrospect, did you regret the number of controversies you were involved in?

(Laughs) No, not at all. I mean, some of the controversies have a lot of truth in them, some very little truth, some have no truth at all. In fact, most of them have no truth. So you don't worry about it. At the end of the day, you realise the meaning of that saying, all publicity is good publicity. I don't regret it in any way.

You seem to have an image which is larger than life. Do you think at times you become a prisoner of that image? In the sense that it puts you under lot of stress....

When you perform well you get publicity, your commercial ratings go up, but you don't do it consciously, thinking that this would help me commercially and this won't. It is applicable for other professions as well.

This larger than life image you're talking about is not my conscious creation. That's been created because I've done well on the cricket field. It's been created by the people who write about me or by the common public. And I'm quite happy with it. I don't mind it.

On a purely personal level how much does success mean to you?

Well, success means everything and that's the only thing. I mean, I see no point in doing anything where I may come second. My theory is, you don't compete where you may come second. So whatever activities I take part in, I always strive to become No. 1.

There are many who believe you have a sort of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde kind of (dual) personality. Again there are many, who strongly believe that it's just Dr Jekyll and nothing else. Trying.



"Some controversies have a lot of truth, some very little truth, some have no truth at all. At the end of the day, you realise the meaning of that saying, all publicity is good publicity"—*on the controversies he has been involved in*



Botham is a winner all the way. According to him, he wouldn't compromise even if he played against his son, Liam; (inset) Botham's wife, Kathy, has been his anchor through every controversy he has been involved in

to substantiate their argument, they put forward the incident where you left Somerset just because your friends Viv and Garner were asked to leave. According to them, basically you're a nice bloke taken for a ride by the ruthless world. Do you agree?

As far as leaving Somerset went, yes, as Viv Richards described them, there were lot of evil forces working in Somerset. But now at the end of the day, if you just look back at all the mistakes, or how you've been wronged in life, you don't achieve anything. You don't move forward. I prefer remembering the good things in life. You also remember the bad things to some extent, it's a learning process. But the most important thing is, you've got to keep going forward.

You said at the end of the day it's a learning process. Now what exactly have you learnt from life?

What I've learnt from life? I've learnt from life to enjoy.

Just enjoy?

No, not just enjoy. Lots of other things.

Like?

Lots of things. You need 50 million

tapes to know the kind of things I've learnt from life. I've seen most of the world two or three times. Played cricket all around the world. I've friends all around the world, a wife and family, a nice home.What more do you want?

You had written in your book that if you were to play against your then four-year-old son, you would still want to win. Does your approach remain the same or has it mellowed?

No, it's still the same. I still have the winning urge. I don't think you can cultivate this in anybody. You've got to be born with it. I had it. My son is about the same. He has also got it.

Did you have any sporting idols, someone who inspired you to become better and better?

Well, not just sports, mostly I had and I still have idols from various walks of life. People from the music world, politicians, actors. Lots of them.

Can you name one or two?

Someone like Elton John. I admire him, I simply admire him. The man has been at the top for the last 20 to 30 years. Then I admire people like the Rolling Stones. I admire people like Gorbachev.

Why do you admire Gorbachev? These days he has become an anti-hero. The one and only hero is ....Yeltsin.

Well, in five years time they may again start saying, Gorbachev is a better guy. What the hell. To me, Gorbachev is the man instrumental in getting things moving. Like I've tremendous admiration for Mandela. I was

"If you just look back at all the mistakes, or how you've been wronged in life, you don't achieve anything. You don't move forward. I prefer remembering the good things in life. You've got to keep moving forward"—on accusations of him having a dual personality

THE INTERVIEW THAT WA

APART from his heroics and unpredictability on and off the field, the most deceptive thing about England's great all-rounder is his name—Ian Terence Botham. It has a well-to-do upper class ring of someone who might be seen rushing through peak hour traffic in London with a flashy overcoat an umbrella and a copy of *The Times* tucked under his arm. But any cricket fan will tell you that's not Ian Botham.

He's known as that knockabout English loudmouth who talks with a cockney twang which ensures he said 'arright' when others say all right. And while his pronounciation might not have changed the character and words have.

The 1992 model Ian Botham is different. The interview alongside proves precisely this. At a stage when Father Time is about to tap him on the shoulder, Botham has developed a more mellow approach to life and cricket—probably using his head more than his heart.

It took Gautam Bhattacharya years to get Botham to agree to an interview. During the 1990 Indian tour of England, after numerous phone calls, Bhattacharya managed to get hold of the great all-rounder and was told to meet him at Leicester where he was playing a match. Missing the game India was involved in, Bhattacharya travelled all the 200 miles but had to wait till the end of play before he was told that it was too late. Botham had to urgently make a trip to Worcester and he had promised to call the journalist when he returned to London.

The phone call from Botham never materialised. Desperate, Bhattacharya contacted Botham's agent Andy Whitaker. True to his profession, Whitaker asked that a fee be paid for the interview. Bhattacharya countered that it was the policy of the Ananda Bazar Group of Publications not to pay for interviews, that the amount being asked for was too high for someone converting Indian rupees

Whitaker told Bhattacharya he would get back. He did, with the news that he had made a few inquiries and found out that the Ananda Bazar Group was one of the biggest publication groups in India. Hence, a payment was mandatory for the interview. Bhattacharya stuck to his guns and the interview didn't come off.

Yet, when Bhattacharya approached the 36-year-old Botham in Sydney during the World Cup and told him about how he had been 'ditched' in the summer of 1990, Botham promised he would keep his word...better late than never! Without any problems, Botham talked...and how. His words and attitude from two years back request was that he be given a copy appeared.

Four years ago Botham "I'm still the best all-rounder summer." Today he tells a for you to judge," he said Yet, while Botham's Botham's 14-year-old

WO YEARS OVERDUE



This is not the cross road of Botham's life, just another landmark of charities he has helped

extremely pleased to see South Africa coming back into international cricket I think in politics you can have a barrier, but why have that in sport?

You know, I have a lot of heroes but they don't necessarily have to be famous people I have a friend of mine who is a cripple And I admire him I think, he is a hero I mean, everything is relative

Do you have anything called an ideology?

I believe in life you re not here for a long time So be here for a good time One saying that I learnt in Australia, when I first came here in 1976, and it has always stayed in my mind is that, 'this is life So be in it Whatever goes by, be in it

Do you feel you've been wronged by the English selectors to a great extent? For a period of about 24 months they never picked you?

Well, as I told you, you can look back and feel bitter about things or you can look forward and get on with life My theory is that I don t look back

Despite involving yourself in so many charitable projects you're still called a mercenary cricketer by some people. How come?

There's just one word which answers this question It's a very simple word. Just one word It's called jealousy ●

DID you notice the unusual, if not unique feature of the scorecards for the first Test between England and New Zealand at Christchurch? I was not thinking of the fact that two New Zealanders were out for 99 which is stupid but by no means a Test match first nor to the fact that seven of England s XI were born outside Britain I refer of course to the coincidental oddity that each side had a Smith and each side had a Pringle Players with the same name on either side is comparatively common, especially in domestic cricket where two members of the same family may play for different teams but two players on each side sharing surnames in a Test is one of these statistics whose arrival is well overdue In county cricket it is rare enough happening only once last summer when Warwickshire played Hampshire in the NatWest semi final and both teams had two Smiths on their side but in Test cricket the Christchurch match chalked up what looks like a first

There are few more obvious ways of troubling the scorers and confounding the commentators Perhaps only the first Test between New Zealand and South Africa in 1952-53 can rank with it, when each side had four players whose surname started with the letter M. South Africa had McGlew, McLean,

We've seen Turners opposing each other for Australia and New Zealand, Richardses for West Indies and England, Manns for England and South Africa, and yet more Smiths for England and New Zealand and for England against West Indies

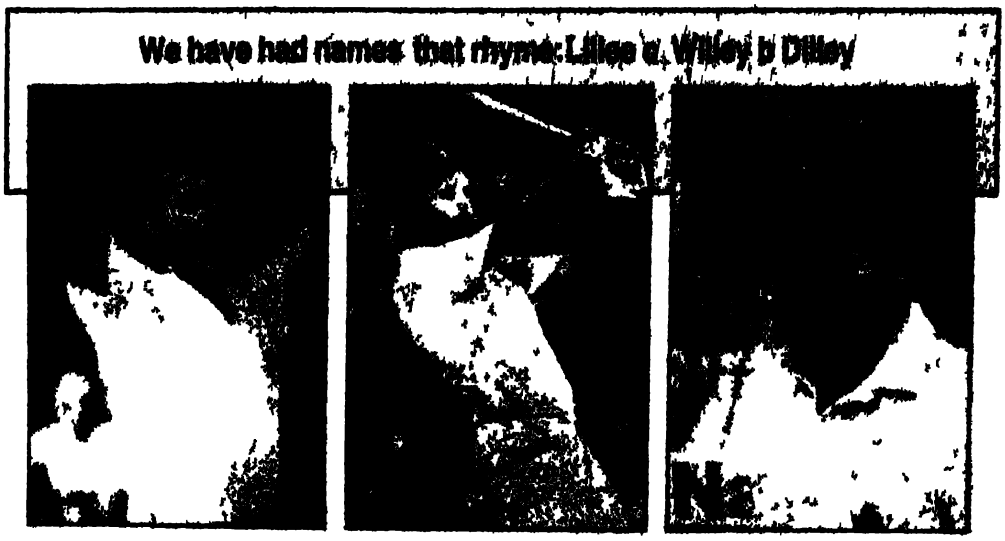
Murray and Mansell, while the New Zealanders fielded Meuli Miller, Mooney and Moir There have been four players with the same initial letter of their surname playing for a Test side both before and since but there has only once been four of the same letter on each side Hobbs Hutchings Hardstaff and Humphries played together for England in 1908 for example and Hassett Hole,Harvey and Hill played for Australia in two matches of the Coronation series Hunte Holford, Hendriks and Hall were all picked for West Indies in 1966, and Hedley Howarth, two Hadlees and Hastings played for New Zealand in 1974

These were the first examples my research threw up, which leads me to wonder why the letter H hunts in packs It is possible that the selectors only had the E K telephone directory to hand and thus were limited in their options but there is no evidence that this policy is a winning one Australia lost the Ashes in 1953 New Zealand won one and lost one against Australia in 1974 Australia won two of the three 1908 matches against a fully aitched England and even West Indies lost one of the three Tests they played in 1966 with their four Hs The South African selectors enjoyed their bit of alphabetical licence, though Their Ms made 379 of their side's 524 runs but the New Zealand Ms were far less successful They made only 105

The first instance of namesakes on either side in a Test match occurred in March 1889, at Port Elizabeth when Fred Smith kept wicket for South Africa against an England side captained by C A 'Round the Corner' Smith A few months earlier, Sammy Woods of Australia and Harry Wood of England had had a near miss in this particular department, but it took a brace of Smiths to achieve a Test first Sir Aubrey also became the first man in Test history to dismiss a namesake when he bowled F W for 7 in the first innings This Test, though was but the start of something much more complicated In 1892 England played South Africa at Cape Town and the Hearne family took over Three Hearnes played for England and one for South Africa

There were more unrelated Smiths playing against each other in the Triangular Tournament of 1912, when Tiger of England came up against Dave of Australia At the Oval, Tiger caught Dave for 6 off the bowling of Wooley to become the first person to dismiss his namesake in Test cricket on English soil Since then, Barnetts have crossed swords in 1938,

We have had names that rhyme: Lilee c. Willey b Dilley





Viv Richards: had opposing namesakes

The Name Game

JONATHAN RICE on the trouble namesakes in opposing teams are causing cricket's statisticians and scorers

and in the third Test, Ben of Australia (supported no doubt by fellow Bs Bradman, Brown and Badcock) caught Charlie of England in both innings. In the final Test of that series, incidentally Australia played five Bs, as Sid Barnes made his debut. Between them, they made 215 runs in the two innings (with byes scoring an extra five), but England's three Hs (Hutton, Hardstaff and Hammond) made 592 out of 903 for 7 and that was that.

We've seen Turners opposing each other for Australia and New Zealand, Richardses for West Indies and England, Manns for England and South Africa (they both dismissed each other during the 1948-49 series, but it was George catching Tufty which gave rise to John Arlott's legendary comment about 'Mann's inhumanity to Mann), and yet more Smiths (T. P. B. and F. B. for England and New Zealand and for England (D.V.) against West Indies (O. G.). We've had names that rhyme (Lillee c Willey b Dilley), and even amazing technicoloured opening attacks (Brown and White for England against Pakistan), but until this year, we had never seen two sets of namesakes in the same match.

The Smith family are everywhere, of course, so it is no surprise that over the years more Smiths have been dismissed by Smiths in Test cricket than any other self-destructing name. But the Pringle clan has been less ubiquitous, and I note with glee that another of that name has been picked for the South African World Cup squad. Meyrick of that ilk, of Western Province, is apparently a fast bowler like his New Zealand and (sort of) England colleagues, so it will make life easy for the commentary team: 'It's Pringle to take the new ball,' will apply in almost half the matches played. If only Sri Lanka could find a Pringle as well, it would solve all the tongue-twisting problems encountered by Ray Illingworth and Jack Bannister last summer.

If only Clive Rice had not been dropped by South Africa, maybe I could have persuaded the England selectors to give me a chance...
P.S: In the finals of the 1990-91 World Series Cup, Australia fielded twin Waughs and two unrelated Taylors, while both Australia and New Zealand had a Jones and a Reid.

Snippets...

HOP-A-LONG RHODES

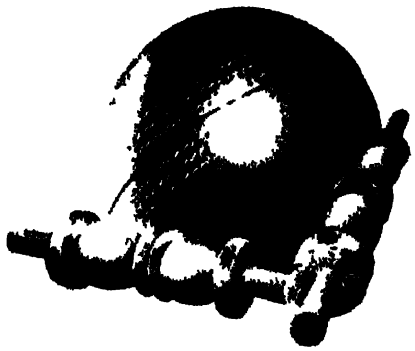
SOUTH AFRICA's Jonty Rhodes must be the most outstanding fielder of the World Cup. Funnily enough, the sporting path that Rhodes has followed with great success was plotted out of necessity by a family Doctor before the South African sporting star had even reached his teens.

Growing up in a town, an hour away from Durban, Rhodes was diagnosed as having mild reflex epilepsy, a condition where a simple knock to the head can cause concussion Suddenly for the youngster, whose father played representative rugby, heavy body contact sports were out. For life! The blonde youngster turned to cricket and hockey. There was also the occasional game of tennis and soccer, although the latter was quickly scrapped when he was warned not to head the ball. And now at 22, Rhodes has established himself as one of the most talented all-round sportsmen in the republic.

Apart from winning a place in the team for the World Cup as a flamboyant middle order batsman and exceptional fielder, the university student is also on the squad of his country's national hockey team.

But despite Rhodes' stature in South African sport, the cricket World Cup represents only the second occasion Rhodes has been outside South Africa The first was last year, when he upset a hockey coach by taking a week off for holidaying in Zimbabwe. But there was an occasion in 1983 when he was forced to withdraw from an overseas trip with the South African universities team after being called up to make his debut for the Natal cricket team. Rhodes realises that the prospect of international tours in the future means that time is drawing closer when juggling two sports—cricket in summer and hockey in winter—will become intolerable.

"I would still like to play hockey for another four years and, maybe, try and make it to the Olympics next time, but if I have to make a decision, cricket will always be first," says Rhodes.



TUFF GETS GOING

IF JONTY RHODES is considered the best fielder in the tournament, then English left-arm spinner Phillip Clive Roderick Tufnell is fighting to win the title of the 'worst fielder'. There's a joke among the English team, that it's best to have Tufnell bowling from both ends, not because he is such a great bowler, but because that will make sure you don't have to hide him on the field.

His walk with feet splayed at 'ten-to-two', might not be that of a champion athlete, but he is a character in a sport of too few and also one of the better spin bowlers in the world today.

Last summer in Australia he was subject to intense crowd baiting for his hapless fielding, but he says he has returned as a better bowler and fieldsman. At a time when the number of Tests won by spin bowling has fallen to one every two years, Tufnell has taken five or more wickets in an innings in successive Tests



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Phil Tufnell: He is a character in a game where there are very few

against the West Indies, Sri Lanka and New Zealand. "I'm just the same old cricketer and the same old bloke. I haven't changed myself," says the 'Tuff' cookie.

"I worked hard to take wickets after I was dropped. I have also worked hard on my fielding. I did cop it a bit from the crowd last summer but that's all part of the game. For my bowling, I now follow the theory that 'the harder they hit you the slower you should bowl," says Tufnell.

His recent success in Tests against New Zealand just prior to the World Cup triggered a landslide of acclaim in his homeland. His Middlesex mentor, John Emburey says, Tufnell will play 100 Test matches, "and that means he is quite capable of beating Derek Underwood's record of 296 wickets, the most by an English spinner."

A tabloid trumpeted, "When the going gets tough, Tuff gets going." And the story titles, "20 things to send you spinning over 'tough' nut Phil" revealed that Tufnell used to have a skin head haircut, ponytail and earring and was the MCC's Young Cricketer of the Year in 1984. Ian Botham had predicted before the World Cup that Tufnell would win England the World Cup. Let's wait and see.

GOWER'S BACK!

IF former English cricket captain David Gower can't be a member of one of the best teams in the world on the pitch, he'll settle for being in the best team off it. Gower still maintains that he is in contention for the England team, but is now in Australia as a guest commentator for Channel 9 having been snubbed by the selectors and left out of the English side for the World Cup.

Despite his obvious disappointment, Gower is pleased to be in Australia: to be part of what he calls the best cricket coverage in the world.

David Gower: His chances for a place in the English team are evenly balanced



PATRICK EAGAR

Gower was in Australia a year ago, for Tests and says, "I thought I had a pretty good series and on the strength of that thought I had some sort of a chance to be included in the team."

"But I'm not, so I have to get on with things and I'm glad Channel 9 have invited me out."

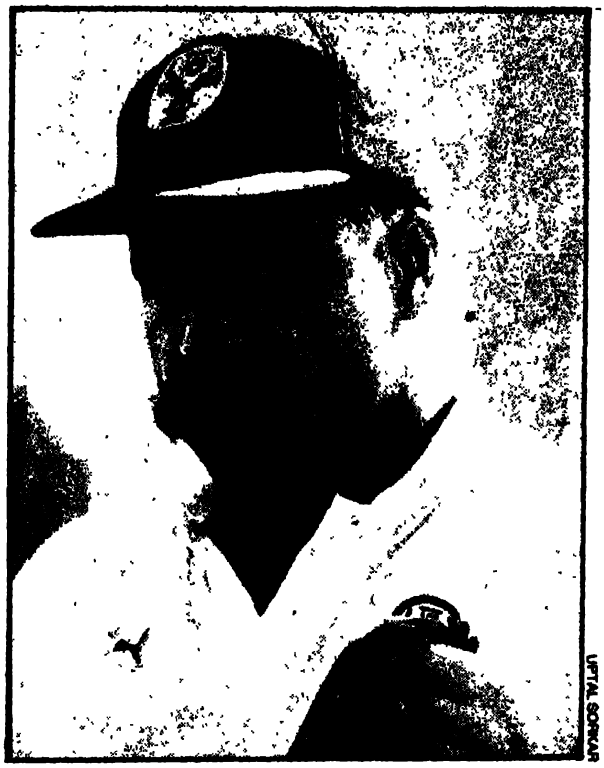
The blonde and handsome cricketer is no stranger to fellow commentators Richie Benaud, Greg and Ian Chappell and Tony Greig. "I know Richie quite well. He has interviewed me on air many many times and I've had countless chats with him off the field," says Gower. "I've played against both Chappell brothers in Tests and one day internationals.

Gower also has plenty of broadcasting experience back in England. "On radio, one has to remember that the audience can't see the action and you have to describe it without leaving any dead air time. On television I have to keep myself from over-calling because the audience can see what's happening. But it is all good fun and good experience too."

A BOON FOR AUSTRALIA

OPENING batsman David Boon, the Tasmanian kerbstone propping up mainland Australia is delaying surgery to a bad knee until after the World Cup is over. The prolific Boon's three Test centuries, two limited over hundreds and five half centuries this season are all the more remarkable considering he has been troubled by a right knee injury sustained in a game of indoor soccer.

"It's sore each day, but I will play every game in the cup," says Boon. One of the few Aussies who are performing consistently. His run out in the game against South Africa started Australia's doom. But when wicketkeeper Healy couldn't resume his duties behind the stumps

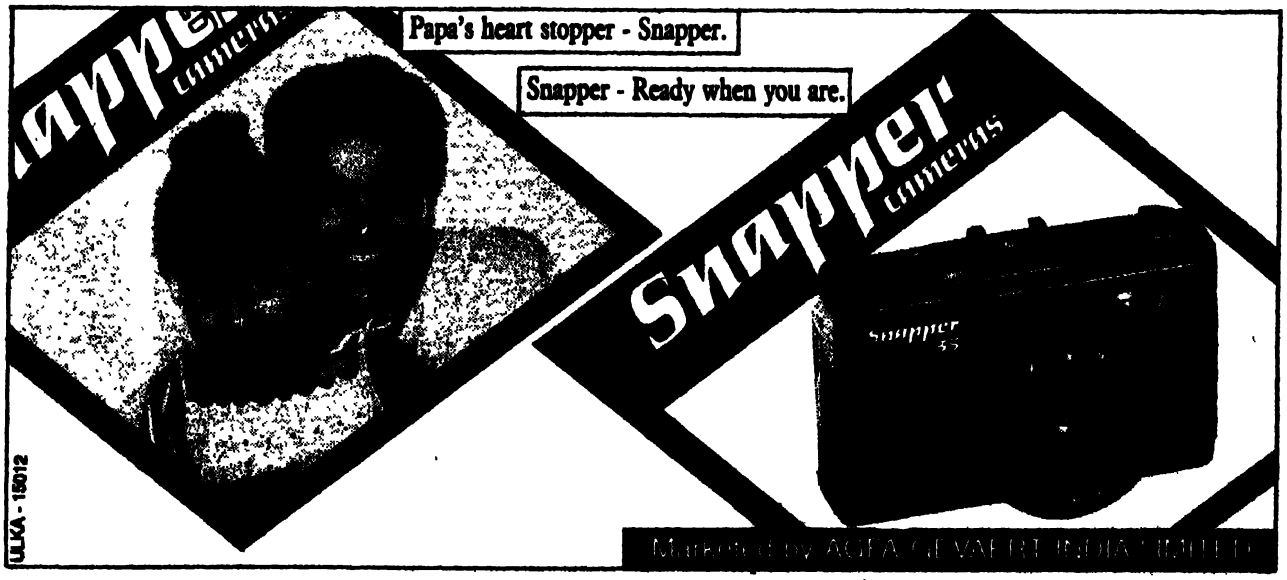


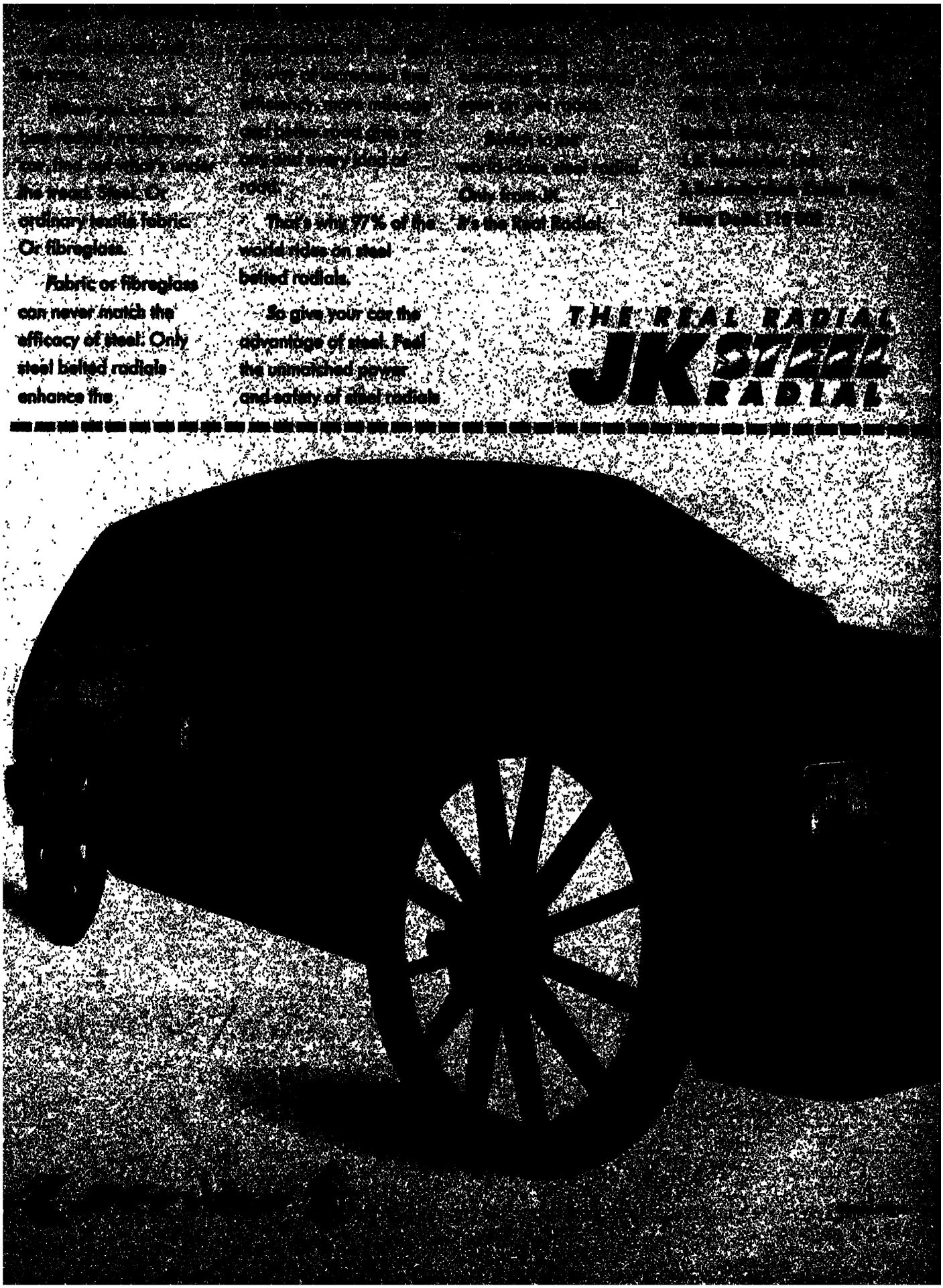
UPTAL SORKAR

David Boon is not just a good batsman but is also getting critical acclaim as a wicketkeeper

when South Africa batted, everyone was tossing up as to who would be wearing the pads and gloves: Jones, and Border were favourites. But surprise of surprises David Boon emerged with them on. "One performer and ten stand byes," commented one wag. No wonder Bill O'Reily has been criticising Allan Border for two successive defeats.O'Reily suggested that if Border is burnt out, he should hand the captaincy to Boon.

Compiled by Andy O'Brien

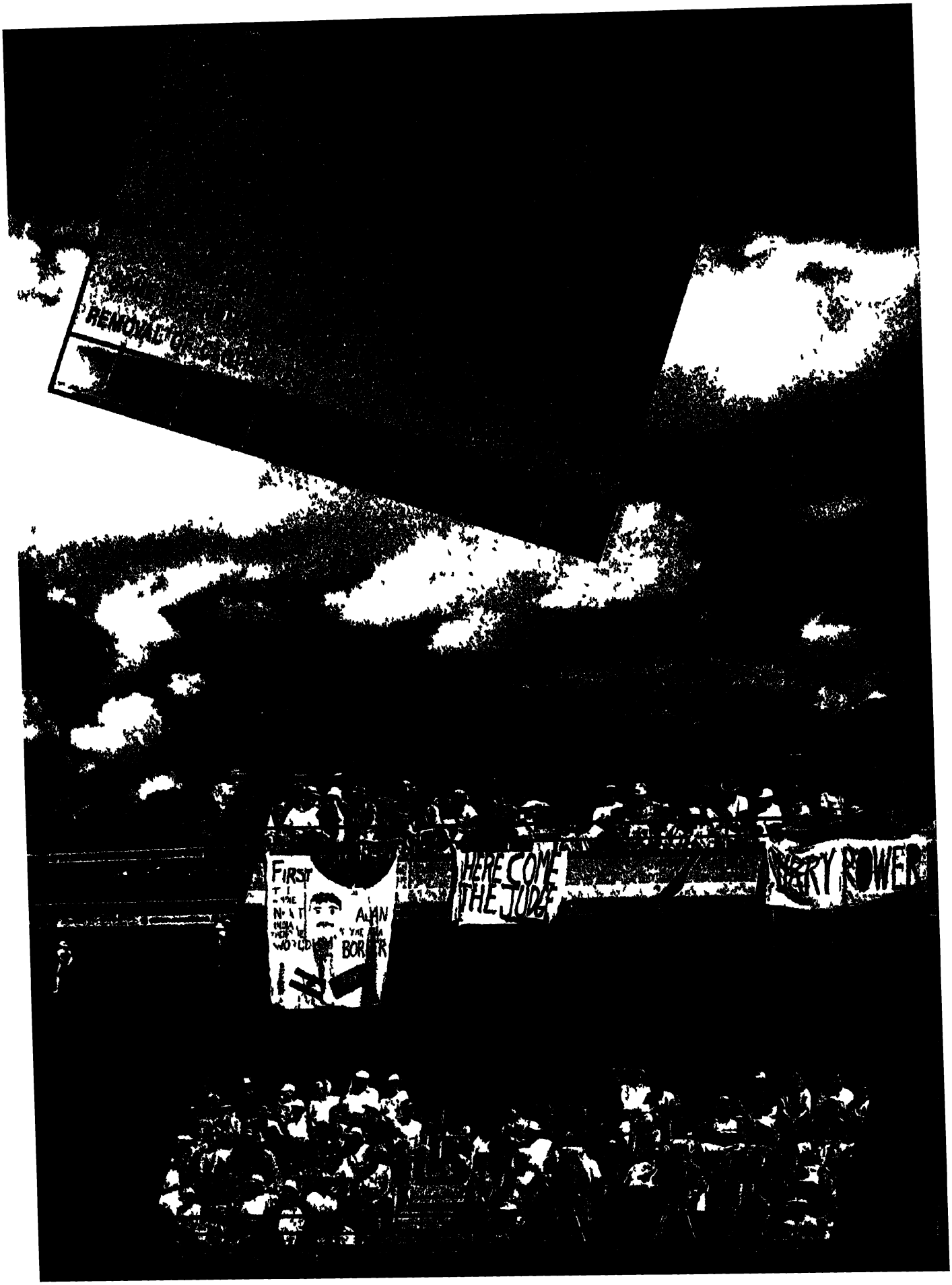



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So give your car the
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THE REAL RADIAL
JK STEEL
RADIAL


IMRAN
KHAN
THE PUSSY
FROM LAHORE
IS A BORE !!
DEAMO
DRIVE


Talk


UNDOCUMENTED
GMA


HERE COME THE JUDGE

EXTRAS

Some interesting snippets that even the cricketers couldn't hold on to....

ONE DAY MISBEHAVIOUR

THE first week of the World Cup raised a few questions about the recent international initiatives taken on short pitched bowling and the on-the-field conduct of cricketers. These were two of the sensitive issues addressed by the International Cricket Council last year. Stiffer restrictions were imposed against intimidatory bowling in general and bouncers in one-day cricket, while the introduction of match referees was seen as a deterrent to declining standards of on-the-field behaviour.

But these regulations are effective only if applied. Some incidents in the World Cup suggest that much thinking is still to be done. Australian wicketkeeper Ian Healy was guilty of a plain case of dissent when Martin Crowe, on 94, was given not out by English umpire David Shepherd. Healy threw the ball down in disgust and hurled the choicest of invectives at Crowe. The TV cameras at that moment, were trained on Healy, who has a far from unblemished record as far as behaviour is concerned. No report was, however, made to the match referee who took no action himself. A distasteful episode thus passed unpunished and a precedent was set.

Referees are only going to be useful if they are more than mere wall hangings. That is why the World Cup compromise of appointing local officials to the job as match referees at each game is simply counter productive.

The problems just don't stop there. When Curtly Ambrose was bowling to Javed Miandad, the clause of short pitched bowling was used to the letter. The trouble was that Miandad was seeking quick runs and in a moment of frustration, played an acrobatic shot at a ball which was about shoulder high. Miandad hit it straight to point where Carl Hooper took a simple catch. The umpire called 'no ball' and Miandad could only grin in relief. Ambrose on the other hand looked angry and puzzled. The umpire was right in his call, but the rule, when so applied is a nonsense. Quite what the consequences might be of a similar incident in the losing run chase of a critical cliff hanger of a game, does not bear contemplation—but it's time somebody did.



Australian wicketkeeper Ian Healy's behaviour was unpardonable and Curtly Ambrose's [illegible]

[redacted]

Still on the subject of poor umpiring, the use of neutral umpires in all 39 World Cup matches will not change Australian Cricket Board opposition to the proposal of neutral umpires in Tests. This, despite the approval of the World Cup system by all the captains participating in the tournament. There have been some very poor decisions in the first half of the World Cup, but most captains said that they feel comfortable with the concept of neutral umpiring.

No captain has criticised the umpiring inspite of some dreadful decisions. "I'm quite happy with it," said Allan Border, "It was used before and I think everyone seems to be able to grin and bear decisions a little bit easier than under normal circumstances."

There has definitely been a lot of grinning and bearing of mistakes in the tournament so far. This attitude will probably help the ACB's stand against umpires from a third country. They argue that umpires simply make mistakes and do not deliberately favour a home side. Australia, however, did not accept this [illegible] Pakistan four years ago.

[illegible]



bad," said Kepler Wessels, whose team should have had Geoff Marsh out in the very first ball of their opening campaign. "Maybe we'll get a few good one's down the track," Wessels hoped. Maybe everyone will.

[redacted]

The ensuing World Cup could prove to be a good omen for recession-hit Australia. The tournament will inject an estimated 70 million dollars into the Australian economy, as claimed in an economic impact study released by the Australian Cricket Board during the tournament. The study done by business consultants hired by the Board, also found that the nine-nation tournament would create more than 1,100 jobs within Australia.

These calculations have been based on the direct injection of nine million dollars of overseas expenditure, which includes the 15,000 to 18,000 tourists who have come to Australia specifically for the World Cup. A further $16 million is estimated from domestic tourism and [illegible] World Cup '92 a similar contribution to this figure could come from ticket sales and general licensing rights.

The major, and by far the biggest, financial impact could come from indirect benefits. The research goes on to show that for every Australian dollar spent in advertising overseas, the Aussie economy can receive around $50 back in foreign tourism expenditure. "The extensive media coverage of the World Cup (one billion viewers in 29 countries, dominated by India), can be expected to have a similar impact to many millions of dollars of direct tourism advertising," the report says.

In establishing the total overall economic impact, the study estimates that for every dollar spent on the tournament almost two dollars will be generated in the national economy. Considering the amount of profit the ACB will rake in during the World Cup—inspite of its claims to the contrary—the report is a fantastic PR job in a economy hit by recession and unemployment. In fact, as propaganda material, it would beat Prime Minister Paul Keating's economic statement made last fortnight.

Andy O'Brien, Melbourne

TWENTY-TWO years ago, the South Africans were considered the best cricketers in the world That was when cricket matches were played in daylight, international matches took longer than a day, all players wore white, cigarette company logos could not be painted on stadium turf But then humanity stepped in The world dug in its toes over apartheid and the West Indies took over as champions

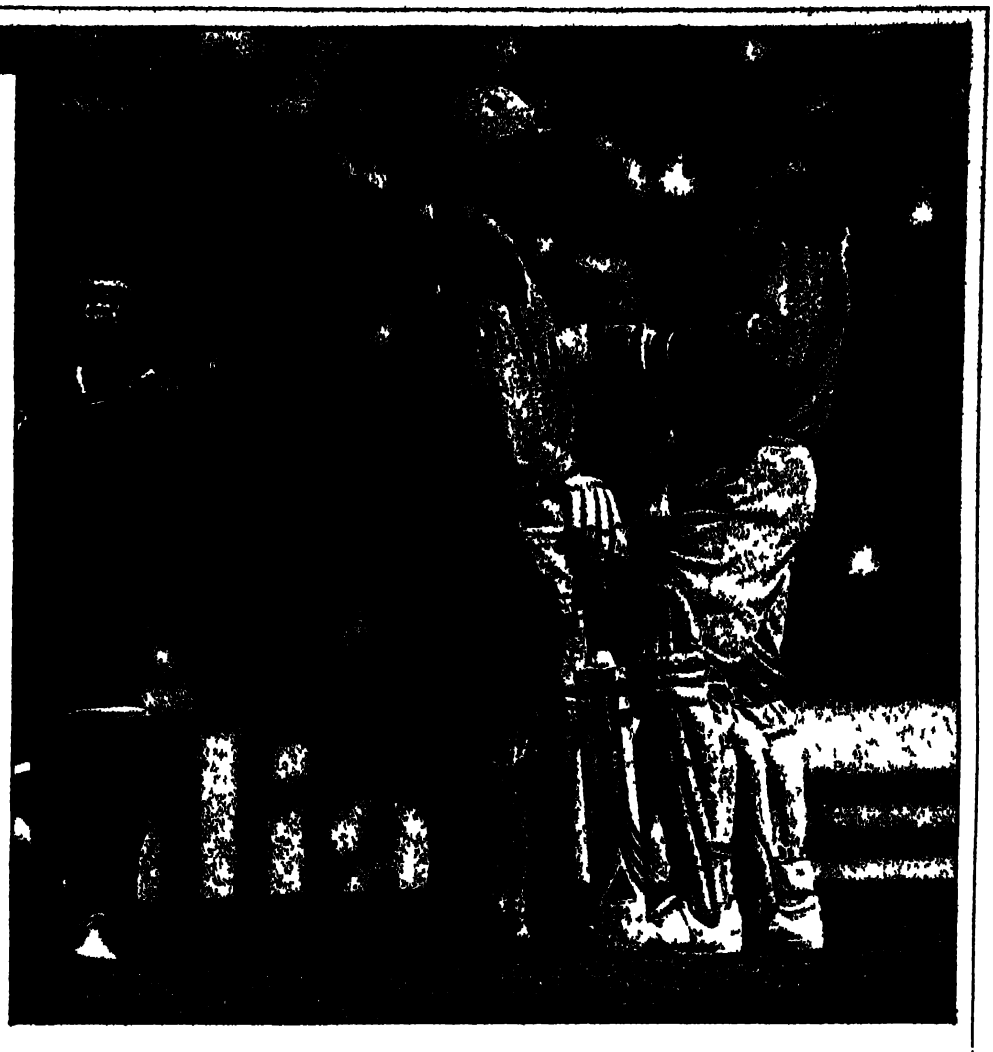
At this World Cup, where South African sport seems to have formally reconciled with the world, their white bowlers showed that they had even learnt the black West Indian way of celebrating success—the high fives

After so many years in the wilderness, everyone was wondering, would the South Africans be Rip Van Winkled? Their inaugural November tour of India after a gap of 22 years indicated that they were creaky and perhaps not up to the standards that the modern game demanded But having seen their troops under



High Fives! The South Africans may have spent 21 years in exile, but are still in touch with current trends

UNTOUCHA



Boon and Marsh meet for a desperate pow wow. All efforts at putting up a fight were slowly and steadily aborted

Once sporting outcasts, South Africa have bridged the gap between themselves and the rest of the world with their opening World Cup campaign. However, the country has yet to reject the tenets of apartheid. ANDY O'BRIEN predicts the consequences of this move

THE BLES

fire in India, it seems that the South Africans made a tactical retreat to regroup their forces and reconsider strategies.

Now the descendants of South Africa's lost cricketing generation have sprung back to actually be considered as dangerous opposition and perhaps even potential winners.

Basil D'Oliveira ended up playing 44 Tests for England, despite having been brought up playing on pitches in his native South Africa. His only sin was that he was not white. The sound of the current phrase, "selection on merit" would be music to his ears and with 30 million people to draw from, South Africa—if initial indications are anything to go by—could soon be drawing up a 'new world order' in cricket.

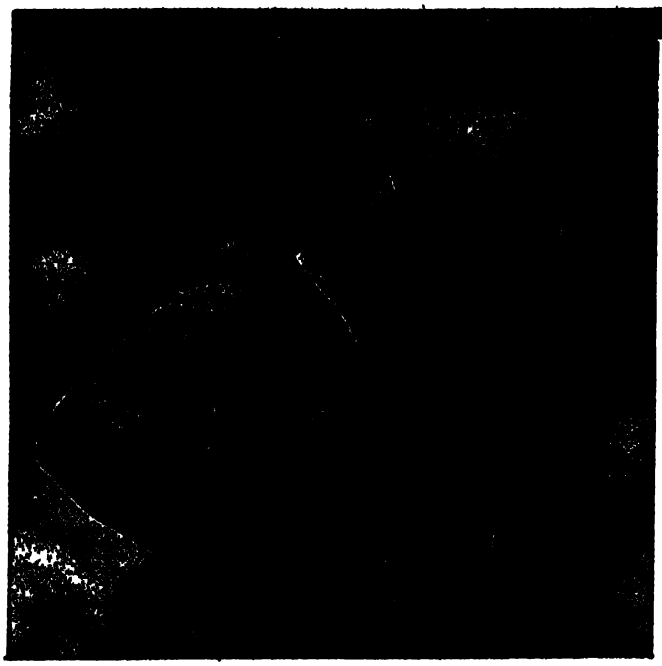
When you think about it, it's a remarkable feat!

Take, for instance, your average cricket fan and tell him that his country won't be allowed to play official international cricket for the next 21 years. Take the best 20-year-old cricketer you know and break the same news to him. It's a predicament too ghastly—impossible really to even contemplate. Yet South African cricket has had to serve this lengthy sentence. Worse still, its cricketers went into isolation in 1970, not knowing how long they would remain there.

Little did the 21-year-old Clive Rice know, when he was selected to tour Australia in 1971, that his dream would be crushed; that he would be 42—and tragically too old—before that opportunity rose again.

"The world heaped

PHOTOGRAPHS MIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



scorn upon us," says top South African sports writer Rodney Hartman, 'when we whooped it up over a series of rebel tours, accusing us of trying to uphold the politics of apartheid by entertaining mercenary cricket bands Maybe they were right. But really all we wanted was to play cricket; all we wanted to feel was the thrill of competing internationally. Maybe it was our way of attempting the Great Escape. Through it all, we knew that we were just kidding ourselves."

Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting took English teams; Lawrence Rowe his West Indians; and Kim Hughes the Australians. "But," continues Hartman, "they were not England, they were not West Indies, they were not Australia. They were just some blokes who helped ease our desperation; like a prison outing for the inmates. We then began realising that there was something far more wrong with our country than the trifling headache of sporting isolation. While we were wallowing in self pity at not being allowed to play Test cricket, there were thousands of black youngsters who had been denied a chance of ever representing their country because of the colour of their skins.....suddenly we knew why the world had rejected us. And suddenly we knew the world was right, after all. So we tried to put things right. South African cricket has done something that should have been done 20, or 30 or even 40 years ago. But still it has been done at last."

Spinner Omar Henry: One of the most talented black cricketers in South Africa, he is not a regular in the new side

For Wessels, the World Cup in Australia has been a homecoming of sorts



THE SHINE WEARS OUT

South Africa learnt soon enough that second rate shows would not be entertained

SOUTH AFRICAN Radio has lost its initial exuberance ever since the day their illustrious countrymen, the South African cricket team (alias, the Springboks) brough glory and honour to their country

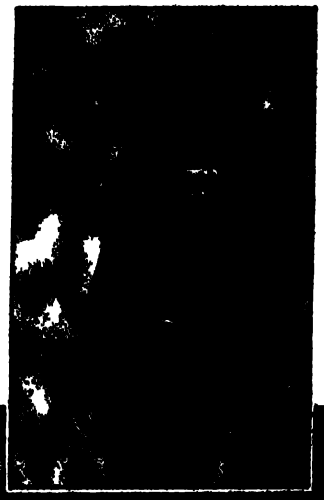
South Africa's lethal weapon, their much vaunted pace attack was vastly neutralised in their very next match against the Kiwis. With Martin Crowe coming in to his own in this World Cup, mainly as a strategist par excellence, the South Africans fell cheaply. Crowe's ploy of introducing a spinner—Dipak Patel—from the *opening over itself, totally foxed Kepler Wessels'* men. This unorthodox but effective tactic yielded a paltry 190 runs in 50 overs, score which New Zealand knocked up for the loss of three wickets and with 16 overs to spare. The lesson had been driven home: South Africa had come to terms with reality, the sheen which their unit had acquired after defeating Australia had started to wear off immediately.

Their inexperience showed again when they went into their third match against Sri Lanka, at Wellington. South Africa managed to improve on their score—they managed 195 in 50 overs—but that was not enough to see them through. Sri Lanka managed to knock up the winning runs in a well phased out manner and cruised home with three wickets to spare.

Somewhere along the line, there is a lesson that is to be learnt. The South Africans are realising that 21 years in the wilderness means the lesson will take a long time to be learnt.

And now, despite the strong surge they've come back with, Hartman says, "we are not yet back in world cricket. We have only arrived It's true that South Africa has an all-white team for the World Cup, but it was not because the government said so Win or lose, the greatest victory of all is that, for the first time in my lifetime, black South Africans are proudly supporting a national cricket team abroad '

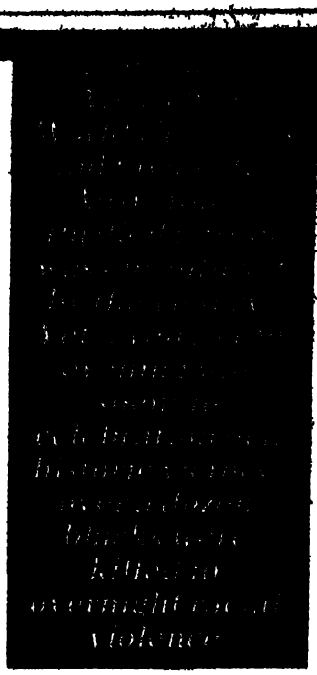
However, for all his pragmatism, Hartman's last claim is somewhat optimistic After South Africa beat World Cup hosts and favourites Australia, a thrilled nation was enraptured by the victory. President F.W. de Klerk, interrupted his weekly cabinet meeting to send a telegram to team captain Kepler Wessels Radio stations broke into normal programmes to announce the result at about midday local time



in Pretoria, Financial markets went on hold.

Yet, even as the evening was spent in celebration of a historic victory, over a dozen blacks were killed in overnight racial violence Blacks condemned the killings, which were part of a wave of unrest which claimed 64 black lives, saying "Our people are dying on the streets and yet all the white people talk about is a cricket match How can they expect us to be patriotic, if they behave like that?'

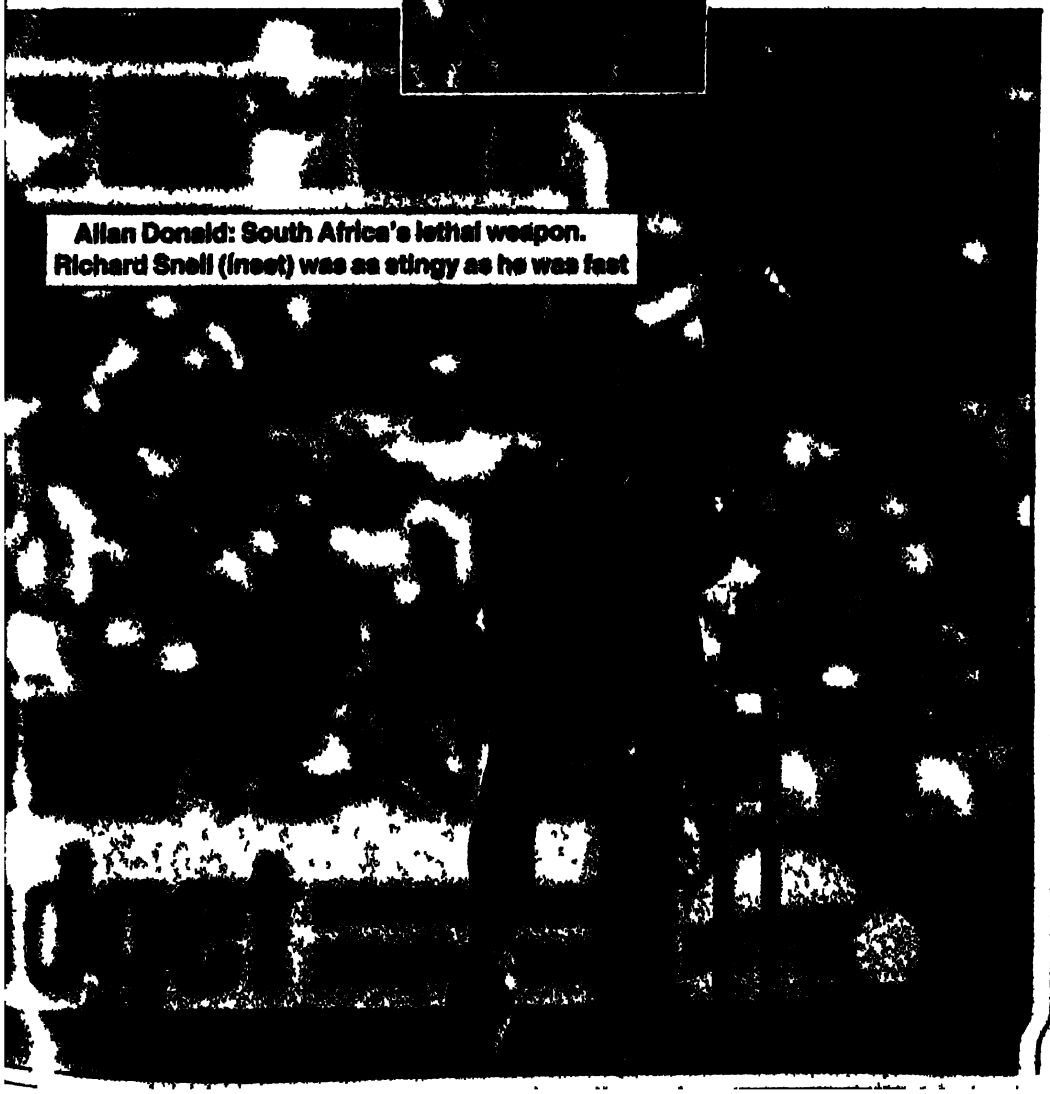
In fact, a very strange situation has developed President de Klerk, frustrated with opposition from conservative whites to his anti-apartheid policies, has called for a referendum over his reform policies The referendum, which might decide the immediate future of the republic and may even return South Africa to its previous evil ways, is scheduled for March 15 And if South Africa perchance make the semi-finals of the World Cup, they will be playing three days later



In fact, de Klerk has made political capital out of South Africa's win over Australia With his diplomatic eye focused on the forthcoming referendum, he called the win, "a victory for all of us over years of isolation and rejection," and warned that if the pro-apartheid conservative party won the referendum, the country would return to the sporting wilderness.

With that being a possibility before March 25, the implications are not very encouraging for the World Cup. Or the South African team

We all know that the South Africans are back. *Question is, are they* here to stay? ●



Allan Donald: South Africa's lethal weapon. Richard Snell (inset) was as stingy as he was fast



Time To Put The Brakes On

The racket revolution is destroying tennis, and it's gratifying that the game's administrators are finally beginning to get serious about stopping it

IN a generation of athletes, where the physical norm is suitcase-size shoulders and legs borrowed from Conan the Barbarian, Goran Ivanisevic fits in like a anorexic at a sumo wrestler's convention. Stringbean-thin with a famine victim's arms, for a fella 6-ft 4-in tall he weighs a ridiculous 73 kgs. Yet, last fortnight, he won the Eurocard Classic in Stuttgart mainly by virtue of 105 aces (an average of 21 per match), which makes you stop and wonder. Or take Richard Krajicek, also 6-ft 4-in, also under-weight at 79 kgs, who serves at the sweet speed of 207 kmph. Since it's not what they eat, you reckon it could be some alien power? Well, sort of. Actually it's something called the wide-bodied racket.

The racket revolution, and its contribution towards making tennis as close to a bloodsport as possible, has been well chronicled. Get hit on the nose by a Becker overhead these days, and you'll wake up to Saint Peter calling the score. Now you know why equipment manufacturers sell their rackets with 'join the arms race' and 'lethal weapon' as their advertising lines. Tennis, as if you didn't know, has gone violent.

Ever since graphite took over from metal and wood and Becker-brute force replaced McEnroe-touch, the game has, more than marginally, lost its spectator appeal at the

105 aces in five matches makes Ivanisevic a tough, but boring guy

TOMMY HINDLEY

professional level. As Edberg, who was Ivanisevic's final victim, put it, "It's a little sad if you don't see any rallies". Typical Swedish understatement—no rallies is not "a little sad", it is disgraceful. What happens at Wimbledon, at present, is a frightening parody of what the game actually is.

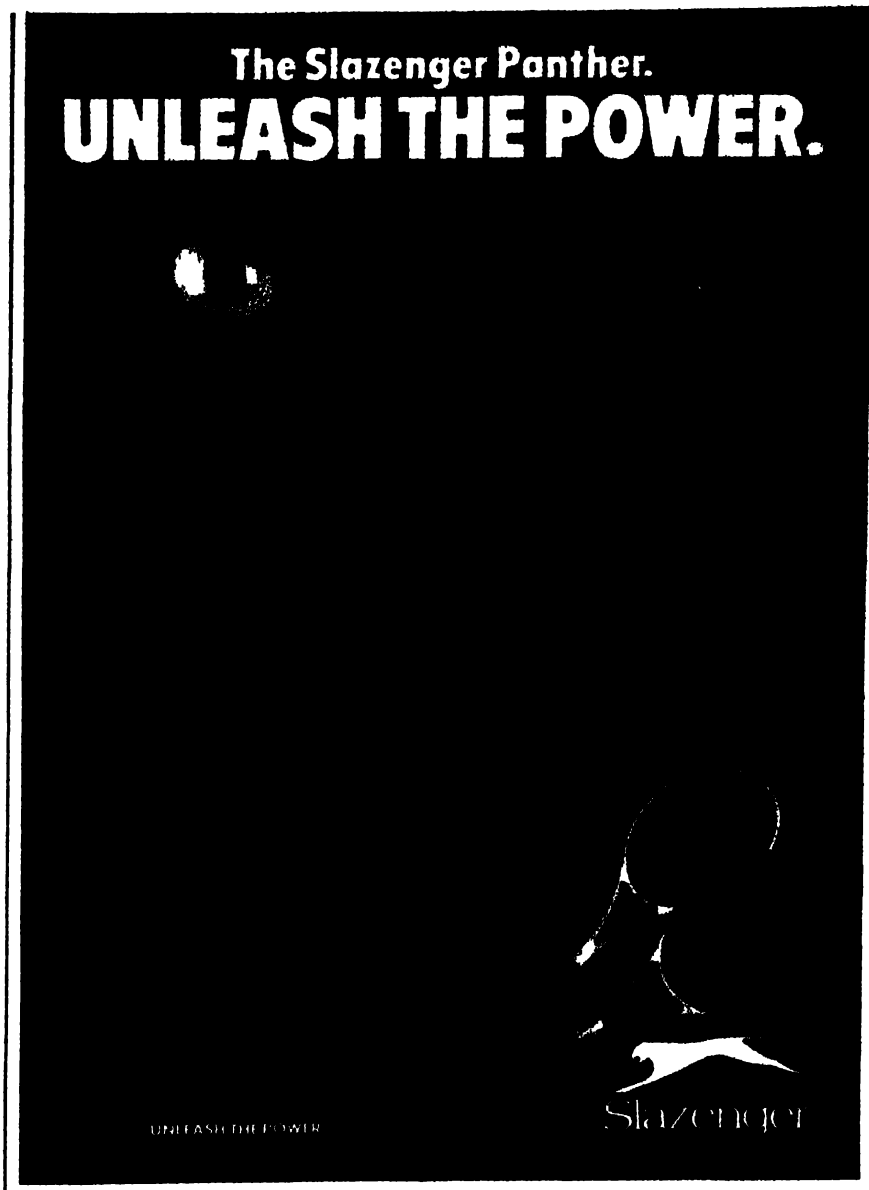
Solutions to this profusion of power play have been half-hearted and often improbable—ranging from allowing only one serve to shortening the service box to serving from behind the baseline to returning to the old foot fault rule that requires one leg to remain on the ground during impact.

But why change the rules—instead, bar the wide-bodied racket.

The Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) who run the men's tour, are obviously concerned, enough at least to hold a seminar on March 20 entitled 'The Speed of the Game". ATP's European Head, Richard Evans, recently told the *The Times*, London that 'Certainly if (banning the wide-body) will be one of the things that we will be looking at. There is a strong feeling that the game is suffering because of the increase in power. Our concern is that spectators should get their money's worth and there is no reason why a change which we made, for example, should affect any other parts of the game."

The ATP is getting serious simply because there is widespread discontent among the players. John McEnroe has understandably been critical; less harsh, but equally concerned is Becker; and recently even Michael Stich, of the stinging serve, went as far as saying, "I think these rackets are destroying tennis. If it was up to me, I would like to go back to the old wooden rackets and play real tennis".

While equipment manufacturers may balk at such a ban, it would probably be only at the professional level, for the wide-body has been tremendously successful in making the average club hack into a better player. One avenue of escape for the manufacturers is, of course, by changing the nature of the ball, for



while racket have become more powerful, tennis balls have also become harder and faster. As Boris Becker commented at the Australian Open, "I've also seen in the past year that the balls are getting quicker and quicker and that doesn't help".

So, are soft balls the answer? Yes, feels Edberg's coach Tony Pickard. "Take the pressure out of the ball", he says. "Then the players won't be able to hit the ball so hard and they will have more time to react because the balls won't come off the court so quickly".

With so many options available now, the game's administrators have no excuse to dither. The sport requires a transfusion of sense, and it needs it now. Otherwise next time you watch Becker play Stich, don't sneeze. That's about how long one of their rallies last!

Rohit Brijnath

In a generation of athletes, where the physical norm is suitcase-size shoulders and legs borrowed from Conan the Barbarian, Goran Ivanisevic fits in like a anorexic at a sumo wrestler's convention



COLORSPORT

"Batting was like second nature to me. I never had to make any special effort to swing the bat straight with my head down and eyes fixed on the ball." It was like an innate skill that, fortunately enough, found full expression because he changed his mind and chose cricket over all other games



HE had that unmistakable physical stamp—the ease and fluidity which though not very spectacular, always promised that, at request or need, he could launch himself with the speed and feline grace of a big cat.

Not that he is enormously big, not even



TOMMY HINDLEY

JEFF DUJON

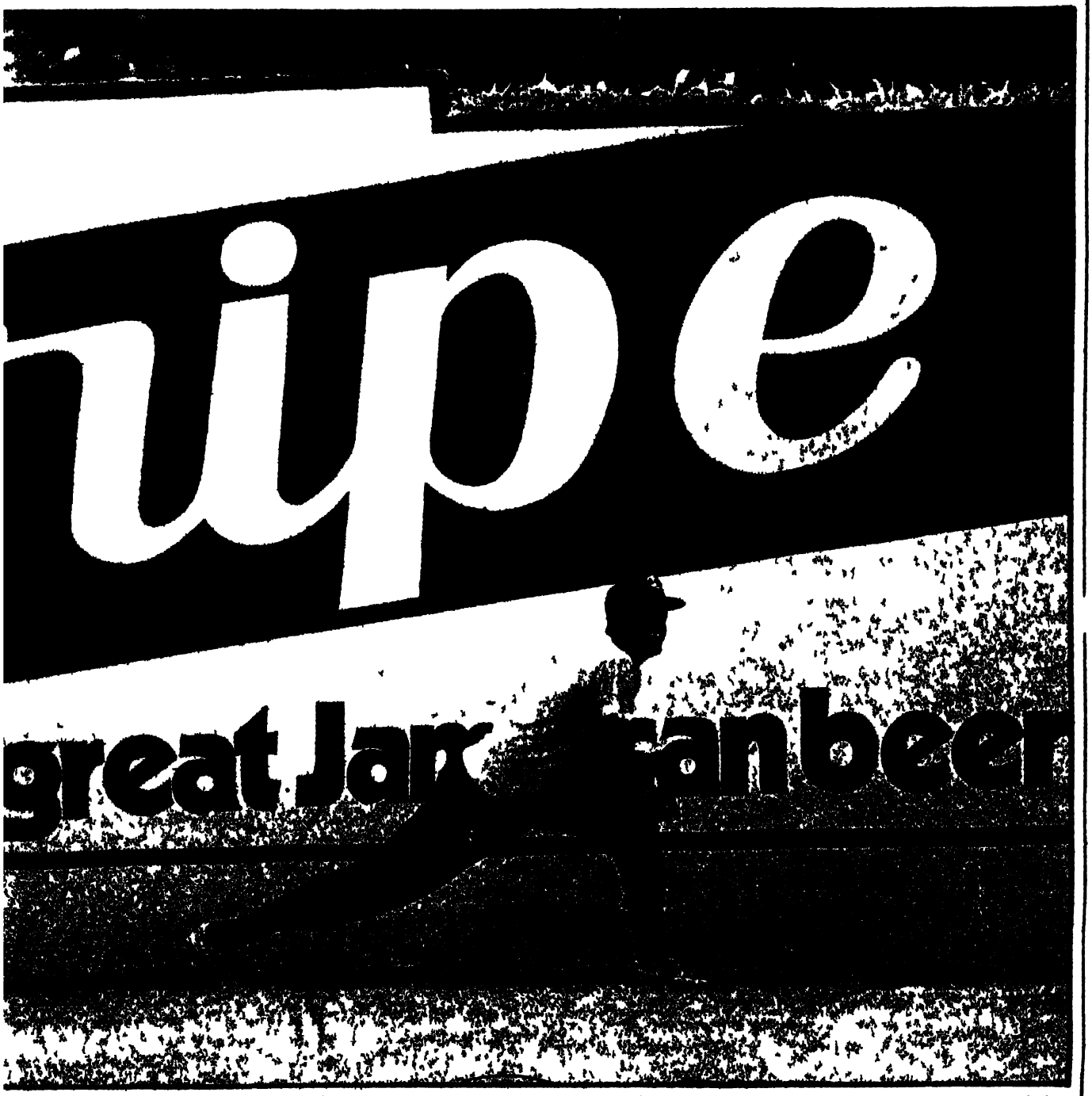
GLOVE STORY

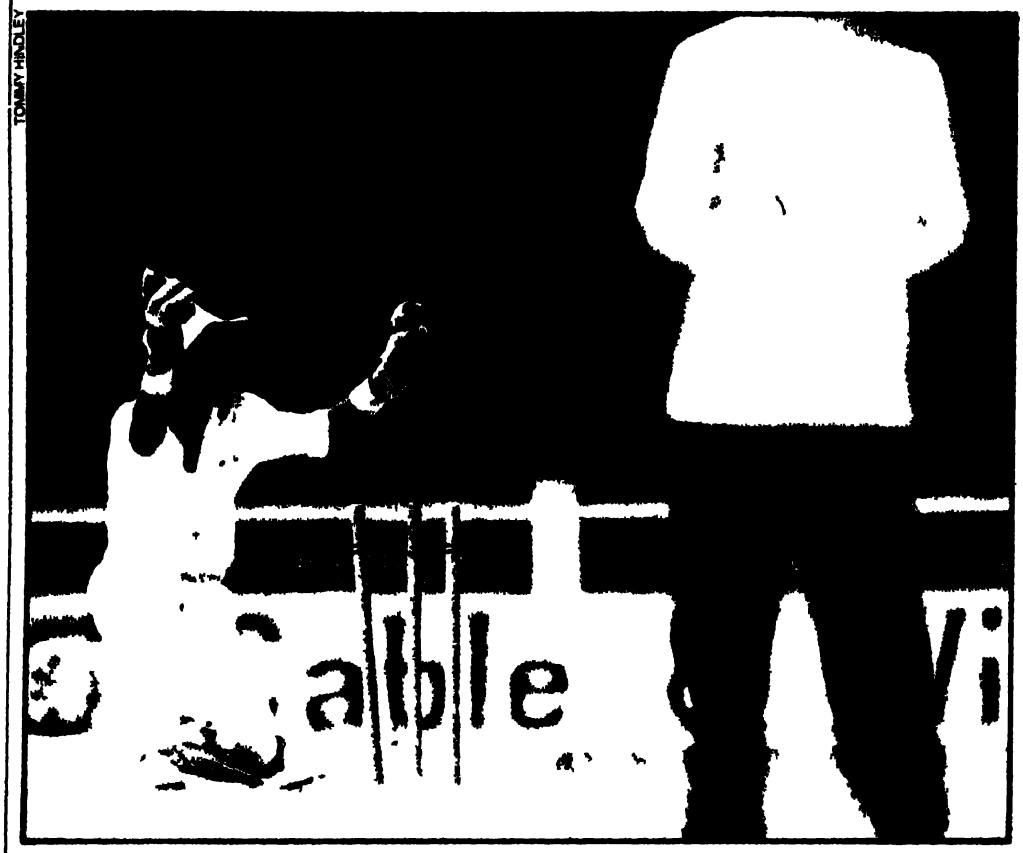
By SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL

strongly-built, or square-shouldered or deep-chested with an impressively powerful body Rather he looked very ordinary, even frail at times, with a strange mist of sadness lurking about his bearded face, moist eyes Yet, there was always an inherent purposefulness about him that manifested itself the instant he walked out of the pavilion, one of his wicketkeeping gloves tucked under his arm, his cap at a hint of an angle Immediately, he was identifiable as a man who meant business

There can be little doubt that his businesslike ease stemmed largely from his natural gift—his almost innate athletic nimbleness—that could have helped him excel at any game he cared to play

In fact, as a youngster he was a badminton and squash player of considerable prowess, despite a long and rich family tradition in cricket Dujon's father was a regular wicketkeeper-batsman in domestic cricket His elder brother, in fact, was selected for the West Indian squad, though never actually played for them, due to his medical studies. And so, Jeff Dujon, driven as if by some inexorable force, soon veered back into the family fold, taking to cricket and plunging deeper and deeper into it, rediscovering the potential of his natural



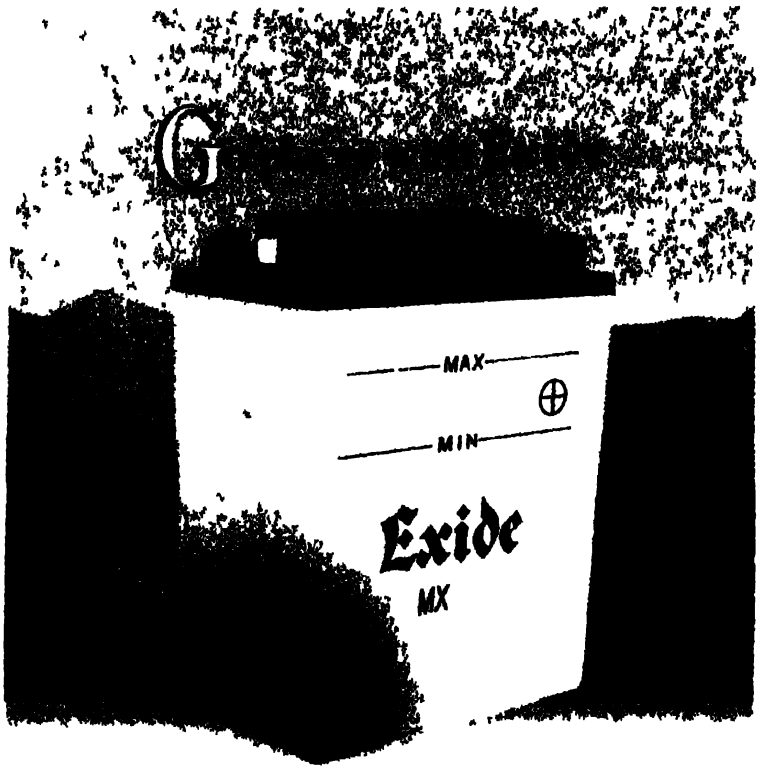


athleticism in a game that ran in the family

It was obvious that Dujon never found himself ill at ease in his new' game because, from the very beginning, he knew what his destiny was The finesse and confidence with which he wielded his squash racket came in handy in handling the cricket bat in whipping it in a fluid easy style that was eventually to fetch him a massive 3322 runs

And Dujon knew it was bound to happen

Batting was like second nature to me, he soon realised I never had to make any special effort to swing the bat straight with my head down and eyes fixed on the ball It was like an innate skill that, fortunately enough found full expression because he changed his



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THE TRACK RECORD

CENTURIES

Season	Opp	M	Inn	NO	Runs	Ave	HS	100	200	300	400
1981-82	Aus	3	6	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	51	—	—	—	—
1982-83	Ind	5	8	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	110	1	—	—	—
1983-84	Ind	6	7	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1983-84	Aus	5	5	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	—	—	—
1984	Eng	5	6	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	—	—	—
1984-85	Aus	5	8	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	—	—	—
1984-85	NZ	4	6	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	70	—	—	—	—
1985-86	Eng	4	4	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1986-87	Pak	3	5	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1986-87	NZ	3	4	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1987-88	Ind	4	6	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1987-88	Pak	3	6	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1	—	—	—
1988	Eng	5	7	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1988-89	Aus	5	8	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1988-89	Ind	4	5	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1989-90	Eng	4	7	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1990-91	Pak	3	5	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1990-91	Aus	5	7	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
1991	Eng	5	7	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	—	—	—	—
		81	115	11	332	31.94	139	5	16	8	[illegible]

Note: Dujon played the first two Tests of his career as a batsman and held two catches as a fielder in the second Test at Sydney.

mind and chose cricket over all other games. Because he knew it would come so easily to him. "So," as he said, "it was my destiny."

But more than destiny it was his own utility as a cricketer that has all along been uppermost in his mind. And he was keen to enhance it all the time.

"Wicketkeeping was not so much a passion to me as batting, but once I was seriously into cricket, I didn't want to take any chances. There are so many batsmen, I mean great batsmen in West Indian cricket, and even though I was doing well as a batsman, I wanted to make myself more useful, and I chose wicketkeeping simply because I knew my fitness and athletic training would come in handy."

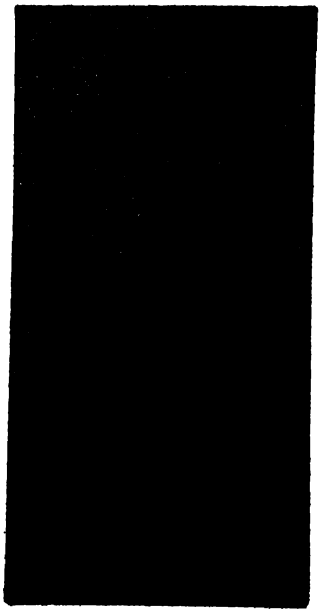
It did, as Dujon turned out to be a most dependable wicketkeeper facing a battery of devastatingly fast West Indian bowlers.

Obviously, it entailed a lot of pain, broken fingers, strained ligaments, but Dujon knew it was the price he had to pay, and so to him it was something "you have to grin and bear."

"I don't think there are very many wicketkeepers around who could stand up to that test for a long period of time. They are not used to it."

But Dujon soon grew used to it, and to be so he took no chances..

He rigorously went through the grind of fitness programmes,

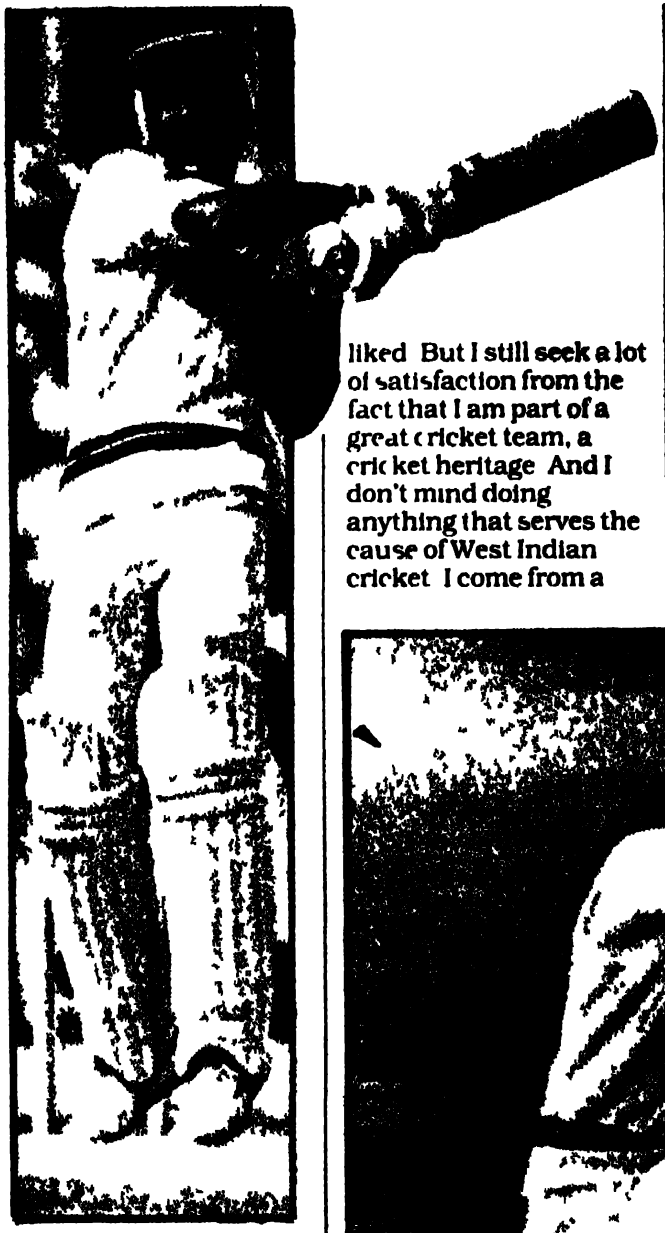


ignored all the psychological blows that come with injuries, and to make himself 100 per cent sure, even designed his own equipment.

This, undoubtedly, was professionalism at its very best.

"I designed my wicketkeeping gloves myself. The company which sponsors me allowed me to design my own gloves. I designed my own padding inside the gloves. The inner gloves...I mean. I have done that in order to protect the soft spots of my hands."

But more important than the protective measures he adopted, it was his inclination to brave danger, the sheer joy of doing something he believed he was certain to excel at that kept the adrenalin flowing: "Taking that kind of pace day in day out is not pleasant. But there is a satisfaction too. The fact that I have managed to do it for such a long time



liked But I still seek a lot of satisfaction from the fact that I am part of a great cricket team, a cricket heritage And I don't mind doing anything that serves the cause of West Indian cricket I come from a culture where team interest comes much before individual likes and dislikes

There was this school of thought that tries to belittle Dujon's achievements as a wicketkeeper by pointing out that he never had to stand up to many genuine spinners, especially off spinners who they say provide the ultimate test for the man behind the stumps True, West Indian cricket in Dujon s time did not have anyone to weave the magic of genuine spn But Dujon always had his faith entrenched in the task he had at hand, and was never really bothered by criticism

I think it (keeping to spin bowling) would have been physically more taxing but physical prowess, I mean fitness, has always been the secret of my success. So even against spin, I'm sure I would have been equally successful." And one agrees because he never really lacked in the basic qualities of a sportsman or for that matter cricketer or even just an ordinary man

is a great source of pride for me It s all part of what I wanted to be A good cricketer and that s all

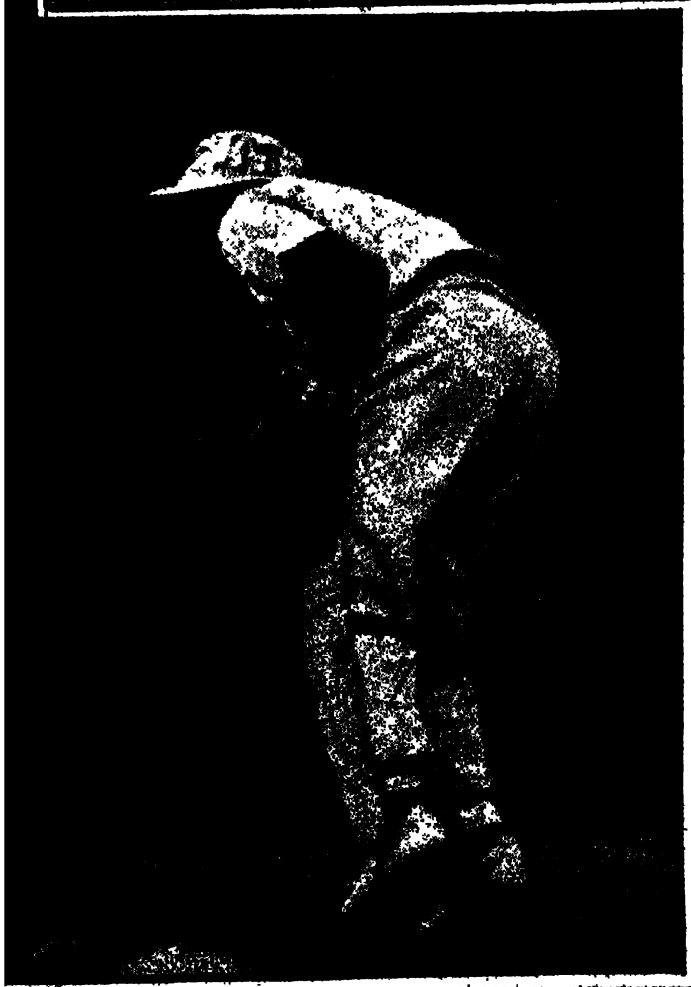
Ironically however it was his batting (which brought him to cricket) that paid the price for his flair for wicketkeeping which Dujon always insisted was his secondary choice

Because I keep wickets, I bat fairly low down the order The opportunities for getting big scores have not been as many as I would have





Keeper vs. Keeper: Dujon lying on the ground after colliding with the England keeper Jack Richards in a 1987 match



Not that he is enormously big, not even strongly built, or square-shouldered, or deep-chested with an impressively powerful body. Rather he looked very ordinary, even frail...Yet, there was always an inherent purposefulness about him that manifested itself the instant he walked out of the pavilion...

that penchant for perfection. Jeff Dujon proved it beyond all doubts in whichever field he operated: batting, wicketkeeping, and even the fierce world of marketing from where he earned a major share of his living, working for the business giants, Shell.

Jeff Dujon perfected his cricket, the art of selling, and even the time to call it quits. West Indian cricket is now in a state of transition, with an entire generation of established stars bidding farewell, and Dujon knew his time had come. His departure would surely create a vacuum in the already depleted strength of Caribbean cricket, but that's something Time will heal. Jeff Dujon is leaving with his honour intact. ●

A HOP TO THE TITLE



Names don't mean a thing and Bugs Bunny proved it by winning the Invitation Cup

IMAGINE naming a horse Bugs Bunny and a filly at that. Next the Indian racing circuit will soon be having Elmo Fudds and Daffy Ducks because if a filly named Bugs Bunny could win the Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup then why not Bugs Bunny's comic strip friends?

Business tycoon Vijay Mallya was all smiles as he led Bugs Bunny into the winner's enclosure after her victory and by then the curiosity had got the better of me, so I asked him why and how he had named her Bugs Bunny?

Pat came the answer, "She's a small filly and around the time I bought her my friend and racing manager, Dicky Shivendra Singh said or did something that irritated me. Dicky looked a bit like Bugs Bunny so to put him in his place I told him that I was going to name the new filly Bugs Bunny." Quite an anecdote.

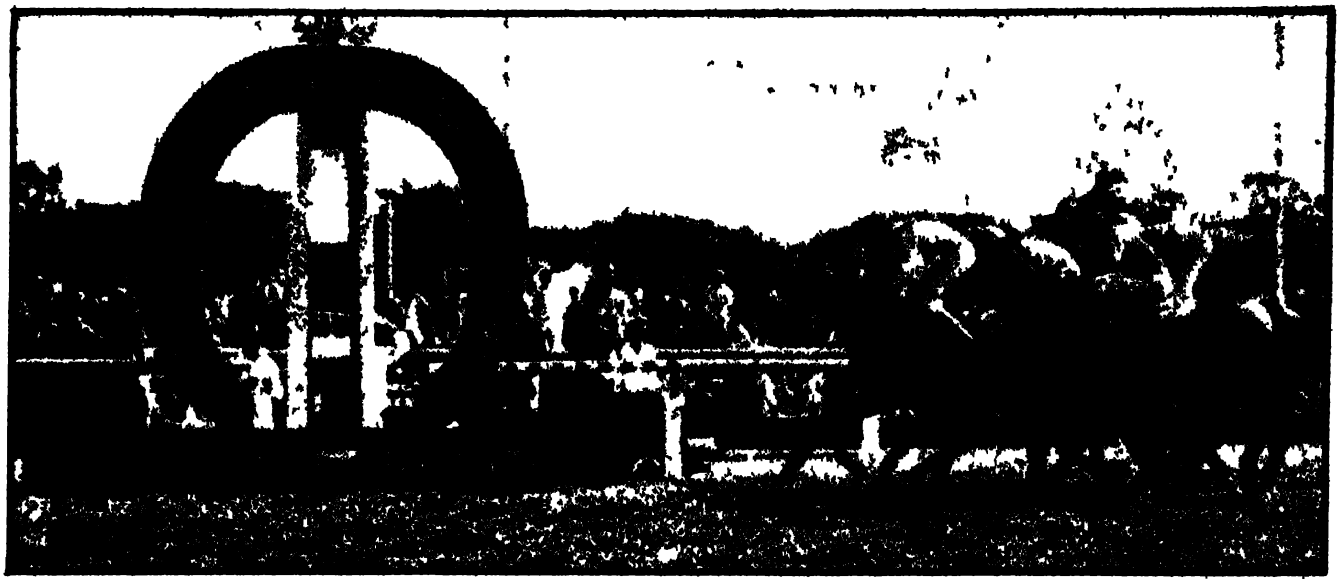
Kalamaris, Rajashekar up, winning the Sprinters Classic Cup from Sweeter Than Honey

Fortunately Mallya felt that Dicky Singh reminded him of Bugs Bunny because rabbits certainly go at quite a clip. Bugs' friends on the other hand Elmo Fudd and Daffy Duck, would never have managed because while the former has enormous flat feet, the latter as his name suggests walks like a duck.

The Bangalore Turf Club played host to the most important weekend on the Indian racing calendar and if India lost a thriller on that first Sunday of March in



by CYRUS J. MADAN



Australia, well, the Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup 1992 had everyone chewing what little was left of their nails by the time it was all over

Trainer Rashid Byramji had done it for the second successive year and jockey Pesi Shroff had chosen correctly this time after having missed out last year in Madras when he saw Piggott win on Delage while he finished a couple of lengths behind on Starfire Boy

Nine fillies and just three colts lined up to face the starter at the 2400m marker for what was the most important race of their lives Sponsored for the 4th year in succession by ITC Ltd this Grade



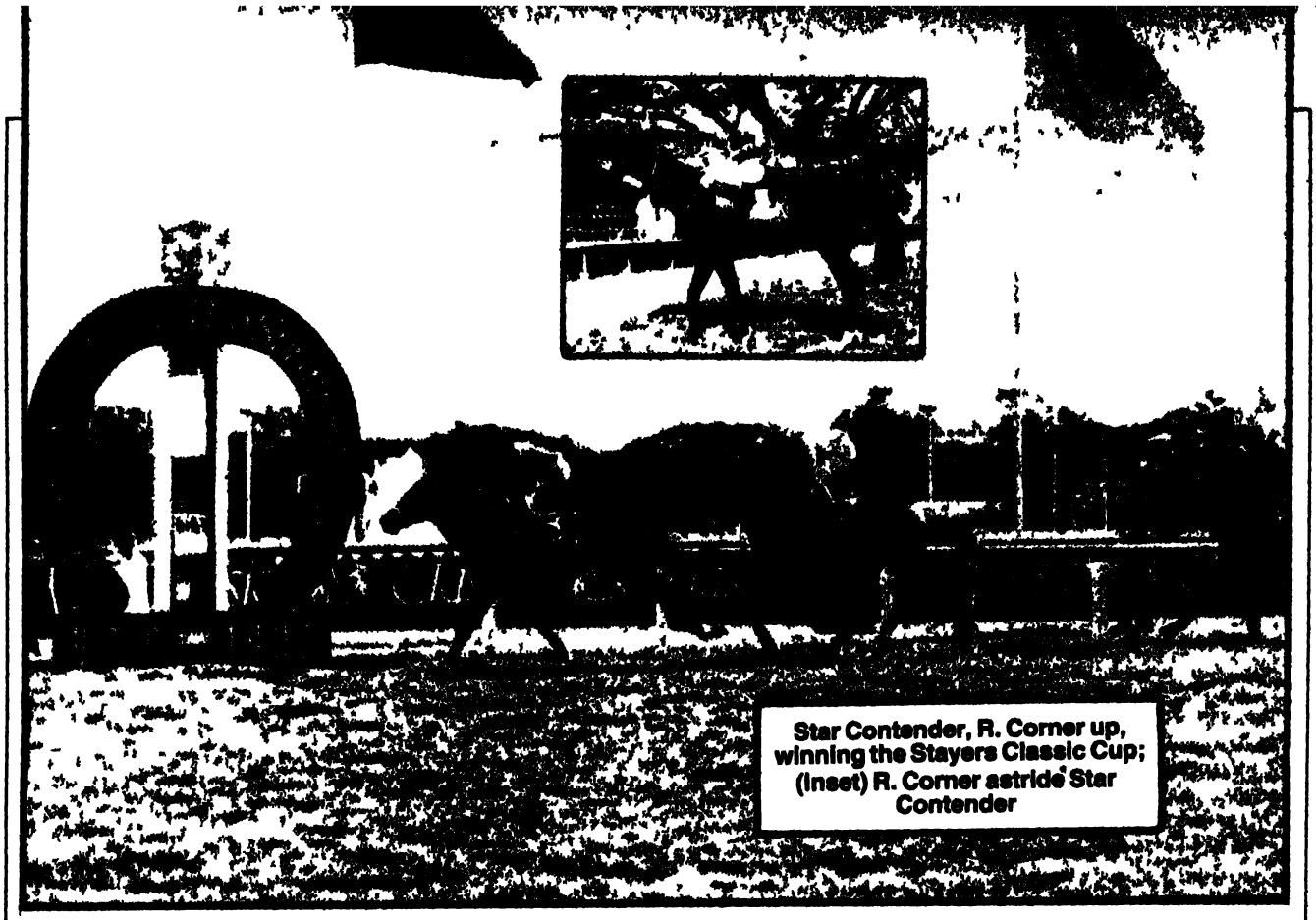
Pesi Shroff astride Bugs Bunny winning the Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup in a close finish

'I' Invitational Classic had in its line up the winner of the Indian Derby in Bombay, Astonish, the Bangalore Winter Derby heroine Bugs Bunny the South India Derby victor My Pet, the winner of the Calcutta and Golconda Derby namely Romantic Memories and Classic Style, and Flirting Vision the Bangalore Summer Derby winner If ever you could label a race as a Classic for champions, well,this was it and from amongst them would emerge the undisputed king or queen of the 1991 92 racing season

Breaking evenly from the gates the pace was hot from the word 'go' Treasure Flower and Star Of Fashion played the role of pacemakers to the hilt, and the field travelled the first half mile at an incredible clip

Classic Style,the less fancied filly from the Byramji stable,was in third place while the Bombay filly La Bonne Vie was about two lengths behind her The Indian Derby winner Astonish was in fifth place and keeping him company was the South India Derby winner My Pet. Bugs Bunny was tucked in just behind while Flirting Vision with Robin Corner astride was the

(Left to right) Trainer, Byramji, joint owners Yadvendra Singh, Vijay Mallya and Raghuvendra Singh leading in Bugs Bunny



Star Contender, R. Corner up, winning the Stayers Classic Cup; (Inset) R. Corner astride Star Contender

last of 12 as the field flashed past the mile

They were going downhill now and Treasure Flower and Star Of Fashion continued to hold sway The order remained somewhat unchanged at this juncture,the only difference being that two of the Bombay based fillies Gentle Spy and Dangerous Liaison made a little headway to be racing prominently

At that stage it seemed that the race was being run in two separate groups The first batch included the two pacemakers, Classic Style and La Bonne Vie who were never far from the front The second batch was made up of Astonish, Bugs Bunny and My Pet, while Flirting Vision was still languishing in the rear

With 1000m to run Astonish seemed to meet with a slight check and lost his position Bugs Bunny began making a further forward move up on the outside while the two pacemakers began to tire and once they rounded the turn it was La Bonne Vie with Lester Piggot who hit the front. She had taken the shortest way home, but even with Lester Piggot to guide her she was simply not good enough You could see she was a beaten horse and a roar went up from the crowd as Classic Style took over the running In hot pursuit was Bugs Bunny and Astonish, the former having taken a turn almost five horses wide. With about a furlong to run, it looked like Classic Style was going to pull off one of the biggest upsets, but just when it seemed that the two Byramji trained fillies would finish first and second a shout went up for Flirting Vision with Robin Corner astride Bugs Bunny had just about headed Classic Style when Flirting Vision came with a sizzling run on the outside only to find the winning post coming to the rescue of the fairer sex. Bugs Bunny and Pesi Shroff held off the last second bid by Flirting Vision by just a neck, and Flirting Vision in turn was a neck the good of Classic Style The Indian Derby winner Astonish was fourth just half a length in arrears of the third placed filly

Bugs Bunny had shown remarkable courage and ability for a filly and by coming five horses wide round the turn Shroff did not really give her the best of rides. He did ride a very hard finish after that but it was the filly's guts and courage which won her the day

Robin Corner did get Flirting Vision going in the straight but he could not keep him straight because the colt was 'hanging in" under pressure. He lugged in under pressure and by the time Corner managed to get him back on to the outside to make his final run it was too late. One stride later he would have passed Bugs Bunny conveniently but alas it was not to be, and like Srinath who was caught on the boundary just 5 feet short of the fence,Flirting Vision just knuckled under.

So Bugs Bunny, owned by Vijay Mallya, Kr. Raghuvendra Singh and Kr. Yadvendra Singh had won the 'battle of the sexes'. For Mallya it was his second successive invitation. For Rashid Byramji it was his ninth triumph and the man who is said to be India's greatest trainer is now on a hattrick. For jockey Pesi Shroff, it was his fifth invitation success, but more than that was the satisfaction of having chosen correctly between La Bonne Vie and Bugs Bunny.

PHOTOGRAPHS P DEEPAK (RAJAN)

READERS' QUIZ

Questions

1. Lieutenant Philip Salkeld who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his activities in the Sepoy Mutiny, was an ancestor of a famous cricketer who made his return to the international stage recently? Who is he?

2. Who was the first cricketer to have scored six boundaries in an over, in Test cricket?

3. W.G. Grace was the only first class cricket victim of which famous personality?

4. [illegible] scored a century on debut in Test cricket?

5. [illegible] never played a Test again?

6. Dennis Amiss and Desmond Haynes are the only instances of scoring a century on debut in one-day international cricket. Who are they?

7. Who was the first batsman in Test history to be out on 99? He went on to make 99 and 97 in the next Test.

8. What is the only instance of a brother and sister representing their country in Test cricket?

9. Which is the only instance of a wicket-keeper opening his country's batting and bowling in a Test match?

10. [illegible]

11. The last words of a famous English bowler, killed in World War II, were 'Keep Going'? Who was he?

12. Which bowler recorded a hat-trick in each innings of a Test match?

13. Which English cricket captain was nicknamed 'Round the corner', took [illegible] Test cricket [illegible] 1868, and [illegible] in 1944 [illegible] in Hollywood films like 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?

14. Which cricketer was nicknamed 'Pomo'?

15. Nicknamed 'Monkey', he was the first person to captain England at cricket and rugby. Who is he?

ANSWERS

1. Clive Rice
2. Andy Roberts.
3. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
4. John Arlott.
5. Tony Lewis.
6. Dennis Amiss (103) England vs Australia 1972 and Desmond Haynes (148) West Indies vs Australia in 1977-78.
7. Clem Hill of Australia at the MCG in 1902.
8. Terry and Denise Alderman for Australia.
9. Budhi Kunderan against England at Edgbaston in July 1967.
10. George Giffin of South Africa.
11. Hedley Verity.
12. T.J. Mathews of England against South Africa in Manchester, 1912.
13. Sir C. Aubery Smith.
14. Shaun Graf.
15. A.L. Hornby

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

SURIT DAS,
30, DHAKURIA,
STATION RD (EAST) .
P.O. HALTU
CALCUTTA - 700 078

All answers sent in by the contributor

KENYAN ATHLETES

A Breed Apart

KENYA has given the world some of the prettiest myths in sport. At first, it was wild men with pure "natural" ability, people who ran down gazelle for a living and who ran straight out of the bush to Olympic gold without a break in their stride.

As the Kenyan successes continued, a new and equally charming myth followed. In the heart of Kenya was a Shangri-la, deep in the Nandi Hills. It was centred on Eldoret, home of Kip Keino, and at St Patrick's School in Iten: a tiny area that magically produced an endless stream of brilliant runners from the Nandi tribe.

The Kenyan athletes come, win and go. They baffle us with their ability, they baffle us with their mixture of unoffending pride, heartfelt shyness and 24-carat modesty. We never know them as stars, as "personalities"

"When a European or an American athlete wins, his first instinct is to grab a national flag and do a lap of honour," Brother Colm O'Connell, headmaster of St Patrick's School, athletics coach and a central figure in the history of Kenyan athletics, said. "When a Kenyan wins, his first instinct is to disappear into his community."

Paul Tergat, favourite for the world cross-country championship in Boston this month, emerged from what the world calls "nowhere". He has never been outside Kenya, but he beat a world-class field at the first Nairobi international cross-country: "I just kept running as fast as I could," he said. "The moment the rest fell back, I knew I was on my way to winning."

That is the sort of thing that victorious Kenyans always say. But we must look beyond the mythology of mere "natural" ability and





Julius Korir is a jump ahead of the field in the 3000m steeplechase at Los Angeles,'84

Kenya has a history of wonderfully talented athletes, whose individual egos don't matter as much as collective success

Shangri-la and consider things like ambition, intensive training and organisation. A fortnight ago all the leading Kenyan athletes went into retreat: a closed training camp where they will live and work under tight supervision for three weeks before the world cross-country championship.

It is not too far-fetched to make a comparison with the East German system. High numbers, high wastage, intensive work, great motivation.

Kenya has diet and altitude, rather than the physiological and pharmaceutical science. Maize meal is the traditional food of sub-Sahara Africa and it is packed with top-quality carbohydrates. The Kenyans were into carbo-loading years before the sport scientists realised its value for endurance athletes.

MIKE BOIT, a bronze medal winner in the 800 metres at the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972 and now Kenya's commissioner for sport, summed up Kenya's success. "Altitude, diet and the tradition that was established at the Mexico Olympics in 1968," he said. "Support from the government, good infrastructure—all these things added together."

"The secret is stability," David Okeyo, secretary general of the Kenya Amateur Athletic Association, said. "Politically, economically and socially."

While it is no doubt politic to say these things, there is unquestionable truth here also. You need only look to the neighbouring countries of Uganda, Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia to understand this. Success in the great trivialities of sport is a neat way of demonstrating to the world that Kenya is playing a leading part in the emergence of Africa.

Yobes Ondieki, 5000m world champion and now Olympic favourite for sure

Small wonder the government is so supportive of athletics

Kenyan athletes are as ambitious determined and strong minded as any athletes in the world but this is not expressed in a grasping way It is planning and training Susan Sirma winner of the women s world cross country championship last year said Everything is carefully thought out It is the same for us all

THERE are then a thousand practical reasons why Kenya has produced and will continue to produce great athletes If you seek a mystical explanation as well you must look not for wild men or for Shangri las but for the sense of community as an African understands it

So much of a Kenyan s social life is based in the community O Connell said That includes running It means they have no great fear of losing When a Kenyan wins he disappears into the community and the community celebrates It is not an individual thing If a Kenyan loses the community is a cushion that absorbs the loss It is not a traumatic business

Athletics itself takes on the nature of a community the more so with the emphasis on closed training camps I was always confident Sirma said There was nothing hard for me with the national team, nothing hard when I trained with them. It was easy. I have always had friends, and we trained together My friends, my training

The world can see this in the phenomenon of team running This was displayed in the 10,000 metres at the World Championships in Tokyo last year, when three Kenyans carved up the race and took gold and silver Richard Chelimo knew that there was a threat from Moses Tanui, but he wasn't worried at all, O'Connell said - He was only worried about Khalid Skah, the Moroccan He didn't mind getting beaten by Tanui ' Imagine Ovett and Coe behaving like that

We will see more Kenyan team running in the world cross-country championship After that, there will be more again at the Olympic Games, for which the Kenyan men have medal hopes in every race over 800 metres. "I always have friends,' Sirma said, "at every level I go to, I had friends. I was never on my own."

Simon Barnes, Kenya

Courtesy The Times London





Marathoner Douglas Wakiihuri lives in Japan, but his heart is Kenyan

The Kenyan athletes come, win and go. They battle us with their ability, they battle us with their mixture of [illegible] pride, [illegible] shyness and 24-carat modesty

Goal Scoring Malady

Testing Times

The Shorter You Are...





BUSINESS AS USUAL

The top four teams played true to form in the Ranji Trophy quarter-finals, thereby living up to their billing

Sourav Ganguly was the only batsman who put up a semblance of a fight against Delhi

DELHI's cricket team is on the rampage Their four day innings and 168 run win over Bengal in the recently concluded Ranji Trophy quarter finals at the benign Kotla wic ket has made Delhi overwhelming favourites for the Ranji title this year

Skipper Kirti Azad is having a dream run as a comeback captain He attributed his side s win over Bengal to overall team effort However the all round skills of both Razdan and Wasson and the wiles of Maninder Singh only contrived to make the contest one sided In the second innings on a slow and dusty track, Maninder came on to bowl after just eight overs, with the shine on the ball still on He trapped the Bengal batsmen in his web of spin and captured 7 for 57 in a marathon-spell of 33 overs

In Delhi's imposing first innings total of 633 there were three centuries Bantoo Singh on yet another comeback scored 164 (he had scored over 150 in the 1989 Ranji final vs Bengal also) Razdan needed just 102 balls for his second century of the season A whirlwind 101 inclusive of four sixes and nine fours in 181 minutes, saw Atul Wasson notching his maiden Ranji ton

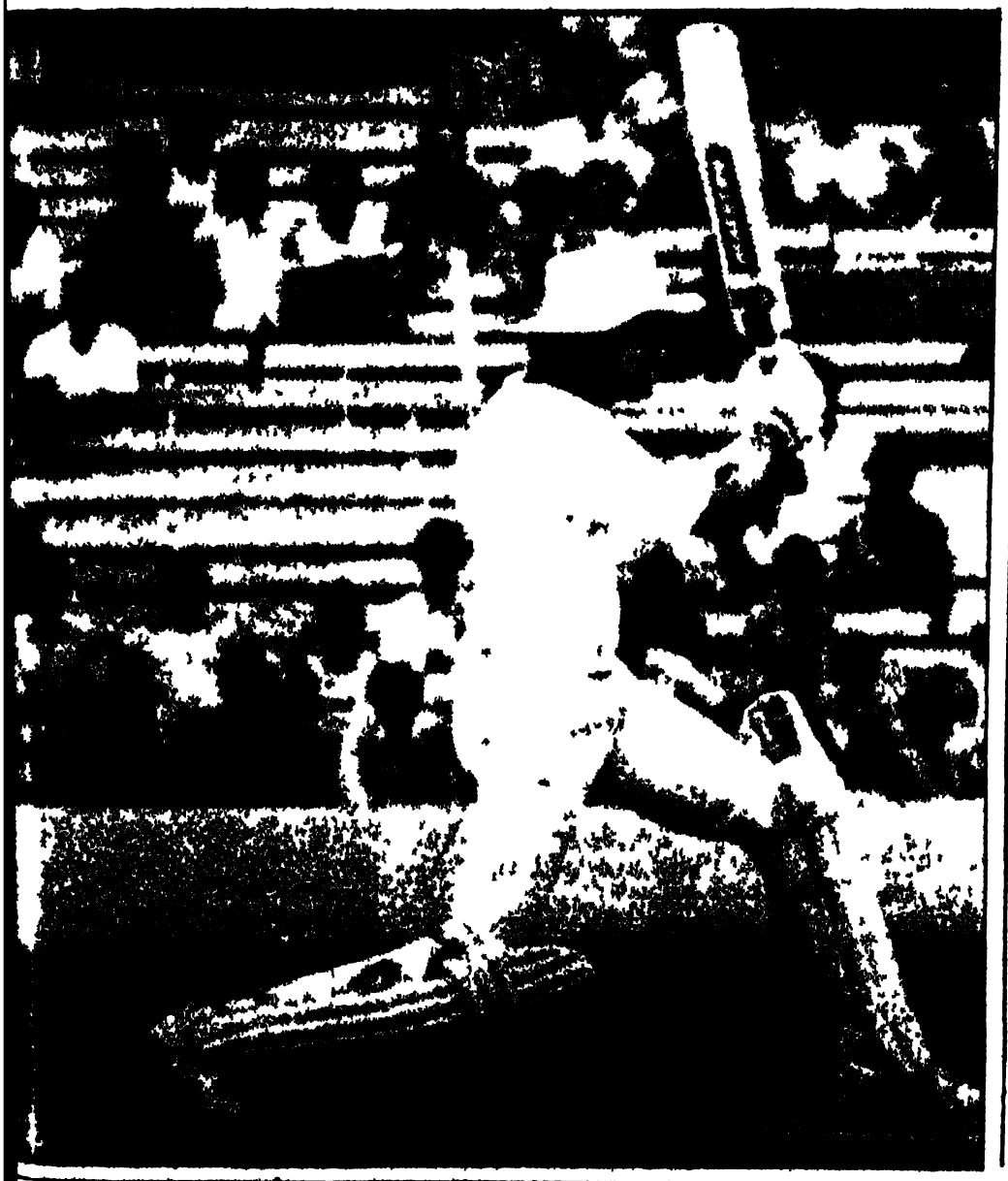
Bengal s batting appeared to be quite gutless In both innings, three batsmen got well set but then lost their concentration giving Delhi the edge It was only Australia-returned Sourav Ganguly who impressed with a stroketul 74 not out and a pugnacious 51 Even the three imports Arun Lal, Ashok Malhotra and Srikant Kaly ani could not inspire the Bengal batting The Bengal fielding was worse than pathetic Bantoo Singh was given three lives before he reached his century Wicketkeeper Mintoo Das missed two catches and an easy stumping The comeback men for Bengal, opener Pronob Roy and medium pacer Gautam Shome failed to impress Shome was erratic with the new ball

Ever since the rain seepage, quotient rule controversy of the 1990 Ranji final (due to which



Bengal 'out classed' Delhi), a Delhi vs Bengal Ranji tie has become a grudge match It has joined the category of Bombay vs Maharashtra, Delhi vs Haryana and Haryana vs Punjab matches which due to socio-historical reasons and sports politics have all become grudge matches Fortunately, there was negligible needle in the recent Delhi vs Bengal match Both skippers Kirti Azad and Ashok Malhotra , former North Zone team-mates, kept the situation under control and acrimonious situations were reduced to a minimum even when there were some umpiring gaffes There was only a minor altercation with umpire S Ramani of Tamil Nadu, just before lunch on the third day. Bengal felt that they were denied a legitimate bat-pad decision against Bantoo who had just reached his century

At that time Delhi were 5 for 297 and Bengal had hoped to keep the first innings lead to a minimum With patience wearing out some words were exchanged but the matter was patched up Overall there was a sense of *deja vu* about this Bengal vs Delhi match In the 1989 Ranji final Delhi had made 721 and won by an innings and 210 runs This time they made 633 runs and notched up an innings and 168 runs victory It is thus clear that Bengal cannot stand the strain of away matches.



Vengsarkar mauled the opposition while reaching his highest score in the Ranji Trophy

DILIP VENGSARKAR's career-best knock of 284, in the Ranji Trophy quarter finals against Madhya Pradesh may have helped contribute to his team's mammoth total of 721 for eight, but there is a faint chance that Vengsarkar might have been filled with remorse. He might have liked to score those runs during his tour of Australia, and not where it didn't matter

The match itself was a no-contest from both teams point of view There were no major cricketing highlights—unless one would want to consider Vengsarkar's crossing of 4 000 runs in the Ranji Trophy Bombay as expected enjoyed being in the driver s seat since the first day when their seamers, Raju Kulkarni, Abey Kuruvilla and Vignesh Shahane got into their groove and dismissed Madhya Pradesh for a paltry 230 The total aptly reflected Bombay's superiority just as it did on MP skipper, Sandeep Patil's quote that, 'This will be a learning experience for the lads In fact, Madhya Pradesh would have been in deeper trouble had it not been for the stubborn 61-run eighth wicket stand between Sunil Lahore (37) and Rajesh Chouhan (55 not out), that lent their total some respectability. Chouhan then went on to add another 53 runs with Narendra Hirwani, who himself slammed a confident looking 33

Bombay seemed to be in a bit of a rush when they came in to bat and at stumps, with the score reading 32 for one, Vengsarkar decided to send Sanjay Patil in as nightwatchman. Patil lived up to his position by not lasting for very long and departed with a personal score of 18 the next day With the entry of Jatin Paranjpe, opener Jayprakash Jadav went on to compile a patient 110 before falling to Hirwani's patient legspin By this stage, Bombay had already taken a 93 run first innings lead, when MP skipper Sandeep Patil claimed the new ball in desperation after 78 overs This move, however, did not pay any dividends and both Vengsarkar and Paranjpe were wont to score freely The partnership for the fourth wicket yielded 166 runs after 41 4 overs and it was during this fruitful phase that Vengsarkar got to his century off 137 balls His knock was ornamented with 15 fours and a six

Vengsarkar's run glut did not satiate and he, along with Paranjpe, flayed the opposition bowlers By the end of the second day, Vengsarkar had reached his highest score in Ranji Trophy (284), with Paranjpe in possession of a stylish 118 Bombay's tally by the end of the third day had swelled to a mammoth 721 for the loss of eight wickets

The sheer enormity of the total was enough to make the MP batsmen baulk and in reply, they managed to put up—which by their standards was respectable—a very modest 230 The man who stood among the ruins of what was once his team's batting was A Khurasia, battle scarred but the owner of a brave and gritty 104. Bombay took a step into the semi-finals during which they will meet Delhi at home later in the month



Maninder Singh: Tightened the noose around Bengal

IN the other quarter final cluster matches, champions Haryana started their title campaign on a confident note by chalking out 249 for three on the first day against Maharashtra at Pune. The highlight of the first day's total was a stubborn 89 by Amarjeet Kaypee. The Haryana innings was well propped up with useful contributions from Dhanraj Singh (32), Nitin Goel (45) and Pankaj Kaushik (41). The only consolation that came Maharashtra's way was Srikant Jadhav's three wickets after an endless toil

Kaypee's defiant run did not seem to end on the second day either and he continued in his usual blustery vein to reach 131. The other Haryana batsmen chipped in with useful contributions and this enabled them to finish at 673 for nine. Maharashtra going in to rest after scoring 108 in 41 overs, in their first essay went on to bolster their total to 371 for the loss of three wickets. There were signs of a fight and they were eventually all out for 557

The highlight of Maharashtra's innings was a splendid 231 by Surendra Bhave Haryana in their second innings scored 95 for no loss before the match ended in a draw Haryana, however, by virtue of their first innings lead were the winners of that tie.

IN Kanpur, Tamil Nadu, put in to bat in their quarter final encounter with Uttar Pradesh, notched up a score of 308 for the loss of seven wickets. M. Sentilnathan of Tamil Nadu celebrated his Ranji Trophy debut by notching up his maiden century.

Coming in to bat, the U.P batsmen were restricted by the Tamil Nadu seamers, Sunil Subramaniam and Ashish Kapoor to a very modest 140 for six. When stumps were drawn on the second day, batsmen Gyanendra Pandey and nightwatchman Ubaid Kamal were striving hard to avoid the looming threat of a follow on. The innings finally folded up at 203. Tamil Nadu in answer to that, amassed a score of 403 for two, the innings revolving mainly around N. Gautam (190) and W.V. Raman (110). Their second innings folded up at 628 and U.P. scored 77 for no loss on the last day. Tamil Nadu will now go on to meet Haryana in the semi final.

Novy Kapadia

For arguments sake

THE editorial 'Attitude Is The Key', *(Sportsworld 26 Feb —3 March)* turned out to be rather weak and there were a number of points raised that one could not but help disagree with

For instance, the article contends that spinners are not usually match winners in a limited-overs game If memory serves correct then Indian spinners like Maninder Singh, Sivaramakrishnan,Arshad Ayub and even Ravi Shastri have carved out many victories for India in one day internationals

The claim that Richie Richardson is not a devastating batsman is also incorrect Richardson has remained, by virtue of his dashing performances, the number one batsman in the computer rankings for quite a long time

The article goes on to argue that Pakistan cannot depend on Javed Miandad s services anymore This is incorrect Miandad has proved to the cricketing fraternity, by his amazing feats that he is indispensa-ble to the Pakistani side Then again the fact,that the Aussies are a successful side due to the disc ipli ne and inflexible attitude of captain Allan Border is totally wrong Australia's success story is based largely on the fact that their team has remained more or less the same for the past few years One cannot create a winning formula with a team which is shuffled around regularly (like India) It takes time for a team to give promising results

Apart from these differences, I fully agree with your viewpoint on the Indian team and India's performance in Australia

AYAN MAJUMDAR,
Calcutta.

Tips to improve

THE editorial (*Sportsworld 26 Feb.-3 Mar.*) was very apt. In that, Mr. Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi has rightly predicted that the World Cup is up for grabs and that any team would have its fair chances of winning the competition The contest is wide open and unpredictabilities are rampant

Can India improve on the chances that they ve already been offered? Much will depend on a comeback by Azharuddin and Manjrekar heroics from Tendulkar and Srikkanth, Kambli s flair tight fielding and besides a good bowling attack (which we have now) an overall tightening up of the players themselves

SWAPNA MISRA,
Calcutta



India's progress in the World Cup largely depends on Sachin Tendulkar

Take heart, Azhar!

THE letter from Andy O'Brien (*Sportsworld 29 Jan —4 Feb*) was as illuminating as it was exquisit One has been forced to form an opinion that Azhar's critics are perhaps a little too harsh on him despite his impressive Test records since his debut in 1985

It is obvious that his team is not coming to terms with his leadership To make matters worse for him—and to add to his team's woes in Australia—Azhar himself has had problems adjusting to the bounc y pitches in Australia This could have been due to the excessive exposure he had received on the English pitches—while playing in the count y circ uit—where the bounc e is at a minimum It is neces sary for people to be a little more understanding towards him and to take heart in the fact that Azhar s loss of form will not be a permanent fixture

MD MADINA ALI KHAN
Madras

King Khan

IMRAN KHAN S interview (*Sportsworld Feb 12 18*) came as a breath of fresh air specially more so after r eading so much about India s debacle Down Under It's particularly nice to know that the media doesn t even spare a personality like the Khan who in turn c alls the Press fraternity a bunch of jackals

We all wish him the best for his mission to build the cancer hospital One hopes that mor e cricketers would learn to play for a noble cause like he does and not just for records

PRABAL GUHA,
Calutta

EXTRA TIME

Ageless Strachan

GORDON STRACHAN of Scotland is a mellowing genius. Unlike many of his contemporaries who have fallen prey to Time's inescapable tyranny, Strachan seems to be growing with age, his skills and stamina scaling new heights of excellence at a time his soccer life could well have been finished.

The diminutive midfielder turned 35 last month, and yet he seems a more potent player than he ever was.

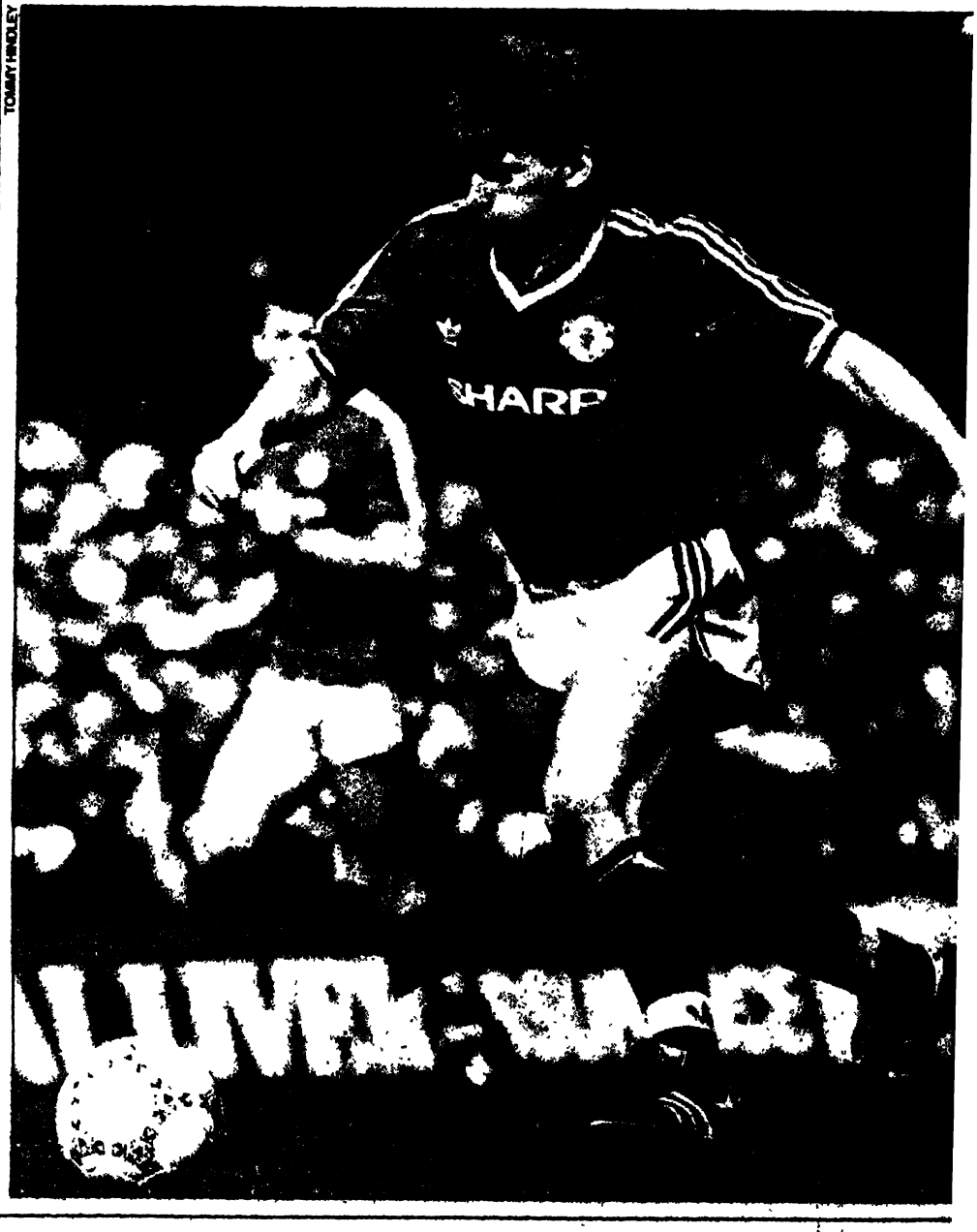
And it would be the most fitting finale to a glorious career when Scotland take the stage in Sweden for the European Championship final in June.

Sweden was where Strachan's career began to blossom 12 years ago, when his magical skills secured Scotland a vital World Cup qualifying victory that paved the way for their entry to the '82 finals.

Strachan was then voted Scotland's Player of the Year, at 23, having inspired Aberdeen to the league championship breaking a 15-year dominance by Celtic and Rangers.

And now, more currently, he has been awarded the Player of the Year trophy in England just last season for leading a revitalised Leeds United back on to the main stage and also for his solo brilliance.

Strachan now has the unique distinction of receiving the award on both sides of the border. May June bring about the crowning glory to Strachan's golden career.



TOMMY HINDLEY

Strachan: evergreen hero

Calcutta, You Won't Believe This!

CALCUTTA's football fans will never believe that the venue for the finals of the multi-million-earning European Championship holds only 35,000 spectators

Gothenburg s Ullevi Stadium, which will host three group matches, one semi final and believe it or not the final is actually Sweden s largest stadium

Well, Calcutta s Mohun Bagan ground holds almost as many people on any big-match afternoon

The lack of space at the Ullevi Stadium will obviously mean a big security headache for the organisers and the police, as a lack of seating space might ver well further fuel the emotional intensity surrounding the matches, which may eventually trigger large scale violence

Back To The Future

ONE of Germany's all-time greats Gerd Muller had for so long been recuperating in a rehabilitation clinic for alcoholics, trying to put behind him a most terrible time of his life

The 46-year-old Muller, who scored an amazing 68 goals in 62 Internationals said, "Last year was the most depressing period of my life. At times I didn't know where I was."

Muller's problems stemmed from two business failures He had a restaurant and a sports shop, both of which fell victim to tough competition

And to further compound his problems, his wife and a daughter refused to put up with him making him feel totally helpless and abandoned Muller virtually had nobody to turn to

Except, of course, his old friends and admirers in the world of football who provided a helping hand, by finding Muller the job he would surely like the most

Bayern Munich has now employed him as a scout watching games and players of interest to the club

And, of course, Muller will try to obtain a coaching licence in the mean time, so that he can later take over as the youth team manager

Good luck to Muller Soccer would never like to see one of its greatest idols live a life of ignominy and shame

Soccer's Who's Who

EURO '92, that is, the European Soccer Championship of 92, is outpacing the game s premier tournament, the World Cup, in introducing some revolutionary changes in soccer attire

Much to the delight of the television companies and other mediamen, all players at the European finals this year will wear their names across the back of their shoulders and a small number will also appear on the shirt fronts—very much like the cricketers we've now been watching in action Down Under But the fact is, FIFA had actually decided, more than a year ago, to introduce these changes during the US World Cup in 94, pushing soccer dress and identification codes closer to American standards Now the world body must have been surprised, pleasantly though, to see the Euro 92 organisers jump the gun on FIFA s pet tournament—the World Cup

Silence Of The Moose

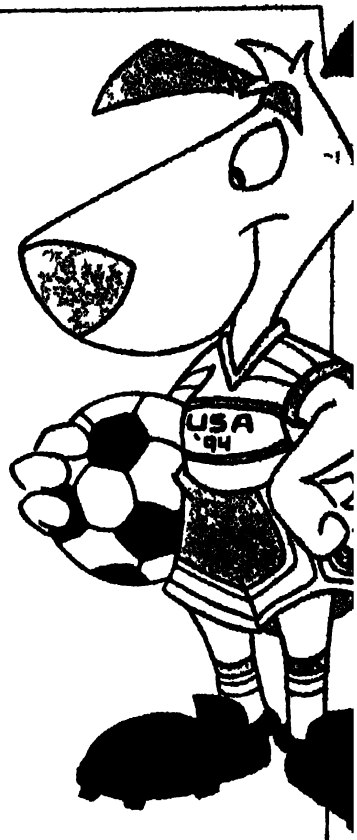
WHAT kind of a mascot is soccer going to have for the World Cup '94 ?

Well, as information received so far suggests, it s going to be a nameless voiceless, and sexless creature, which may be in keeping with a bland World Cup—something the tournament is likely to be in the non-footballing United States

The mascot is going to be a dog, with no particular sex identity, and no sound, not even a woof-woof ever crossing his, her, or its lips

It will have no voice, said Seth Abraham, President of Time Warner Sports, looking after the marketing of the cup, though the creature will eventually be given a name A name-the-mascot competition among soccer fans the world over is now on the anvil

The mascot took eight weeks to come into



The mascot for US '94: athletic?

being, and why it came out as a dog and not a cat or any other animal was not really satisfactorily explained, except what the Time Warner President had to say about their choice, 'Dogs are very athletic creatures They reflect the youth and vitality of soccer And I just bought a dog

"We tried a number of species, a whole panoply of animals and humanoids—rabbits, birds, cats and so on', he also said, explaining, "Eventually, the dog was giving us a mobility, real attitude and sense of fun that we were not getting with any other creatures He's the dog next door, a user-friendly dog '

The only problem is that some observers mistook the poor dog for a moose

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to he

SPORTING TRIVIA

CRICKET FOR COMMONWEALTH GAMES

DISCUSSIONS are taking place between the Commonwealth Games Federation and the International Cricket Council(ICC) for the inclusion of a limited-overs cricket tournament in the Commonwealth Games programme.

Such an event would excitingly strengthen the ailing Friendly Games -- more often the Political Games—which have been damaged by the increasing non-appearance of prominent athletes.

Cricket to be included in the Commonwealth Games to boost an ailing Games

Progress has been delayed because neither side in the negotiations has properly understood the administration or the infra-structure of the other, though it would be ideal for cricket to be included in the next Games at Victoria, British Columbia, in 1994, the probability is that it would appear either at Adelaide or Kuala Lumpur, the candidates to host the 1998 Games.

Sir Colin Cowdrey, President of ICC, is in favour. "There are a great many difficulties," he said, "but the proposal has a good feel about it." But the one rule which is going to create a lot of controversy is the clause which says Test cricketers cannot play.

GUINEA PIGS WANTED

TEN thousand volunteers are sought by Prince Alexandre de Merode, the chairman of the Olympic medical commission. He need them to continue experiments on using blood tests to detect drug use, which is likely to be more accurate than



PATRICK EAGAR



urine testing. Nothing to worry even Ben Johnson—just a pin-prick of blood from the ear-lobe or a finger.

BACK ON THE TRACK

HE should have been working on his third world championship fight by now, but instead he was walking out of prison.

Three years ago Hector Lopez, who was considered to be the best featherweight boxer, was sent to prison on charges of breaking into his girlfriend's house, assaulting her father and a guest with a gun butt.

The silver medallist for Mexico at the '84 Olympics is finally out and, gearing up to pick up the pieces of his boxing career, his greatest drawback was his weight and his fear of stepping back into the ring. But once he got into the ring, he just blew away Jaime Castillo. The old touch was back and the fear was gone.

Hope Tyson can follow Lopez's example if he is sentenced.

END OF A DREAM

NEW ZEALANDER John Walker retired from the track, done in at the age of 40 by a serious



John Walker retires at the age of 40

Hector Lopez is trying to recover the most important commodity: time

Achilles tendon injury. With his announcement ended his dream of running the first sub-four minute mile by a 40-year-old.

He said, "I have run my last race. It is sad, but there is no way I could run the mile as planned.....I stood the test of time and I can't say I'm disappointed about anything."

DIFFERENT FLAGS

ALL but writing the obituary on the greatest Olympic power of the past 40 years, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that the states of the former Soviet Union 'probably' would compete under their own flag in 1993.

"All athletes from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) must compete under the same flag until the end of the year," IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, announced.

Samaranch's announcement certified what had been expected for months. He also added that 10 of 12 former Soviet republics had already asked for international recognition of their national Olympic committees.

With the formidable Soviet sports machinery splintered into pieces, at least some of the other nations have a chance of winning a few medals.

'GET EDUCATED'

WHEN he raised his arm in a clenched-fist salute from the Olympic victory platform almost 24 years ago, Tommie Smith's life changed forever. But he has no regrets and said he would do it again.

He urged black students to rely on education, rather than athletics and citing his own example said, "After that incident my life was not the same again."

On his return to the U.S. he worked as a taxi driver, taught in a school and finally became a track coach at Santa Monica Junior College. Recalling those humiliating moments in 1968 he said, "Wars are fought in a series of small battles. I'm still fighting mine."

His rallying cry of 'educate yourself' is finally gaining momentum among the blacks and it seems that he has finally won his battle. ●

CALCUTTA

Inter-School Badminton

JADAVPUR VIDYAPITH and Patha Bhavan won the boys' and girls' team championships in the 3rd Inter School Badminton meet organised by the South Calcutta District Badminton Association at the Lake Club courts

In the battle for individual honours Anirban Das of Behala High School won the boys singles crown while Kajal Goswami (of Alipurduar) and Srijaya Mukherjee of St Xavier s, Hooghly clinched the sub junior boys and junior girls titles, respectively In the mini boys final, Jadavpur's Arindam Dasgupta beat Rudrava Shome of South Point, and Ashrafi Asidhar of Loreto House won the mini girls' title

In the team championship final Jadavpur beat Alipurduar by the odd match in three but the most sensational news came in the girls team final where Patha Bhavan surprised defending champions and strong favourites Carmel Convent two matches to nothing

Somava Chatterjee gave Patha Bhavan a strong start with a 11 5 10 12 11 8 win in the opening singles Carmel pitted their hopes on the doubles and the third singles but the pair of Sonali Banerjee and Gautami Majumdar flattered to deceive They were upset by the Patha Bhavan duo of Somava and Debasree Deb 7-15, 15 10 15 11 The third singles thus became redundant

In the boys' team final, State sub junior champion Debanjan Majumdar gave Jadavpur HS a good start with a 18 14, 15-10 win over Sishir Sutradhar of Netaji Vidyapith, Alipurduar But the district school shot back when Kajal Goswami and Sutradhar clinched the doubles with a 15-5, 15 10 victory over Suman Poddar and Joyjit Ghosh But as luck would have it Jadavpur landed the crown as they received a walkover in the deciding tie

The best player of the tournament prize went to nine year old Arindam Mukherjee of School of Badminton He received the Syed Modi Memorial Trophy

Jadavpur Vidyapith won the boys' badminton team championship



COURTESY SCORA

PURULIA

District Volleyball

BURDWAN and Hooghly lifted the men s and women's titles at the 41st Senior State Volleyball championships for districts Organised by the Manbhum District Sports Association at the Purulia Stadium, 20 teams, including seven women's teams, took part in the three-day affair played in a league-cum-knockout basis

Burdwan deserved the men's title and they did so with an effortless 3-0 win over Howrah in the final But their best performance in the tournament came when they defeated the star-studded Hooghly side by the odd game in five in a semi-final match Hooghly were the defending men's champions. In the other semi-final, Howrah beat Nadia 3-1.

Hooghly women avenged their group league defeat at the hands of Calcutta when they won the final match 3-1. Calcutta began the final in great form, but could not live up to their promise. Their 3-0 drubbing of Hooghly in the league seemed to have made the Calcutta girls over-confident

Soumitra Bose

NEW DELHI

Wills Masters Open Golf

A TWIST in the tale. That was exactly how the Wills Masters Open Golf championships at the Delhi Golf Club turned out to be. The Rs 225,000 four-day affair began predictably enough with the top stars forging ahead, but it was left to amateur Jyoti Randhawa to close it all up on the last day with a one-stroke win over professionals Feroz Ali and Mukesh Kumar

The 19-year-old student of Meerut University, aided by a birdie on the 18th, finished the fourth day with a two over par 74 for an overall aggregate of 295.

One stroke behind were Calcutta-based Feroz Ali who carded 76 on the day and Mukesh Kumar, leader for two days, who returned 78 With both the professionals on 296, there was a play-off in which Feroz came out best, but this was inconsequential since the two split the prize money. Ali Sher, suffering from the two point penalty imposed on him on the first day, finished fourth at 297.

It was Feroz who led on the opening day, with a sub-par 70 made with the help of six birdies. Mukesh Kumar of Mhow had a par 72, including four birdies. Sharing the second spot was Jyoti Randhawa, leader among the amateurs A big let-down on the first day was Calcuttan Basad Ali who finished in 17th place with 77 and Ali Sher who carded 80.

Mukesh took over the top spot on the second day with a brilliant three under 69. Playing consistently, he recorded five

R. KRISHNA



Calcutta based golfer, Basad Ali, after a dismal start improved his performance on the third day

birdies. Feroz slipped down to number five with a poor 78.

The third day belonged to Basad Ali. With a masterly performance of four under par 68, he jumped to second spot with a three round aggregate of 220. Stroking the ball with remarkable control, he registered five birdies besides par scores on 12 holes. Mukesh managed to retain a two-stroke lead with a less than satisfying 77 in the round. Meanwhile, Jyoti, on the eve of his triumph had quietly ensconced himself in the sixth place with an aggregate of 221.

Joel Rai

TRIVANDRUM

State Cycle-Polo

KOLLAM DISTRICT dethroned Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (K.S.R.T.C.),



Feroz Ali's score of sub-par 70 had six birdies in it

Trivandrum to claim the 21st State Cycle-Polo championship in an evenly contested men's final.

Locked four each at the break, in the second session, Kollam players marked the K.S.R.T.C's star forwards Suresh Kumar and Praveen well to pull off an upset victory 7-6.

Earlier in the semi-finals, the eventual champions met hosts Trivandrum. At the end of the regulation time, both the teams scored six goals each. Finally Kollam won the match 7-6 in extra-time. In the other semi-final, K.S.R.T.C. had blanked Ernakulam 7-0.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

KARATE

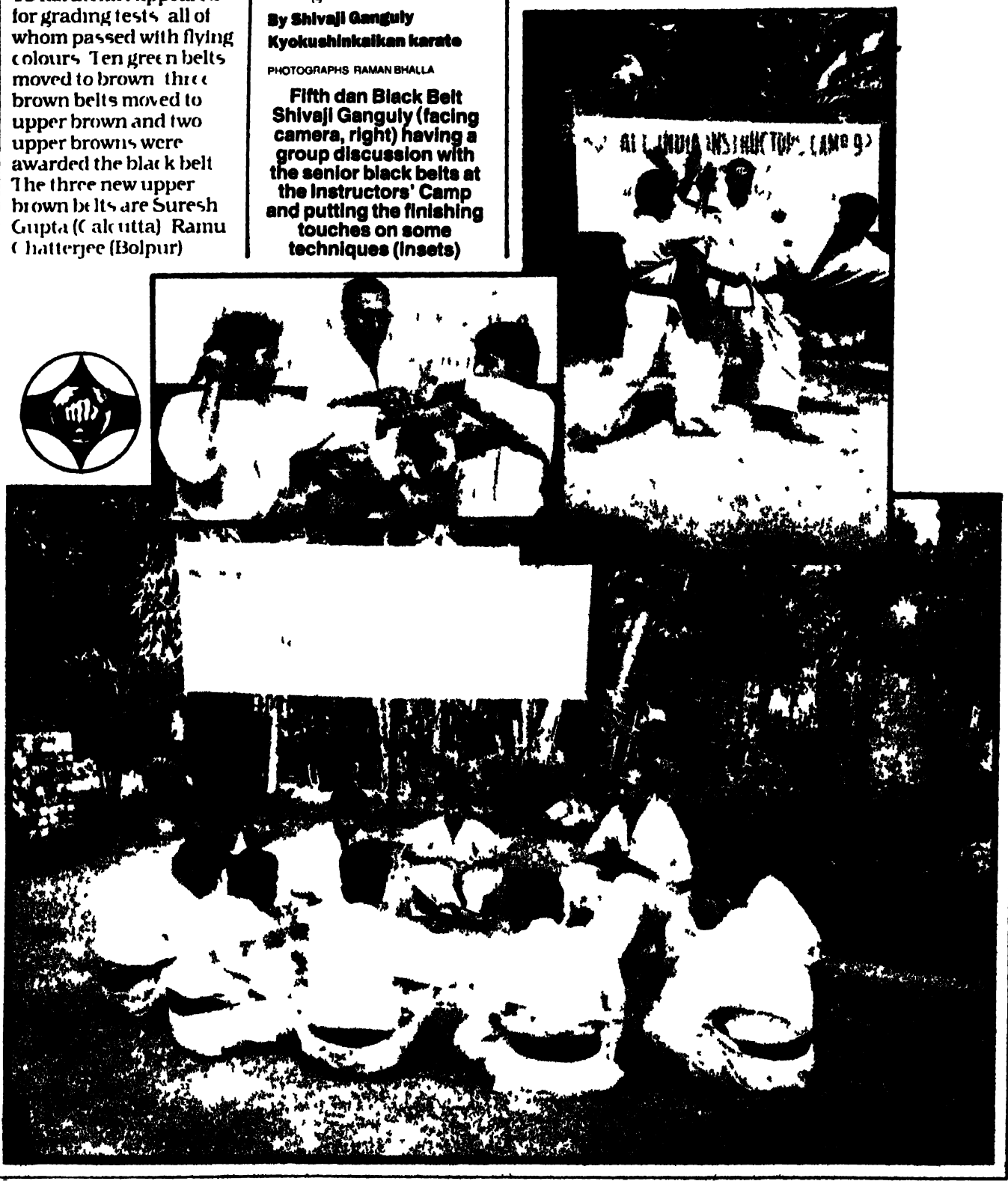
THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

TO continue with the wrap-up of the Instructors' Camp held at the Kyokushinkaikan Karate HQ in Calcutta, here are the results of the promotion tests conducted. Altogether 15 karatekas appeared for grading tests, all of whom passed with flying colours. Ten green belts moved to brown, three brown belts moved to upper brown and two upper browns were awarded the black belt. The three new upper brown belts are Suresh Gupta (Calcutta), Ramu Chatterjee (Bolpur), Rajesh Prasad (Giridih) and the two black belts are Abdul Latif (Kannur) and Arun Diwedi (Bhilai).

In addition, the 10 older black belts went though advanced training in preparation for their second dan rating.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS: RAMAN BHALLA



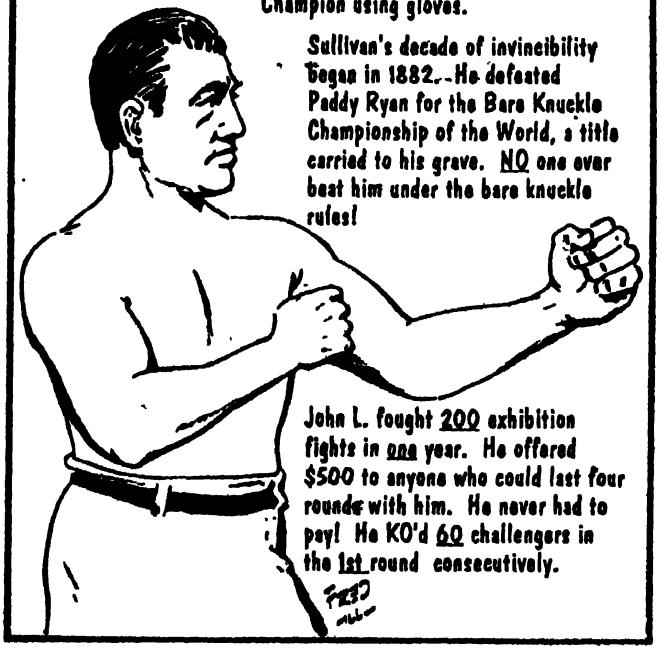
Fifth dan Black Belt Shivaji Ganguly (facing camera, right) having a group discussion with the senior black belts at the Instructors' Camp and putting the finishing touches on some techniques (insets)

SPORT SHORTS

by Fred Hull

The Great JOHN L. SULLIVAN

September 7, 1892 was a black day for Boston. It's beloved John L. Sullivan met defeat at the hands of a younger fighter, ending 10 glorious years in which Sullivan triumphed over all opponents. He was the last Bare Knuckle World Champion and the first World Champion using gloves.



Sullivan's decade of invincibility began in 1882. He defeated Paddy Ryan for the Bare Knuckle Championship of the World, a title carried to his grave. NO one ever beat him under the bare knuckle rules!

John L. fought 200 exhibition fights in one year. He offered $500 to anyone who could last four rounds with him. He never had to pay! He KO'd 60 challengers in the 1st round consecutively.

FRED HULL

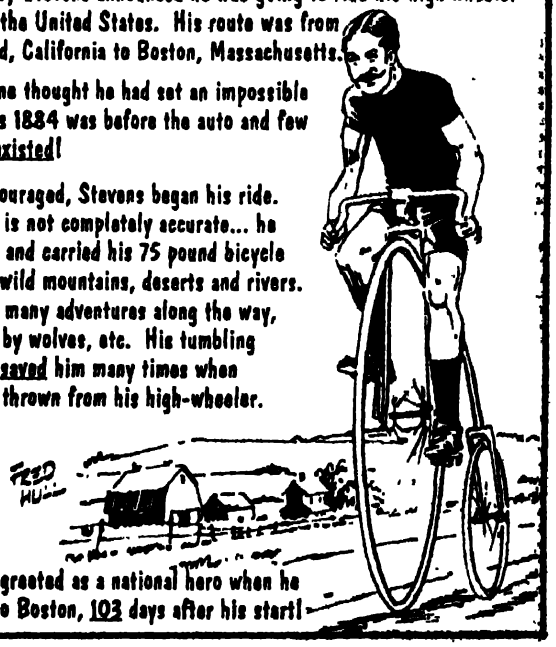
THOMAS STEVENS' *IMPOSSIBLE GOAL*

In 1884 the New York sport of bicycling had no more ardent competitor than Thomas Stevens. He was always looking for a challenge!

After planning and training (which included becoming an expert tumbler) Stevens announced he was going to ride his high wheeler across the United States. His route was from Oakland, California to Boston, Massachusetts.

Everyone thought he had set an impossible goal, as 1884 was before the auto and few roads existed!

Undiscouraged, Stevens began his ride. "Ride" is not completely accurate... he pushed and carried his 75 pound bicycle across wild mountains, deserts and rivers. He had many adventures along the way, chased by wolves, etc. His tumbling ability saved him many times when he was thrown from his high-wheeler.



He was greeted as a national hero when he rode into Boston, 103 days after his start!

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"I can't shoot 'till you get out of the way."



"Him I never argue with!"

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Who was the first Australian player to win the women s lawn tennis singles title at Wimbledon ?
2 What is garbage in tennis ?
3 What is X ring in shooting ?
4 What does WUKO stand for?

ANSWERS

1 Margaret Smith (Mrs B M Court) in 1963
2 A soft shot (as dink/or lob)
3 The innermost area of the scoring ring on certain targets for small bore competition that is used for breaking ties When two or more shooters are tied the victory is given to the one with the most holes in the X ring
4 World Union of Karatedo Organisations

CHESS

THIS week s game features two rising stars of world chess Black is a 12 year old from Budapest whom the Hungarians say is even better than Judit Polgar was at that age White is former world junior champ Alexei Shirov (21) of Riga Latvia who is now the world No 6 His victory at the Lloyds Bank was dedicated by him to the Baltic Republic s declaration of independence

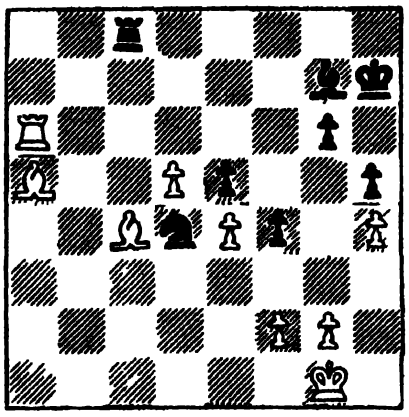
White A Shirov Vs Black Peter Leko Lloyds 91

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 Bg5 Ne4 5 Bf4 Nc3 6 bc3 dc4 7 e4 c5 8 Bc4 Bg7 9 Ne2 Nc6 10 d5. White is a tempo up on traditional exchange Grunfeld s He could have transposed back into a very familiar position with 10 Be3

10-Na5 11 Bd3 0-0 12 Bg5 Qc7 13 0-0 e5 The cramping 13 c4 is an idea **14 c4 b6 15 Bd2 Nb7 16 a4 Bd7 a5 Nd6** It is difficult for black to hold the queenside

18 Nc3 f5 19 Re1 f4 20 Qb3 h5 21 Reb1 Rab8 22 ab6 ab6 23 Ra6 b5 24 Nb5 Bb5 25 cb5 c4 26 Qb4! Nb5 27 Qc4 Qc4 28 Bc4 Nd4 29 Rb8 Rb8 30 h4 Kh7 31 Ba5 Rc8 (see Diagram) 32 d6! Rc4 33 d7 Ne2 34 Kf1 Rd4 35 d8-Q Rd8 36 Bd8 Nd4 [illegible] (1-0). A smooth performance by Shirov but a very high level of resistance is offered by the 12 year old Peter

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

"ONE million pounds that s the largest bet I ve ever made You might think that makes me a big time gambler Not at all—just a bridge player You see I wasn t taking a crazy risk when I made the bet which was that no one could write a computer program to beat me at the game of bridge I was betting on a sure thing That s the start of a famous bridge player s autobiography

It is not exactly the type of bridge book one is accustomed to—hands are fewer than one would normally find in a 191 page book Still if you are one of those who like to read good witty prose with interesting anecdotes about the flamboyant lifestyle of one of the game s most exciting and charismatic stars Bridge My Way by who else but Zia Mahmood Pakistan s globe trotting super star is the book you are looking for Priced at US $ 9 95 (7 99 sterling pounds), this softbound publication from Faber and Faber, may not be the cheapest buy but will I assure you, provide some useful bridge tips as well as hours of entertainment as Zia is a delightful reconteur not averse to exaggerating a bit in order to add the right amount of spice

Only one Indian features in Zia s book, my partner Jaggy Shivdasani They were playing the 1988 Open Pairs in Cannes, leading the field after the first day. Next morning Jaggy had gone on a boat excursion to an island off the coast Busy clicking pictures (of what!) he missed the boat s return and had no way of getting back till half an-hour after game time Zia who claims to have been *resting* in bed (hard to believe Zia doing so in Cannes) got a call from Jaggy Do something wake up get up go to the dock and pay a fisherman to sail out and rescue me Jaggy pleaded He added or so Zia claims But look for one with an old boat That might be cheaper Anyway Zia did nothing of the sort but got the director to provide a substitute for Jaggy s half hour delay When Jaggy finally arrived, they went on to win as Zia s use of some choicest Hindi/Urdu gaalis to describe his views on Jaggy s lineage did not dim the latter s bridge skills

NORTH (dummy)
♠ A 3
♥ K84
♦ J8[illegible]
♣ K104

WEST
♠ J86
♥ J1065?
♦ K92
♣ Q5

EAST
♠ Q92
♥ Q9
♦ Q104
♣ 98732

SOUTH
♠ K10 74
♥ A73
♦ A75
♣ AJ6

Zia West led a heart against South s three no trump contract and East Jaggy on winning the first trick continued the suit to declarer s ace At trick three South cashed the king of spades and Jaggy followed with the *nine!* Declarer, who could no longer afford to duck West s eight on the next round of the suit, went up with the ace under which Jaggy dumped his *queen!* Now West could win the third round of spades to establish hearts South, who no longer had the tempo to set up the thirteenth diamond was forced to guess the location of the club queen and going with the odds, he played East, the man with more minor suit cards, for it One down and, according to Zia, a big step forward in Pakistan-India relationship!

Santana Ghose

Photograph of the week



Two dolphins leaping for an eight man kingster are used for the starter plane at the Winter Olympics 1992 these planes entertaining the sky an Olympic line

[illegible] ailing. By the [illegible] and the [illegible] her [illegible]



REASON why 17-year-old champion Monica Seles, who was sucking a lollipop at a press conference, pronounced the Virginia Slims Championships "the best tournament": Because "in the locker rooms they have all these different kinds of candies."

SIGN raised by a female fan in the stands at the Australian Open during Stefan Edberg's semi-final victory over Wayne Ferreira: "Forget Annette—Marry Me."

FIRST player ever to win four major championships before his 21st birthday: Mats Wilander.

COUNTRY that has more indoor tennis courts per capita than any other country in the world: Sweden.

TENNIS

WHAT teenager Nanda Majoli asked Betty Stove when are Betty Stove and Liz Smylie and are the rumours that you are a lesbian? I'm hearing true or not?

POLLUTION level of the Yarra River, which Jim Courier and his coach, Brad Stine, dove into to celebrate Courier's winning the Australian Open, 18 times the acceptable limit.

PLAYER who once unnerved world No. 1 Jim Courier by relentlessly pummeling groundstrokes at him in practice at the Bollettieri Tennis Academy: Monica Seles.

HOW John McEnroe recently described the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP): As "a borderline socialist, communistic set-up."

COMPOSITION of the million dollar racket that the European Community Championships awards to a player who wins the tournament three times in five years: Six kilograms of gold and 1,000 diamonds.

WHY the organizers of a club tournament in New Guinea in 1972 failed to show up for a dinner in his honor: He was discovered to have been eaten by cannibals.



ONE of the players to reach the semifinals in the first Grand Slam tournament in which they played: Chris Evert, Monica Seles and Jennifer Capriati.

NUMBER of tournaments that 1992 superstar Suzanne Dulko won without dropping any games at all: 0.

MAXIMUM number of years that any player can be banned by the Association of Tennis Professionals for testing positive for steroids: 2 (with the exception of Federation Cup competitors, who get 4).

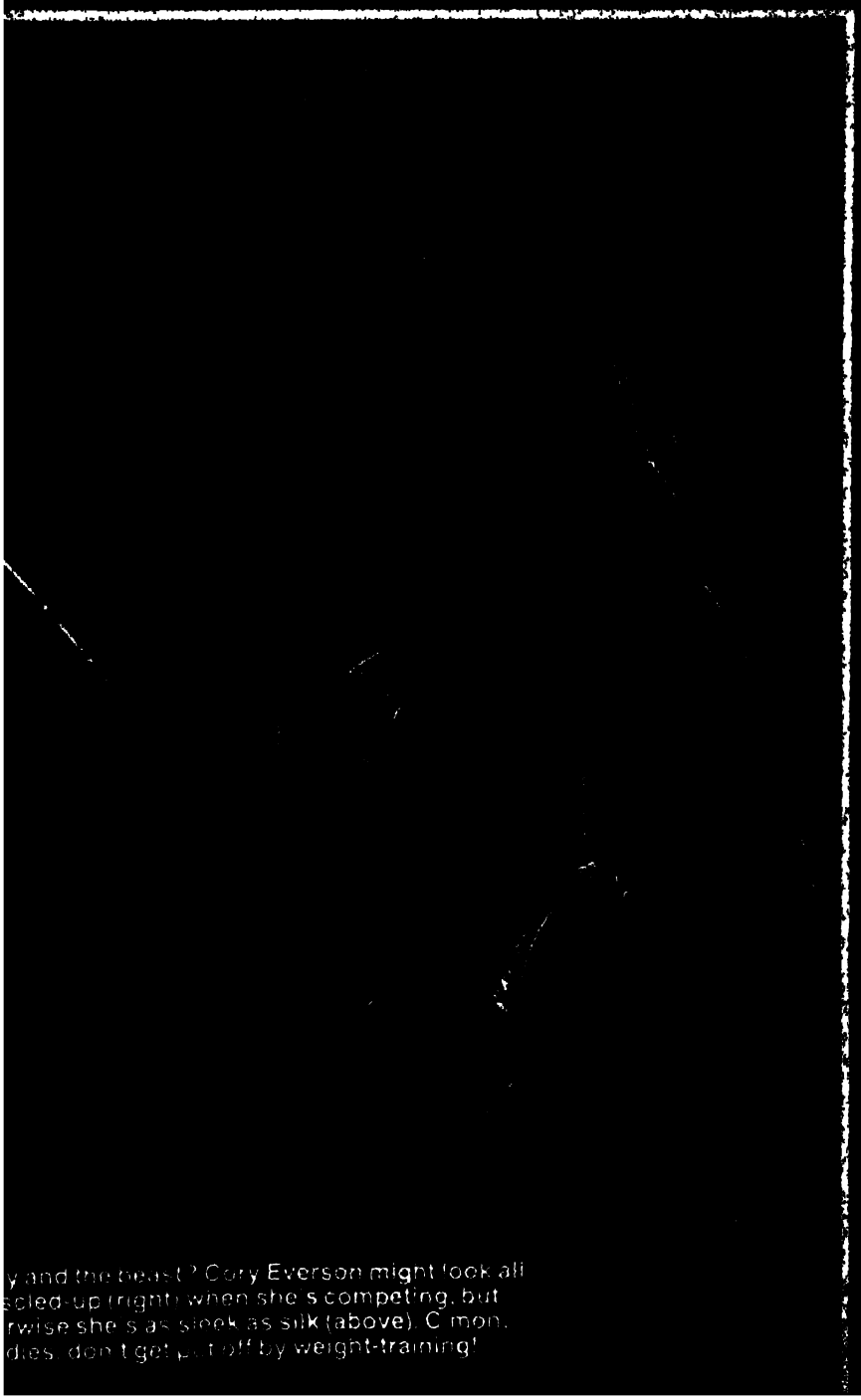
NUMBER of doubles titles that Australia's Wally Masur and Peter Doohan won in 34 matches.

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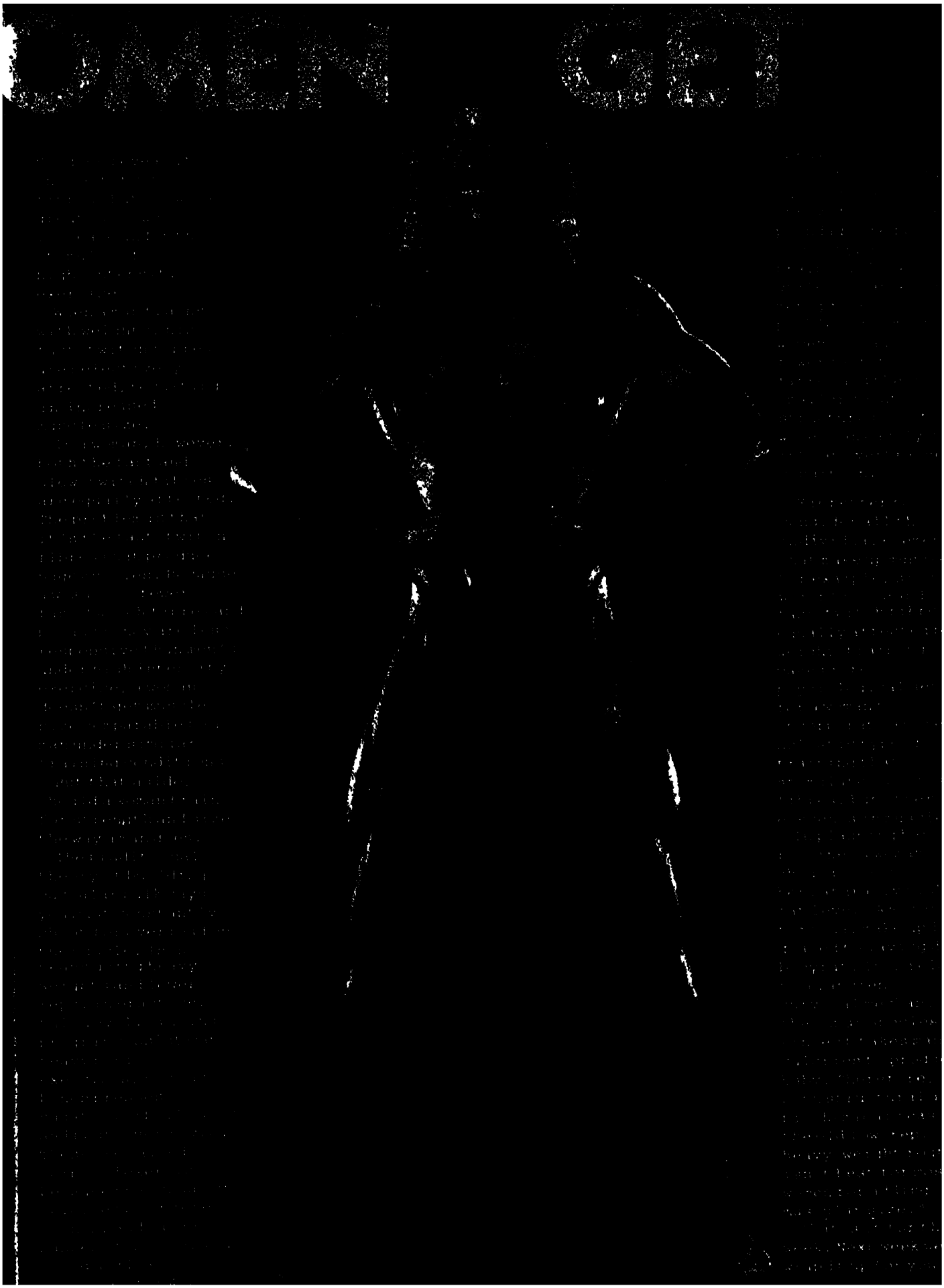
FITNESS

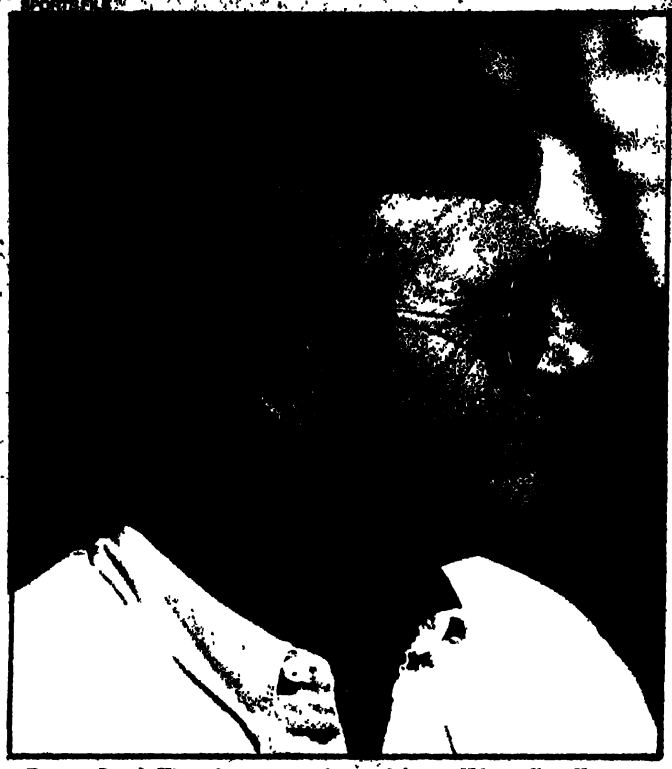
DO

MUSCLED? C



y and the beast.' Cory Everson might look all
scled-up (right) when she's competing, but
rwise she's as sleek as silk (above). C'mon,
dies don't get put off by weight-training!





Peter Graf: The time to redeem himself has finally come

FATHER, DEAR FATHER

Charges dissolved

IF you're a Steffi Graf fan and are concerned about her, we'd love to share this bit of news with you. A con man-cum- boxing promoter who goes by the name of Eberhard Thust has been sentenced to three years in prison for blackmailing Steffi Graf's father, Peter Graf, over a love affair with a model. This news incidentally had played havoc with Steffi's personal life two years ago and the papers and tabloids went to town with it.

The model, Nicole Meissner has also been sentenced for two years. In 1990, Peter Graf had reportedly paid Thust Dm 800,000 ($685,000) to keep his affair with 23-year old Nicole Meissner quiet. Newspaper reports also claimed that Graf was the father of Meissner's child, but a blood test proved the charge negative. Peter Graf denied that he was being pressurised to pay the money, but claims he did so voluntarily is order to keep the press out of this, thereby protecting his daughter.

Hopefully with this sentence peace should return to the Graf family.

'SACH' A LOT OF THINGS

All about Sachin

SACHIN TENDULKAR fan? Here, try out a few fun facts on the guy:
Nickname: Tendlya or Sachu.
Favourite dish: Murg Makhani.
Favourite TV show: DD's non-stop nonsense.
Favourite holiday resort: Home.
Which person in the world would you like to meet: Don Bradman, Mike Tyson and Ben Johnson.
Fears: Wars and natural calamities.
Likes: Music, wild life and home cooked food.
Hardest player to dismiss: Sanjay Manjrekar.
Hardest bowler to face: Wasim Akram.







Waqar Younis' lengthy contract with Surrey could see him suffering from burn-out

SPEED LIMIT!

Younis breaks down

PAKISTAN'S fast bowling sensation, Waqar Younis, is missing out on all the action in Australia and his skipper feels that Younis only has his overexuberance to blame. Imran is also blaming Waqar's strenuous stint in the English county circuit with Surrey.

The Khan is convinced that if Waqar completes his lengthy five-year contract with Surrey, his international career could come to a halt. Imran has therefore sounded a warning to Waqar urging him to quit county cricket as fast as possible.

Surrey coach, Geoff Arnold—reacting to Imran's statements—hit back saying, "Don't blame us. We haven't burnt him out. Waqar bowled fewer overs around 528 last season, than Phil Defreitas or Neil Foster." These explanations, however, don't impress Imran Khan. He argued saying, "Waqar won't last if he carries on and I have told him that he will be finished unless his contract is limited. At the moment it's (the contract) too long. Financially county cricket is important for someone of Waqar's age but he should now concentrate on international cricket."

Wonder what Younis, who is now back in Pakistan ruing his luck, has to say now ?

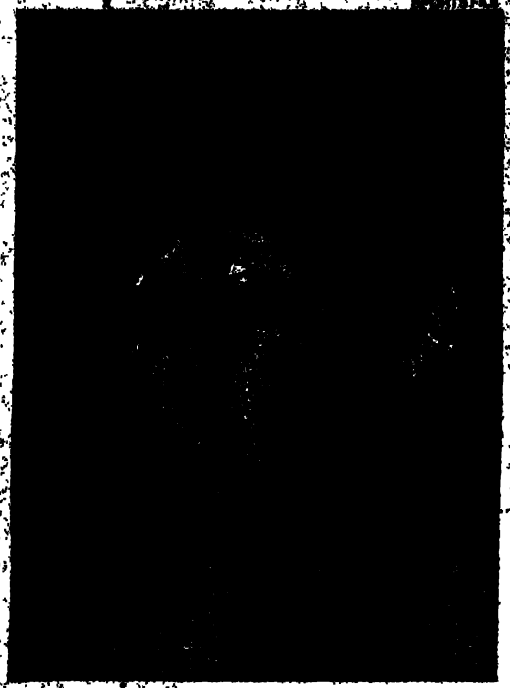
GENDER BENDER

Battle of the Sexes

FRESH news on the Monica Seles versus Jimmy Connors 'Battle of the Sexes' tennis match, Seles, the grapevine has it, is getting perhaps a little too restless—and a trifle cocky—in the ensuing build up to the 'gender' battle.

Seles, says that she will refuse Jimmy Connor's dare to put up $1 million to play him in a winner-take-all tennis match. Eighteen is a young age, and Seles feels that she could beat Connors without a handicap. "The money is not important", she argues, adding that she doubts such a bet could be legal. Women's tennis' current sex thimble says that she would like to play the match on her terms.

Watch this space for further developments.



Seles wants to play Jimbo but strictly on her terms

freewheeling

IN the cricket Press Boxes of the world, it is highly unusual to see journalists give vent to emotions of patriotism or support their teams Yet, who could deny this to the rather large number of South African mediamen (and women) present at the Sydney Cricket Ground while their team spanked pre-tournament hot shots Australia The sights of absolute joy brought goose pimples to men who claim their hides would make an elephant pale by comparison

At the other end of the box sat the Aussie Press, deep in thought about what was going wrong with their seemingly all conquering team Outside the box in the stands the sell-out SCG crowd couldn t comprehend the event taking place in front of them

One banner had said Wellcome back (sic) to the South African cricketers The sign which briefly hung in front of one of the stands echoed the initial mood of a generous crowd, but sent worldwide by television it did nothing to enhance the condition of Australia s educational system Perhaps mercifully for the hosts the sign was removed after a brief flutter—for the heinous crime of obscuring an advertising hoarding In Australia you can do anything Anything but interfere with marketing hype

Nevertheless, warm indeed was the initial welcome to the South Africans from a packed stadium (as perhaps it was all around the world) For their part the Australian crowds, buoyed by public statements from Border and Simpson that Australia would not be beaten again, no doubt thought they could afford to be generous in their support for the South Africans But once the world—and the Australians in particular—had seen what the exiles were capable of, that touch of 'underdog support' disappeared

'Come on Aussies, rip'em apart held,' said one amidst the array of posters Sitting in a special stand, wearing uniforms similar to their cricketers, the South African supporters were immune to what was being said on the banners While holidaying in Australia, Mr Willie Corteeze and three other South African friends climbed Average Rock, took photographs of the Great Barrier Reef and travelled to Cairns, the northern tourist port But for them, none of those attractions beat the SCG that day. The group from Pretoria had come to Australia, like so many other South Africans, for the sole purpose of watching their team in the World Cup.

"End apartheid forever, ban the white ball," was the anti one-day cricket plea on one bed sheet Well, at least some Australians managed to put sport beyond politics This in spite of the fact that, while Allan Border's men battled in the middle, Prime Minister Paul Keating was delivering an economic plan to save Australia

One imaginative marketing idea undertaken by a newspaper group was to sell a special edition of 'Keating's plan' at the SCG with occasional ads appearing on the giant electronic scoreboard

But it will be history that will decide which was the more important statement in Australia that day; the economic plan which is to kickstart Australia back into motion; or the national cricket team being hammered by a side returning to play after two decades of isolation.

The significance of both, however, were about the future; both about humanity's stumbling, fumbling progress. Both were born out of disenchantment and despair, but nourished with hope. But the cricket, if you were not an Australian, was far greater fun. The shocked faces in the Press Box said it all Perhaps some of my Australian colleagues would have preferred writing on the Prime Minister's economic plan than the cricket that evening

To rub salt into the Aussie wounds one newspaper carried the story of how the great Sir Donald Bradman helped to sustain the South African spirit during their long exile

South Africa's cricket board chief, Ali Bacher, said that Sir Don 'greatly encouraged the progression of South African cricket from behind the scenes" writing to many of them while they were ostracised.

The great man was even moved enough to break his silence, saying: "I have always given them moral support and encouragement because I knew the South African cricketers themselves were not responsible for the political situation in their country." That will go down as a historic quote.

But if you were an Australian at the SCG that day, and if what happened is indeed history, it was certainly not something to tell your grandchildren about.

Andy O'Brien, Brisbane

Once South Africa started winning, banners with racial overtures started going up

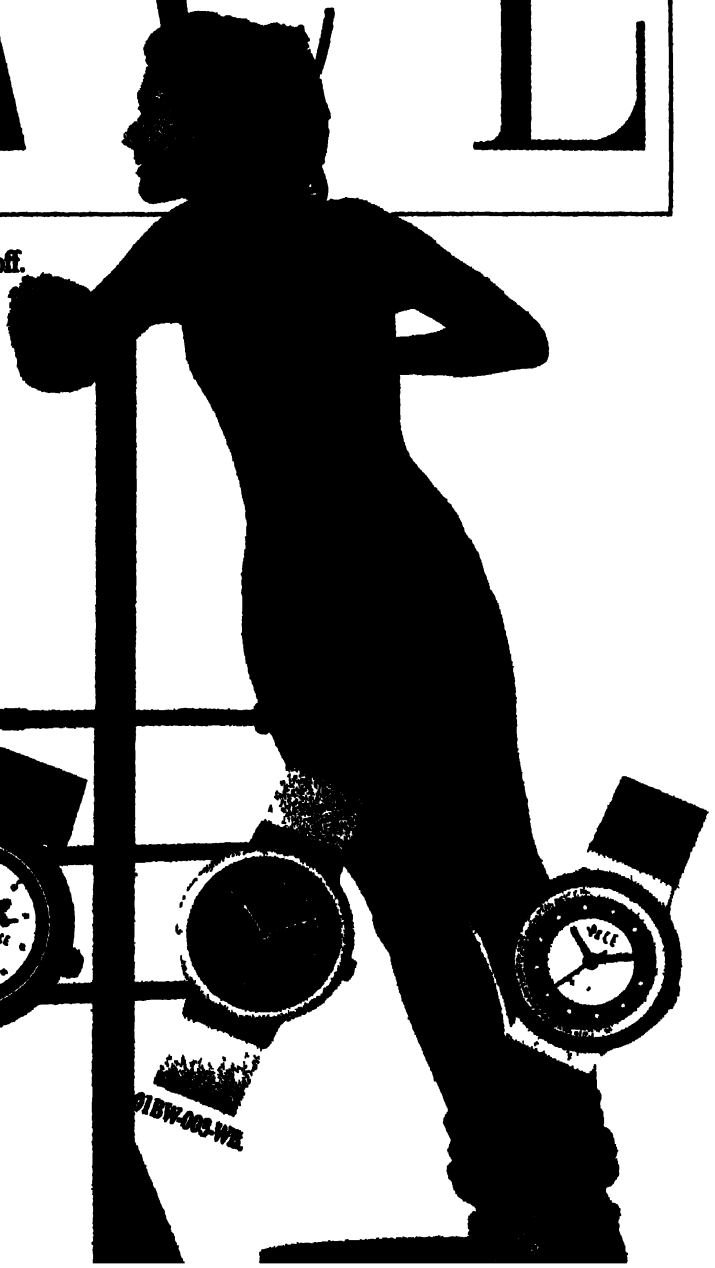


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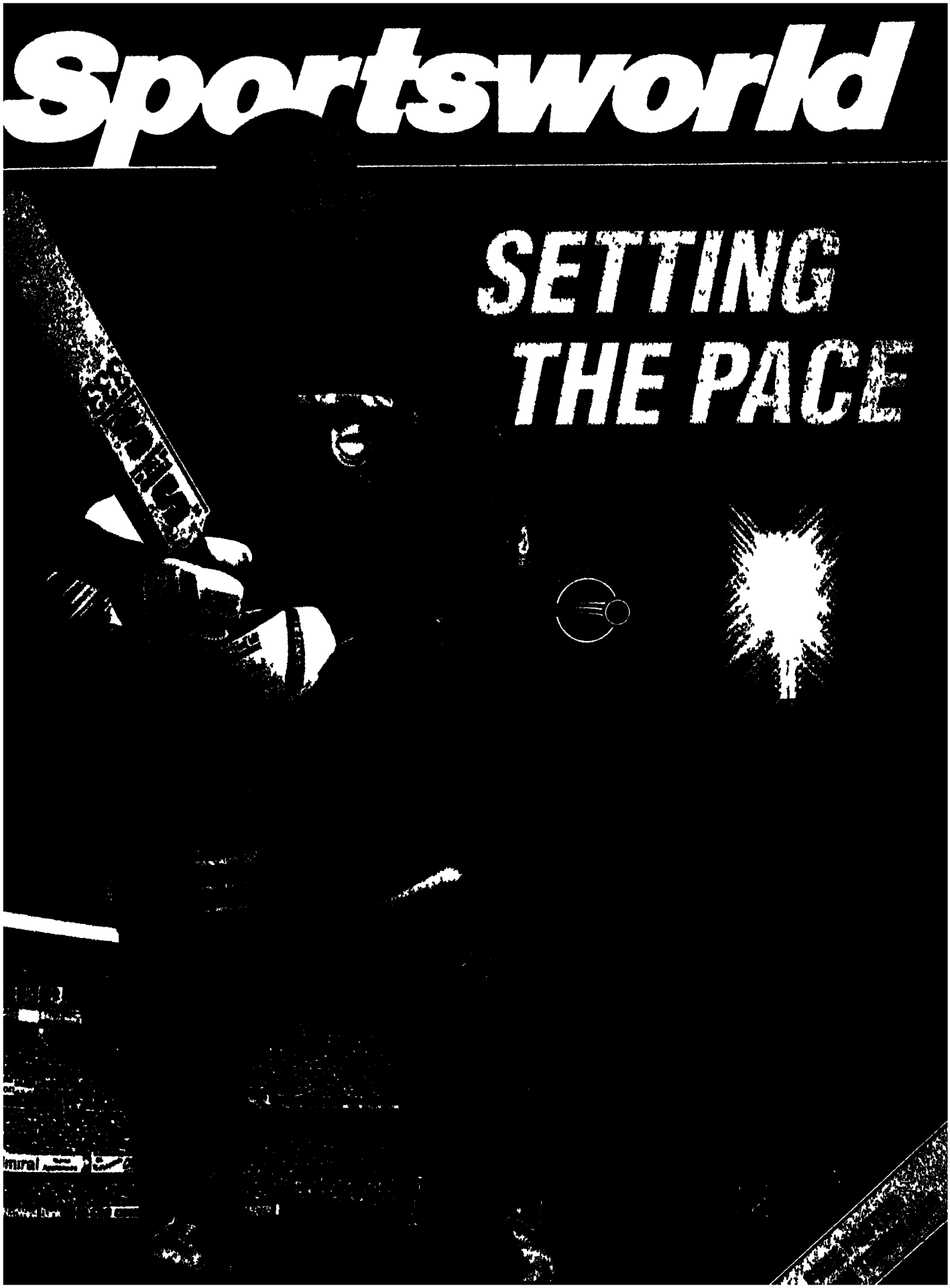


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SETTING THE PACE



World Champion Wayne Rainey at work

Every time World Motorcycle Champion Wayne Rainey gets on to his Castrol lubricated Yamaha YZR 500, he takes on a dual role of rider and researcher, because at Castrol, our ultimate laboratories are the racetracks where our products are tested under the most gruelling racing conditions.

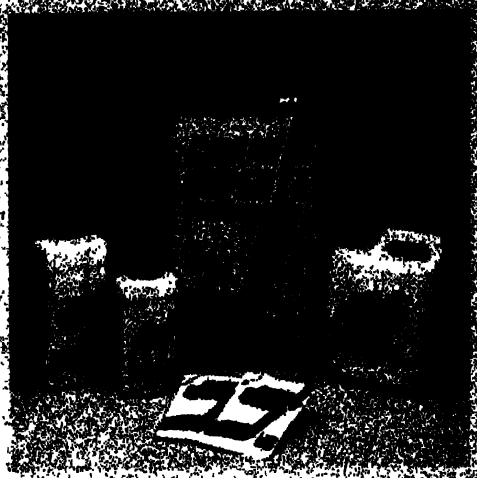
Success under stress is key to the development of new technology and the most critical input is the rider's comment of the machine's performance. No computer model or wind tunnel/laboratory tests can replicate the torturous engine punishment on the track, to test the final proof of the strength or weakness of an oil.

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Voices

I'M retired. So I'm gone. It's a thing that you don't second-guess. It's a decision that, when I talked with my doctors, we came to an agreement. But, if that changes I'll be back. Everything's going great ... too good, and it's scary on that side.
MAGIC JOHNSON might be down .... but he's certainly not out

21.9.92. Eubanks exults after the fight is stopped and a badly battered Watson is helped by the referee



TOMMY HINDLEY

THINKING about those things makes me realise that nothing I've managed in boxing over the last two years amounts to very much The only thing I get from boxing is security for my family
CHRIS EUBANK traumatised after his opponent Michael Watson went into a coma after their bout, has finally decided to continue boxing

IF he picks his surfaces and takes his time, he could make the top 100 again and that would be some achievement. If I were him, I would aim to be ready after Wimbledon. What he needs is matches and he really doesn't want to go in for a big tournament without being match fit. He has to be like George Foreman and take it slowly.
JOHN LLOYD,Bjorn Borg's first opponent on the senior circuit, feels the Swedish former No I should not expect too much, too soon.

THE trouble with Ayrton is that I won't give way to him as many others will do. I'll stand up to him, as I've demonstrated time and again and that makes him feel uncomfortable. He finds it difficult to cope with. We've beaten each other a fair number of times over the years. It would seem that when he comes under pressure, it gets to him.
NIGEL MANSELL proved this when he began this year in style by winning the South African Grand Prix.



WHENEVER I look down the wicket at the batsman I see a geezer trying to ruin my career.
PHIL TUFNELL explains what goes on in his mind when he starts his run-up.

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NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



ENGLAND SET THE PACE AT THE WORLD CUP 1992

Cover photograph of the SCG by Patrick Eagar and Graham Gooch by Nikhil Bhattacharya

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THE RAIN-RULE CONTROVERSEY

A Damp Squib

ANDY O'BRIEN examines a rule which no-one likes but everybody lives with

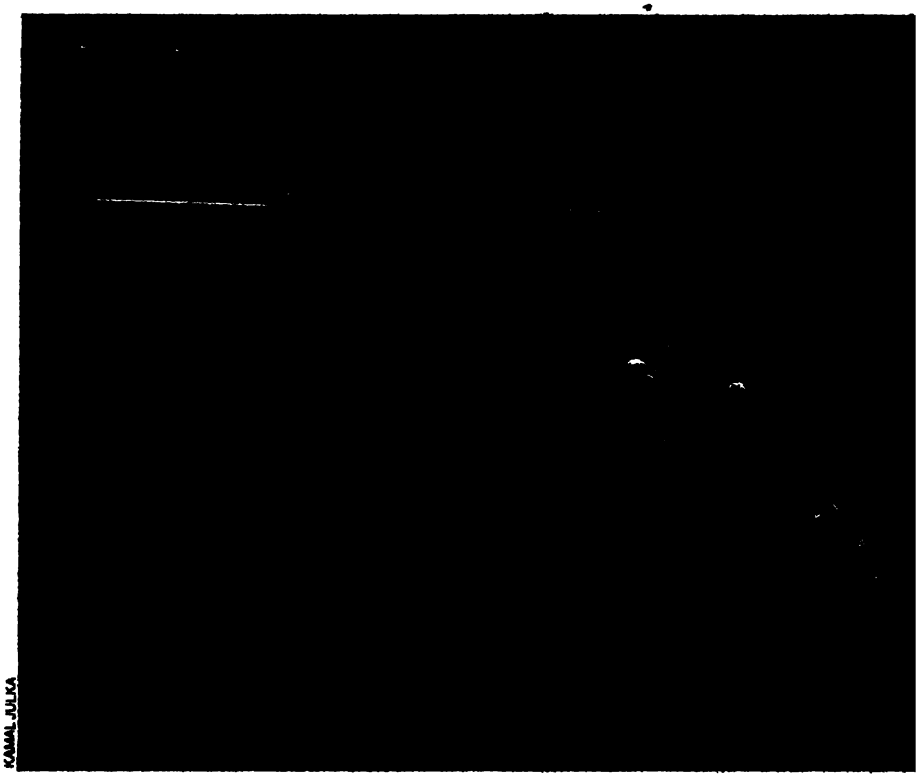
ANALYSIS

IT's not that India were on the receiving end of the World Cup rain rule, which makes it worthwhile to look into the implications of the rule It is by general consensus that the rule is 'inadequate '

It was three seasons ago that Australia, then on a one day high, surprisingly lost the World Series finals to West Indies after a rain interrupted match was reduced to the permissible 15 overs The West Indies came in and having all their wickets, bashed the runs in no time, much to the horror of Australian cricket Something had to be done In shock and desperation, a new way of getting rid of the tremendous advantage a side batting second receives by the 'old rule came up For two seasons now, the Aussies have used a method whereby in an interrupted match, the team batting second is required to make, in the reduced number of overs the number of runs scored by the team batting first from the equivalent number of highest scoring overs '

The rule, hidden in the playing conditions, did not get much attention That no-one had bothered to bring up the unfair nature of this rule for a side batting second, is shocking It was only March 1 when both scheduled Cup games were hit by rain, forcing the use of the rule, did everyone sit up But not much could be done and as much as we in India might complain about how the rule robbed our team of a win against the Australians there's no getting away from the fact that no one cared to object to the rule before Nevertheless, the rule is ridiculous

In the Brisbane match, the runs from the 47 highest scoring overs from Australia s innings were added to formulate India's target—the three cheapest overs discarded were a maiden, a leg-bye maiden and a third over from which one run was scored. It was almost as if India were being penalised for bowling three good overs. That



KAMAL JULKA

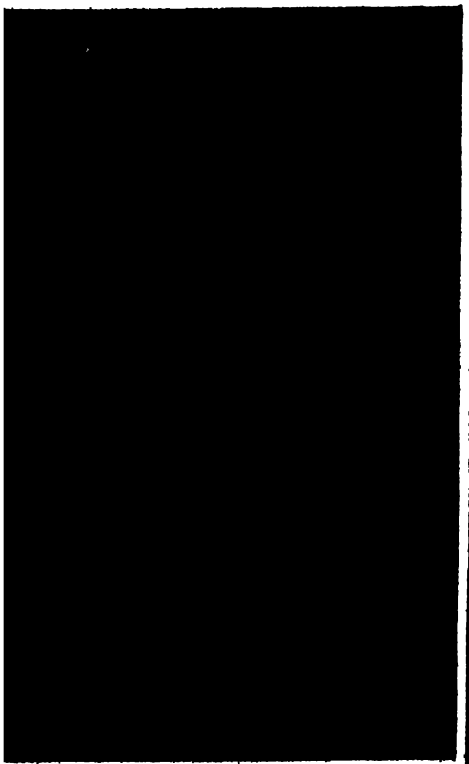
India came within a hair s breadth of an enthralling victory, by no means proved that the law is not farcical.

Azharuddin, normally the most diplomatic of people—sometimes too diplomatic—didn't hold back this time. "Those three overs stumped (the Aussie Press used the word 'stuffed') us", he said and added "games like this show up the loopholes in the rules." Border too agreed that it definitely disadvantaged the side batting second.

Australian Cricket Board chief executive David Richards also admitted that the current rule was not perfect, but believed it was better than the previous rule that was simply

calculated on run rate and overs faced. That rule was wrong too, for it gave the side batting second an enormous advantage. So to ensure that the side batting first isn't at a disadvantage and to rectify Australia's hurt pride after the West Indies beat them in what the Aussies claim was 'a ridiculous' World Series final three seasons ago, the World Cup has now been subjected to this ridiculous rule. One wonders what the situation would have been had the Aussies themselves been in India's boots that day, and lost the match because of the rule. The search for a new rule would have been on the very next day, that's for sure.

Not so now. Everyone is



admitting that the system is not perfect, but as long as *they* are not affected no new solutions will be looked at. It is a fact that many solutions have been tried and none have been accepted universally. Perhaps that time has come now. Or will it only come if Australia's chances in this World Cup are ironically ruined by their own rule?

One solution, could be including in the conditions of play a clause which allows the scheduled playing time to be moved say half an hour or one hour in case of any interruptions. Had the scheduled time of play been stretched to an extra 10 minutes, India would have had their full quota of overs and probably won too. There is, in fact, one clause in the present playing conditions which says that 'if a team fielding second fails to bowl the required number of overs by the scheduled cessation time, the hours of play shall be extended until the overs have been bowled or a result achieved.' Why can't a similar extension be applied to a rain-interrupted

> The rule, hidden in the playing conditions, did not get much attention. That no-one had bothered to bring up the unfair nature of this rule for a side batting second, is shocking

game, especially because daylight does allow for this in Australia. But in Australia that is a preposterous proposal. No game can be continued till past 6 O'Clock because television controls cricket in this country. Channel Nine breaks for its 'high-rating' news at six O'Clock every evening and therefore no match can end after they have left the cricket to go over to their newsroom.

Such is the control of television over cricket in Australia that the very timing of having the World Cup in the third week of February, was planned so that the cricket did not interfere with Channel Nine's exclusive coverage of the Winter Olympics. The two week break from the end of Australia's cricket commitments against West Indies and India till the start of the World Cup, coincided exactly with the start and finish of the Winter Olympics in Albertville.

Television also dictates that no match will be shown live in the city the game is being played in; out of the generosity of their hearts permission has been granted that the final at the MCG will be telecast in the Melbourne city area, but of course under one condition; that the match is sold out. No wonder none of Channel Nine's commentators, bothered to criticise the rule which 'did India in' at Brisbane.

Greg Chappel felt, 'the rule is the closest you can come to the best. You can't get closer to being perfect. Many things have been tried and I think this is the best."

David Gower, an apprentice with the network's commentary team however admitted he had reservations about the rule. If he does bother to go public on it, Gower could be in a bit of trouble with Channel Nine bosses. Rod Marsh once openly criticised one-day cricket and got the sack from Channel Nine.

Tony Greig who doesn't say much that would get him into trouble— in fact he doesn't say very much that is sense at all—when asked about the rules retorted "Why blame the rules. Blame Ravi Shastri for losing the match."

Coming to think of it, there might be an iota of truth in what Steve Waugh said after he dropped the catch, off the final ball, in Brisbane, but managed to throw in for a run-out. "I read in the papers this morning that the television blokes wanted an exciting game for television, so I thought I'll give them what they want," he joked.

Well at least India can take solace in one thing; they are providing the World Cup with the closest matches, in a tournament dominated by one sided matches.

At least Greg and company should be happy about that. ●

COVER STORY

SE

By ANDY O'BRIEN, SYDNEY

THE great England fast bowler Fred Trueman once said of the expectations of Englishmen about their cricket teams

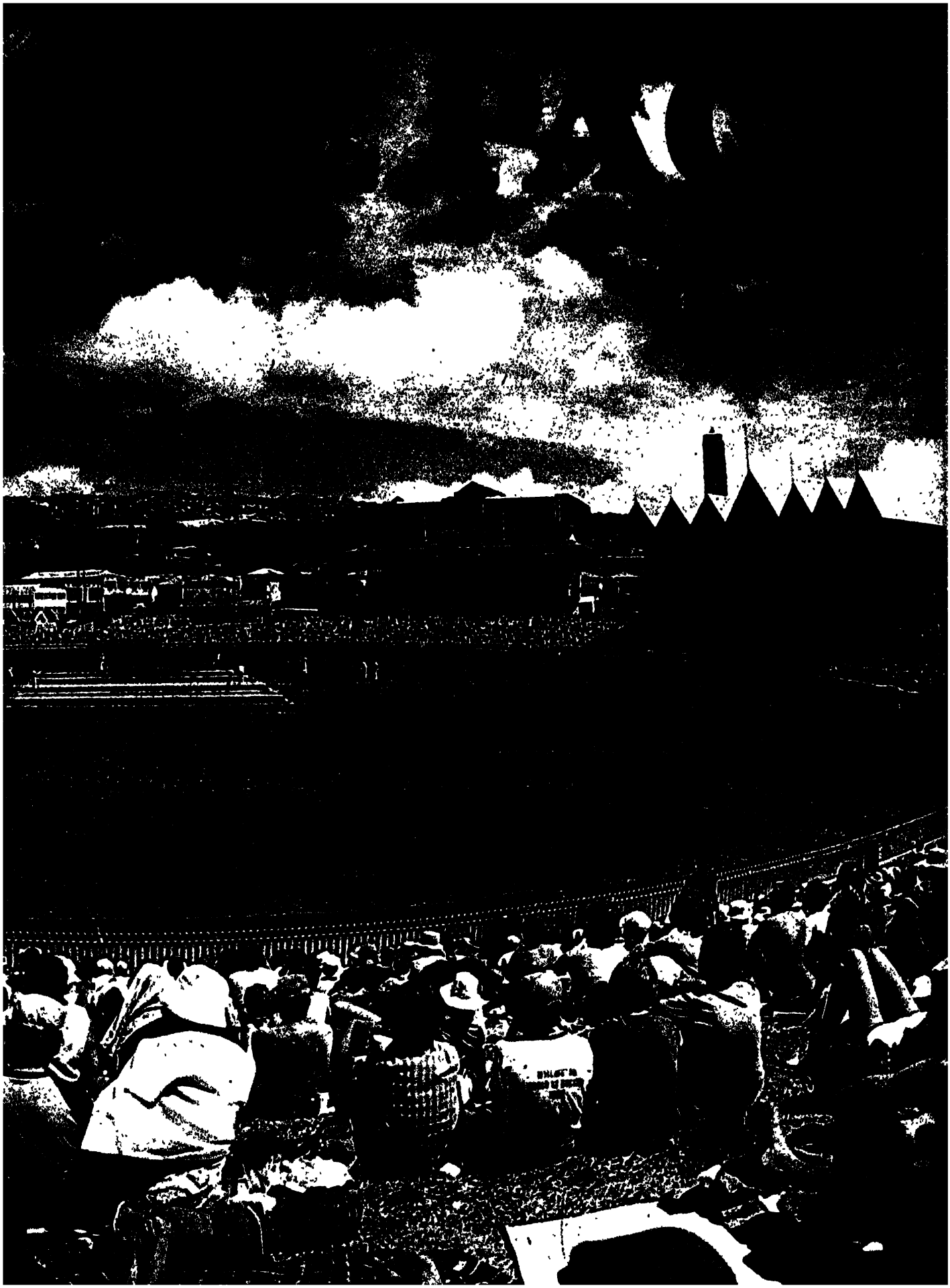
England s always expecting No wonder they call her the mother country

Throughout the Eighties however England s expectations often dashed against extreme adversity with only some limited success providing the silver lining and keeping their morale buoyant And in one day cricket

PATRICK EAGAR



The Basin Reserve, Wellington, where England played their crucial match against New Zealand on 15 March (Inset) Derek Pringle great going





Their captain Graham Gooch bats and calculates his team to slick victories with fully programmed gameplans. No computer, perhaps, can surpass the varied precision with which Gooch sets fields to his accurate bowlers. Gooch has moulded this side to the resilient professional image of himself

even though England have always had their tactics well sorted out, the pundits of the game never really considered them as serious contenders for the World Cup laurels.

In spite of England's success on the New Zealand tour, preceding the World Cup, tournament previews merely mentioned England, perhaps because it was conventional to pay homage to the country where the game originated. For example, Lord Harris, quoted in *The Times* on his 80th birthday in 1931, provided the romantic view of cricket, the English game: "You do well to love it for it is more free from anything sordid, anything dishonourable than any other game in the world. To play it keenly, honourably, generously, self-sacrificingly is a moral lesson in itself and the classrooms of England is full of God's air and sunshine."

C.L.R. James, the Marxist and West Indian historian, took a more realistic view of the romanticism of English cricket "W. G. Grace was a Victorian, but the game he transformed into a national institution was a product of pre-Victorian England.... it travelled by saddle and carriage. Whatever it could, it ate and drank prodigiously. It was not finicky in morals. It enjoyed life..." Today, English cricket may have lost some of Lord Harris' romanticism, but it has gained more of James' realism. It is what we call a change in attitude, in thinking.

Certainly, the minds of the current England selectors seem to work in less mysterious ways than of old; for instance, their World Cup squad does not include players on the verge of drawing pension cheques (is Eddie Hemmings still playing?) though their ability to come up with strange choices should never be underestimated. The team now seems to be a high-tech machine that chewed up New Zealand in a Test and one-day series prior to the Cup, and now goes about making hamburgers of the other teams in the competition.

Their captain Graham Gooch bats and calculates his team to slick victories with fully programmed game plans. No computer can surpass the varied precision with which Gooch sets fields to his relentlessly accurate bowlers. Gooch has moulded this side to the resilient professional image of himself.

It was only last season that Gooch's side was crushed on the very wickets that have now catapulted them to the status of World Cup

favourites They went down 3-0 in the Test series and failed to make the finals of the World Series ahead of an undermanned New Zealand The failure Gooch says further hardened his steely resolve and he introduced a new regime through the magical formula of commitment and hard work He has since led England to a 2 2 Test series draw with the West Indies and a 2 0 Test series win over New Zealand

More importantly England claimed the one day series against both countries 3 0 including their triumph over the West Indies in the present World Cup they have beaten them in eight of their past 11 limited over encounters

It s a habit says Ian Botham about winning and yes England seem to have made it precisely that

They have different personnel this time and over the past twelve months they have put together some very good cricket says Allan Border Past performances mean nothing To me they are the team of the tournament They have got their act into gear and are playing very well

PLAYING the kind of professional cricket that Englishmen have long been reputed for, Gooch and his team have lashed back at all those armchair critics, whose colonial impertinence prompted them to write England off even before the tournament began

Ironically, it was England's consistency—or rather the lack of it—that made them an unwise bet Down Under In the not too distant past the performances of England s bowlers have varied too much They are now producing the consistency that makes for a much more formidable proposition



Ian Botham gave the photographers a field day introducing sunglasses to cricket during a practice session

Philip DeFreitas seems to be coming good at last and his ability to swing the ball bat aggressively and field brilliantly allows him strong claim to all rounder status Another player in a similar mould is the young lean and electric Chris Lewis Injury and waywardness have always been his downfall but he seems to have overcome these problems and finally put it all together for the

Certainly, the minds of the current selectors seem to work in less mysterious ways than of old; for instance, their World Cup squad does not include players on the verge of drawing pension cheques, though their ability to come up with strange choices should never be underestimated

World Cup Aware that he must aim at the off stump or perish and pitch the ball up or be thumped (possibly by Gooch) Lewis has bowled with discipline at its most polished

As a bowling unit they contain just one fast bowler in Lewis but the others like Botham Pringle, Small and Dermot Reeve compensate for lack of pace with uncanny use of the ball

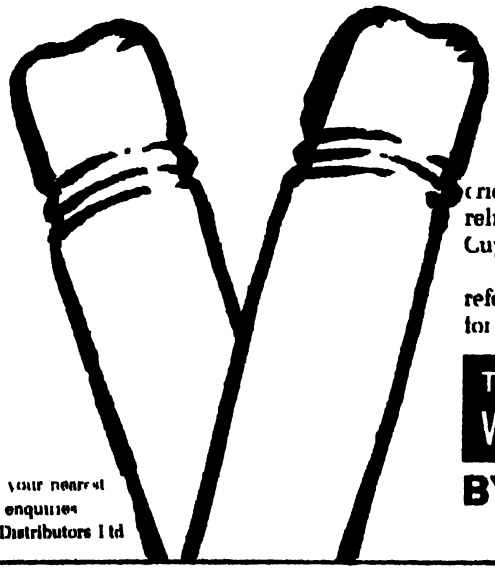
Only a few years ago England were ridiculed for producing too many bits and pieces cricketers- guys who could do a little bit of this and a little bit of that Yet it is that formula which is working in this World Cup In fact they have their biceps bulging with all rounders in Botham Pringle Lewis Reeve and DeFreitas Is it that these blokes are coming good or is it merely that the limited overs game has changed enough to require the services of five so called bits and pieces players?

It is interesting to note the way that black cricketers are beginning to dominate the fast bowling spots in the English team something even more pronounced since injury ruled out Angus Fraser And with Dick Robin Smith and Allan Lamb all of South African origin, there is an extremely high proportion of foreign born players in the side something that s frequently blamed on the lack of good school and junior cricket in Old Blighty

Although the English have often been sluggish in the field in recent times, in this tournament they have shown a startling urgency and enthusiasm in that area of the game No doubt Gooch and Micky Stewart have impressed on them the importance of fielding in the one day game

For two days prior to their game against England the Aussies practised at the SCG nets side by side with their traditional rivals It was after watching their new fielding regimen that Allan Border commented 'They have been taught a different kind of attitude by Gooch and Stewart Seeing them now one couldn t compare them to the

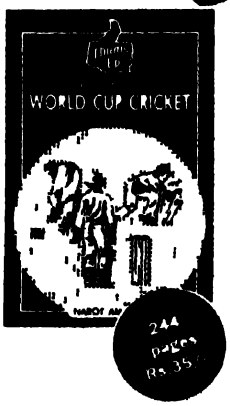
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Allan Lamb, who had a hamstring injury, is being tested by England manager Mickey Stewart during a fitness trial: a different kind of attitude

past. There seems to be a sense of purpose that had been injected into the team."

Much credit for this should go to coach Mickey Stewart. His contributions match that of Bobby Simpson's to the rise of Australian cricket. But unlike Simpson, Stewart isn't the kind of gentleman who blasts his mouth off at every opportunity, praising himself and his team. "All I can say is that the hard work put in is all being paid back. I only hope we continue in this vein" says the manager who has, in a clever move, kept his son's place in the England side by making him play as a wicketkeeper-batsman.

England's batting depth, though not extended much so far in the tournament, now also has the consistency, a quality that has eluded it in the past few years. And with first-class century maker Phil DeFreitas at No. 10, England bat further down than any of their Cup rivals.

Having plugged the only gap in their batting—by pushing Botham up as Gooch's opening partner—their batting seems almost imposing; with the powerful Robin Smith, the ever dangerous Graeme Hick and the attractive-if-flighty Neil Fairbrother, the middle order is well-stacked. Even without the injury stricken Allan Lamb, England have confirmed just how good their batting can be.

Much credit should go to coach Mickey Stewart. His contributions match that of Bobby Simpson's to the rise of Australian cricket. But unlike Simpson, Stewart isn't the kind of gentleman who blasts his mouth off at every opportunity

The world can see that England are a completely rejuvenated team and, though not many of their opponents will admit, most people are of the opinion that England look set to give the Cup a mighty shake.



Philip DeFreitas seems to be coming good at last and his ability to swing the ball, bat aggressively, and field brilliantly allows him strong claim to all-rounder status...

Injury and waywardness have always been his downfall, but Chris Lewis seems to have overcome the problems

Though England are (till the time of writing) behind New Zealand on the points table, they are being seen as a more dangerous proposition than the Kiwis. Their only point loss was, when they were reminded of the cruel and sometimes farcical nature of the limited-over game, when they effectively knocked out Pakistan but were still unable to take both the points at Adelaide due to rain.

Zimbabwean captain, David Houghton, having nothing to lose, can afford to be more open than his counterparts from the other countries. "I think England will win the World Cup," he says. "They're the best all-round side. They bat to No. 10 and they've got eight bowlers."

They have also got Ian Botham.

"A fat has-been" is what Dermot Reeve, a relative newcomer to the England team, called Botham a few years ago. But then other people too have often underrated Botham in the past. Fred Trueman once said that "he couldn't bowl a hoop downhill." The Australian fast bowler Jeff Thompson said, "He couldn't bat to save himself."

Now, conceding that he has very little petrol left in his tank, and claiming that he's been written off more times than Frank Sinatra, the champion all rounder (with the well-padded waist-line) cum pantomime king is making the World Cup his personal stage over which he rules as the King of Oz.

Umpire Bill Alley once praised the go-getter all-rounder saying: "I think if you made him Prime Minister tomorrow, he'd pick this country up in ten minutes."

Ironically, Bobby Simpson, and others claim that the

Chris Lewis (left) and DeFreitas before going for nets: discipline



'They have been taught a different kind of attitude by Gooch and Stewart. Seeing them now, one couldn't compare them to the past. There seems to be a sense of purpose that had been injected into the team'....Allan Border

Englishmen have learnt a lot from Australia's approach. In fact, Simpson claims that many teams are 'copying' the Aussie style of playing one-day cricket. Botham pooh poohs that idea saying: "No way. I think one of the major reasons for our success is that all the guys have come into this tournament somewhat fresh...not after a long season at home, as has happened in the past World Cups."

Allan Border agrees that the fact that the Englishmen haven't come straight out of a packed domestic season has made a big difference to their performance. "Last time in 1987 they made the final and at that stage it could be anyone's Cup. Yeah, you musn't forget that they made the final four years ago. This time they are even more dangerous because they are fresh," says Border.

An England fan personifies the concept of patriotism in Melbourne

England's win against Sri Lanka was their tenth in successive one-day games, ignoring the washout against Pakistan. It is a remarkable run, one short of the all-comers record in Australia, and India apart, no team in the competition has yet threatened to end it. On the face of it, every match England plays is just a routine day at the office for the men most likely to be crowned World One-day champions next week. Perhaps this is the ideal opportunity for the 'mother country' to deliver...her first World Cup triumph. Maybe it's time for the great expectations to end in a champagne celebration at the MCG come March 25th.

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

THE World Cup is already being referred to, and quite rightly so, as the Computer Cup. As of writing this halfway through, according to the resident arithmetician, India's chances are now zero minus very little. But to give a brief summary of what has happened since you opened the last **Sportsworld.**

INDIA VS PAKISTAN

For once India looked good on the field but let us remember that this was against Pakistan who, like the Indians, get terribly agitated under pressure and allow a thinly-disguised amateurism to take over. Almost halfway through the World Cup, it has also been reconfirmed that in this World Cup there is no obvious winner, no single team which is pre-eminent, and the side which keeps its cool and a sharper eye on the weather than Imran did against the South Africans, will get the apple.

At the moment, the team playing the best cricket is not New Zealand who have played all their matches on home



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Brian Lara beat the rain—and India—with an explosive knock

grounds but England. This is not surprising since the Englishmen (whatever colour they may be nowadays) play more competitive one-day cricket than anybody else. Those of you who are hooked into some satellite or the other would have seen England do an efficient job on the "convicts", a painless operation performed by the most lovably hated pommie surgeon Ian Botham.

It was truly as fine a con act as I have seen for many a day as Australia got done in by a reputation and not by any noticeable skill or ingenuity.

Earlier, at Sydney against India, Pakistan entered the field with a team of has-beens and maybe-to-bes. They are in the process of rebuilding, of finding replacements for some fine batsmen, all of whom retired about the same time. For a while Miandad half filled this awkward void, but he can no longer take complete charge and if Malik goes early, Pakistan will always struggle to score 200 except against very mediocre bowling.

In Sharjah last year, you may recall that Malik failed in the early matches and Pakistan lost, but he came good when it really counted and Pakistan walked off with the trophy.

As a game, this one was fairly predictable. The Pakistan spinners were--and always will be-- a luxury against the Indians, leaving in effect only Akram and Aaqub who require to be treated with some caution. India is clearly a superior side and I was even



BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

THE COMPUTER CUP IS OUT OF INDIA'S REACH

impressed by the way Azharuddin brought back Prabhakar just as Malik was looking dangerous, but the management (to my mind, from a few thousand miles away) still needs to clear a few cobwebs.

Why on earth was Kambli sent ahead of Tendulkar, because he is a left-hander and a leg spinner was on? Even an average Indian batsman can play a leggie with his eyes shut. And by sending Kambli in, all India managed to achieve was to deprive an in-form batsman of a few overs.

Tendulkar scored without slogging at an average of five runs an over; and at the end he was not out. It does not take a genius to realise that he must be given as many overs as possible. Also whether Srikkanth scores against the weaker sides is neither here nor there for there is no way that a self-respecting opening bowler will ever give him the width to play his shots.





Tendulkar must be given more overs to bat

INDIA VS ZIMBABWE

AZHARUDDIN, after carping so much about his lack of luck, can no longer complain for the rain and the quotient worked in his favour against Zimbabwe. The weakest team in the tournament can be of genuine nuisance value, not because it is likely to beat



Pakistan celebrates the departure of Srikkanth. Why is he batting like Shastri now?

anyone but nobody wants the rain to interfere in a match against Zimbabwe and ruin painstakingly worked-out calculations. India was obviously the better side and the weather gave it another chance to qualify for the knockout stages.

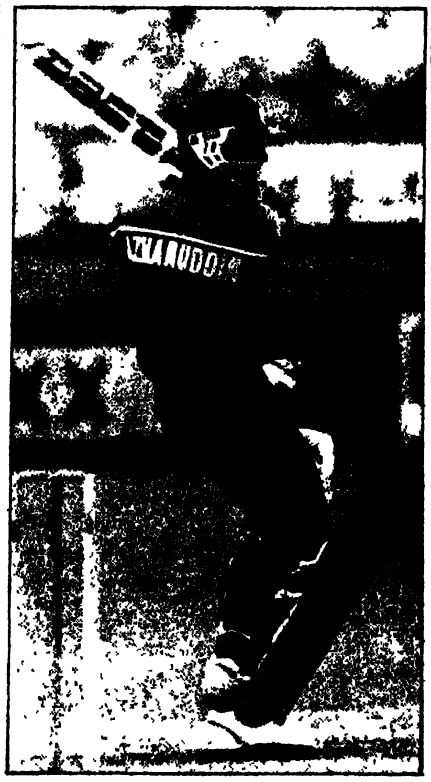
INDIA VS WEST INDIES

WELL, India's managed to play itself out of the competition (unless there is some divine intervention) and I suppose heads will roll, though how many will depend on the manager's report as well as information brought back by journalists and other followers of the game who are keen enough to travel all the way to watch what I feel has been pretty average cricket. Nevertheless, it has had its moments, though not for the Indians who once again sank within two strokes of safety.

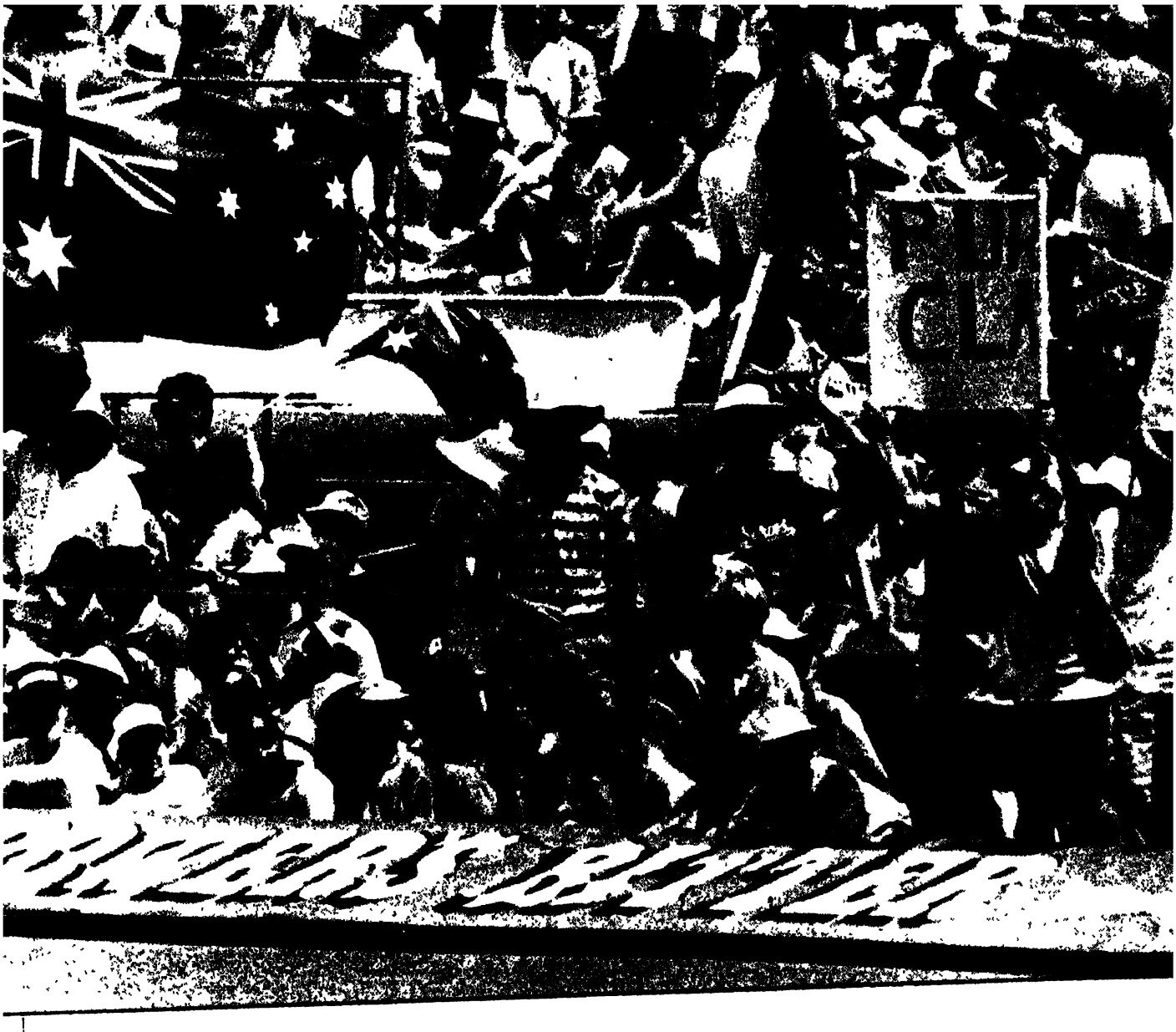
India batted first, which is sensible even if there is a hint of a harmless cloud on the horizon. They also got off to a good start (though Srikkanth looked as if he wanted to take over Shastri's role) which Manjrekar and Azharuddin did well to consolidate. But once again, the whole team failed to capitalise on the situation and let the West Indies in with a chance.

A chance, and a challenge which Lara look far too personally, swatting Kapil Dev and Prabhakar all over the ground as if his livelihood depended on it (which of course it does). By the time India managed to get its breath with a substantial breakthrough, the West Indies had victory in sight which Hooper and Arthurton reached without any hiccups.

And now that India has lost to front-runners New Zealand too, even arithmeticians cannot provide a glimmer of hope. But more of that next week. ●

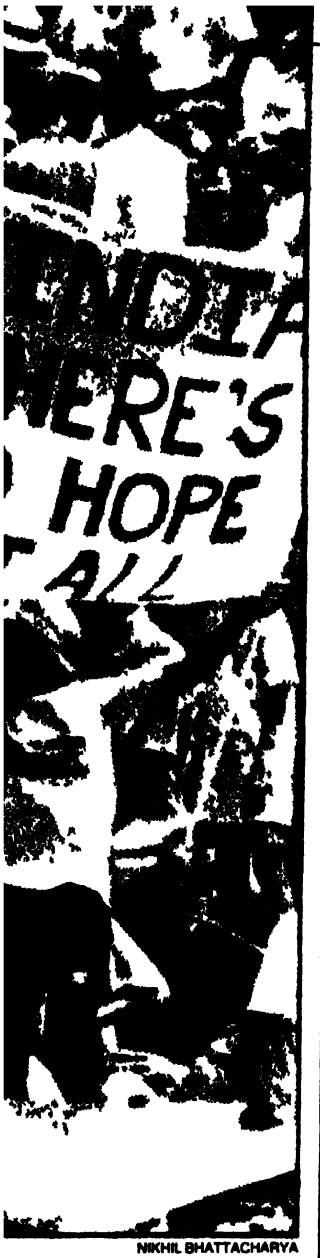


Azhar came good eventually, but it was too late



NEW ZEALAND SHOW INDIA NO MERCY

England and New Zealand may have booked their semi-final berths but the other two spots are still wide open



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

humiliated Pakistan all but send World champions crashing from the World Cup "

'All but'? What are you talking about, mate? They're history, mate! They're done for

No, not according to *The Australian* 'They still have the mathematical hope of defending their World Cup crown after losing to Pakistan by 48 runs Now second last on the nine-team table, Australia have just two wins from six matches and must win their remaining two games against lowly Zimbabwe and the West Indies to stay with a remote chance of a semi final birth "

'Remote chance,' mate It's the faintest of mathematical hopes that remain This would require New Zealand to beat India and Pakistan, Sri Lanka to beat the West Indies, England to beat South Africa, Pakistan to beat Sri Lanka and Australia to beat Zimbabwe and West Indies Yeah, 'faintest of mathematical hopes' That scenario falling into place was even less likely than Zimbabwe beating Australia in Hobart

Yet, one supposes that in this World Cup of non-stop surprises the patriot is entitled to such mathematical hopes This tournament has been such a perfect potpourri that the only 'constant' has been 'inconsistency Just



Who's taking whom for a ride? Reserves Subroto Banerjee, Malcolm Marshall and Vinod Kambli try out the drinks buggy at Wellington

heard the DJ on radio play *Mysterious Ways* U2's now hit song And he's right when he adds at the end of the song that the World Cup too works in mysterious ways You too (no pun intended) might have felt that way

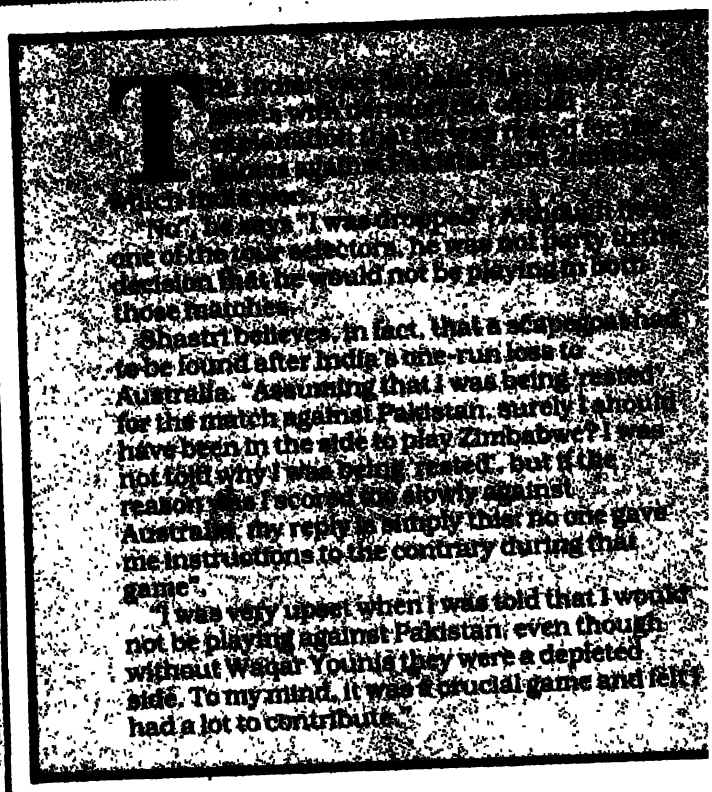
After India came back into the reckoning with victories over Pakistan and a blitzkrieg win over Zimbabwe, the loss to the West Indies placed them in a similar situation to what the Aussie were in, mathematical possibilities The Kiwis, with the luxury of having plans to use reserve squad members put paid to the further use of logic and calculators, when they successfully chased India's 230 total at Dunedin

The mercury was rising as last-ditch efforts to make the last four stage were reaching fever pitch The league table apart from the Kiwis and the Englishmen who sat at the head, resembled a game of musical chairs, in which everyone thought they could win It was natural that, in a tournament of this nature, the last two semi-final berths be decided in last round matches

All the contenders were praying the rain, which has dogged this tournament, had ended, so that the semi-final

SO it happened at last The defending World Cup champions, pre-tournament favourites and co-hosts of this World Cup, after weeks of hope, finally admitted that they had crashed out of the tournament No wait a minute What have we here? Oh, this is the sport's page of *The Australian* It's dated Thursday March 12, the day after Pakistan handed the tournament's 6-4 favourites their fourth loss from six games and it says: "Jaded Aussies





[redacted] for the match against Pakistan, [redacted] one of the [redacted] selectors, he was not [redacted] decision [redacted] he would not be playing in [redacted] those matches.

Shastri believes, in fact, that a scapegoat had to be found after India's one-run loss to Australia. "Assuming that I was being 'rested' for the match against Pakistan, surely I should have been in the side to play Zimbabwe? I was not told why I was being 'rested', but if the reason was I scored too slowly against Australia, my reply is simply this: no one gave me instructions to the contrary during that game".

"I was very upset when I was told that I would not be playing against Pakistan, even though without Waqar Younis they were a depleted side. To my mind, it was a crucial game and felt I had a lot to contribute."

spots could be determined by cricketing strengths rather than contrived half-botched results.

South Africa charged into contention with successive wins over the West Indies, Pakistan and Zimbabwe. Pakistan hit back, removing the Aussies from the firing line. The West Indies at last came to terms with conditions, beating India convincingly to move into fourth on the table pushing India further down. And still nothing was certain in this topsy-turvy competition.

But there was one constant in the tournament. Australia did not alter their winning formula from the last World Cup. And they paid the price. After two losses to New Zealand and South Africa in the opening matches, that one-run

Jones huffed, and he puffed...but Australia ran out of steam

WAS RAVI SHASTRI MADE A SCAPEGOAT?

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

NEW ZEALAND IN THE WORLD CUP

KIWIS CAN FLY

tournament began, New Zealand with a series of outstanding performances, have dominated the opening stages of the World Cup

BY ANDY O'BRIEN

SOMEBODY better hurry and beat these New Zealanders, they are becoming intolerable. Their World Cup campaign began as a jalopy, became a bandwagon and now seems to be a fullscale runaway juggernaut.

New Zealand seemingly can do no wrong. They continue to flout convention, traditions, habits and sensibilities, everything except the rules. Beginning at 33 to 1 odds with the bookmakers, they have moved to second favourites at 9-2 behind England (13-8).

Written off and ridiculed, having being dumped and thumped by England in the tour that preceded the World Cup, their confidence was said to be 'low'. Their skipper was injured and ready to opt out of the tournament and their side, being rebuilt after a good decade, seemed to be short on quality players. As a cricket nation they were written off as being somewhere between two levels. While they were capable of upsetting the big guns on occasion, they were not quite considered of the first rank. The retirement of Richard Hadlee (and others like Ewan Chatfield, Martin Snedden and Lance Cairns) was a cruel blow to their bowling line-up and the loss of several other front line players, meant that the last few years had to be spent in developing the physical stamina, and mental toughness so necessary in the international arena.

Even the great trouting [illegible] admitted that [illegible]

[illegible] another great [illegible] England leading the World Cup after a majority of the preliminary games were played, were about as remote as [illegible] landing on Planet Earth. But the impossible has happened. A team considered to be (along with Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka) fighting for the wooden spoon have, like a cyclone, swept all that has come in their path.

How has this happened and can this run of success continue? Teams which lead competitions without seeming to deserve the honour are called pretenders. Not





slower wicket, suiting the predominantly medium pace Kiwi bowling, isn't really tailor made for the pace batteries of the West Indies, South Africa and Australia. The slower wicket is the sort of condition that easily could frustrate more talented teams.

"I'm stupid. Where's the rugby?" read one fan's T-Shirt, but cricket has become more than an eccentric summer diversion in New Zealand, where the World Cup has got them believing they can win.

Skipper Martin Crowe before the tournament had likened the favoured Australians to the rugby

The chances of New Zealand leading the World Cup after a majority of the preliminary games were played, were about as remote as Martians landing on Planet Earth. But the impossible has happened

... you in the first ... Gooch ... Crowe got ready for battle

side which wears all black uniforms and hails from his own country. Originally it was the win over the Aussies in the opening match of the World Cup at Eden Park—naturally—that gave the Kiwi team the impetus and confidence for this magnificent revival of fortune.

In fact, Trevor Chappell remains one of New Zealand's most powerful motivators. Ever since that fateful day at the MCG, when the famous underarm delivery was bowled to deny the Kiwis a series win in the third final of the WSC competition in 1981, New Zealand cricket has more or less existed ... to beat ... The team vowed to ... underarm incident", ... the Australians are ... bring it down. Now, a ... later, with the customary ... of home conditions, they ... the world champions ... themselves on a path on ... they have made the most of ... limited talents.

... their early outstanding ... talents, the Kiwis' major ... is guts determination



to make the most of their ability, to play sort of cricket that can take a team quite a way against more gifted sides. Having been unpredictably fine, the Kiwis don't pretend to be one-day specialists.

No wonder people are still reluctant to praise New Zealand's play in this World Cup. Is it the pitches isn't it, or some dastardly sleight of hand? In reality they have plenty of ingredients to make a world beating team. In Martin Crowe, John Rutherford and Andrew Jones they have top flight batsmen, a highly capable one coming back from injury in John Wright, and raunchy hitters in Mark Greatbatch, Rod Latham and wicketkeeper Ian Smith. Their selectors have swallowed hard and retained Greatbatch who in turn has done his duty as the

In short, Eden Park in rugby-mad Auckland with its slower wicket aiding the predominantly medium pace Kiwi bowling, isn't really tailor-made for the pace batteries of the West Indies, South Africa and Australia

outrageous hard hitting opening batsman.

They would be nothing, however, without an array of bowling no-names and faceless all-rounders such as Gavin Larsen, Willie Watson, Chris Harris and Chris Cairns. They [illegible]

In fact, after that, Lees had his feet planted in shifting sand when he said that his team was "aiming for the semi finals." Now that they have made it, skipper Crowe is thinking ahead: "We'd like to get to the final," he says. "We want to win every game, but don't want to put pressure on ourselves by saying we've got to win one more and one more." He says New Zealand wants to be in charge of their own destiny and avoid the possibility of playing a semi final against co-host Australia in Sydney.

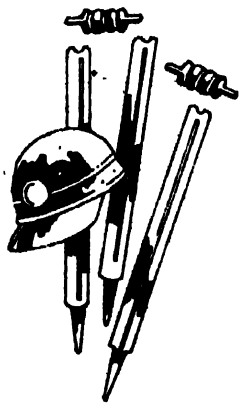
The secret of the Kiwi success is also in their strategy. Crowe knows that he has limited resources at his disposal, but how he maximises their output. Ten bowling changes mean that fragile reserves never suffer over-exposure. Unconventional field setting further inhibit visiting batsmen. Two short mid-wickets are common and there is hardly a slip or gully in sight. When they bat they seem to work out the potential attacking avenues against each bowler, while never neglecting the tip and run approach. Each player seems to have a role assigned to him almost akin to marking a nominated opponent. Crowe is rapidly developing that Midas touch which goes with regular success. He tickles opponents to death with a feather, opening the bowling with spinner Dipak Patel. This has worked beautifully, as has sending in Greatbatch first and rotating his bowlers as if they were on a merry-go-round.

Yet many still disbelieve how far honest determination (and the various other factors responsible for the Kiwi success) can actually take them. "After watching them against England before the tournament," says Zimbabwe captain David Houghton, "it's hard to see that a side that ordinary one minute, can be brilliant the next and keep playing brilliantly."

Says England captain Graham Gooch, "I knew New Zealand have prepared the wickets to suit their own type of slow medium bowlers. We saw that in a few matches over there. But to be fair, that type of bowling is very difficult to get away."

So contrary to rumour, it is not impossible to win on New Zealand pitches – England managed it three times in nine [illegible]





Sir Richard Hadlee with the Cup: hoping his Kiwis can do the impossible

"After watching them against England before the tournament, it's hard to see that a side that ordinary one minute, can be brilliant the next and keep playing brilliantly"
David Houghton, Zimbabwe's captain

suggest that his team was winning because it was playing on slower wickets. "I think we are playing well, no doubt about that," he says. "The tracks haven't come into it really, except that we've stuck to a gameplan which has been based on slow-mediums."

What must also not be forgotten is that New Zealand, perhaps more than most other teams, had a somewhat ideal preparation for the tournament. Camps, followed by an intense, though not over-strenuous, England series set them up in the right frame of mind for the tournament.

Moreover, the fact that the new, young side was not instantly consigned to the oblivion of huge defeats proves that they had the desire to win and the will to work hard. The Kiwis have given the World Cup their best shot, and, carried along by the advantages of playing in familiar surroundings and before welcoming crowds, they have cruised into the coveted last four stage.

Perhaps Hadlee's words about New Zealand's golden era of the 80's would be relevant at this moment too. "No longer are we the Cinderellas of world cricket. We are [illegible] users," he had said. ●

SNIPPETS...



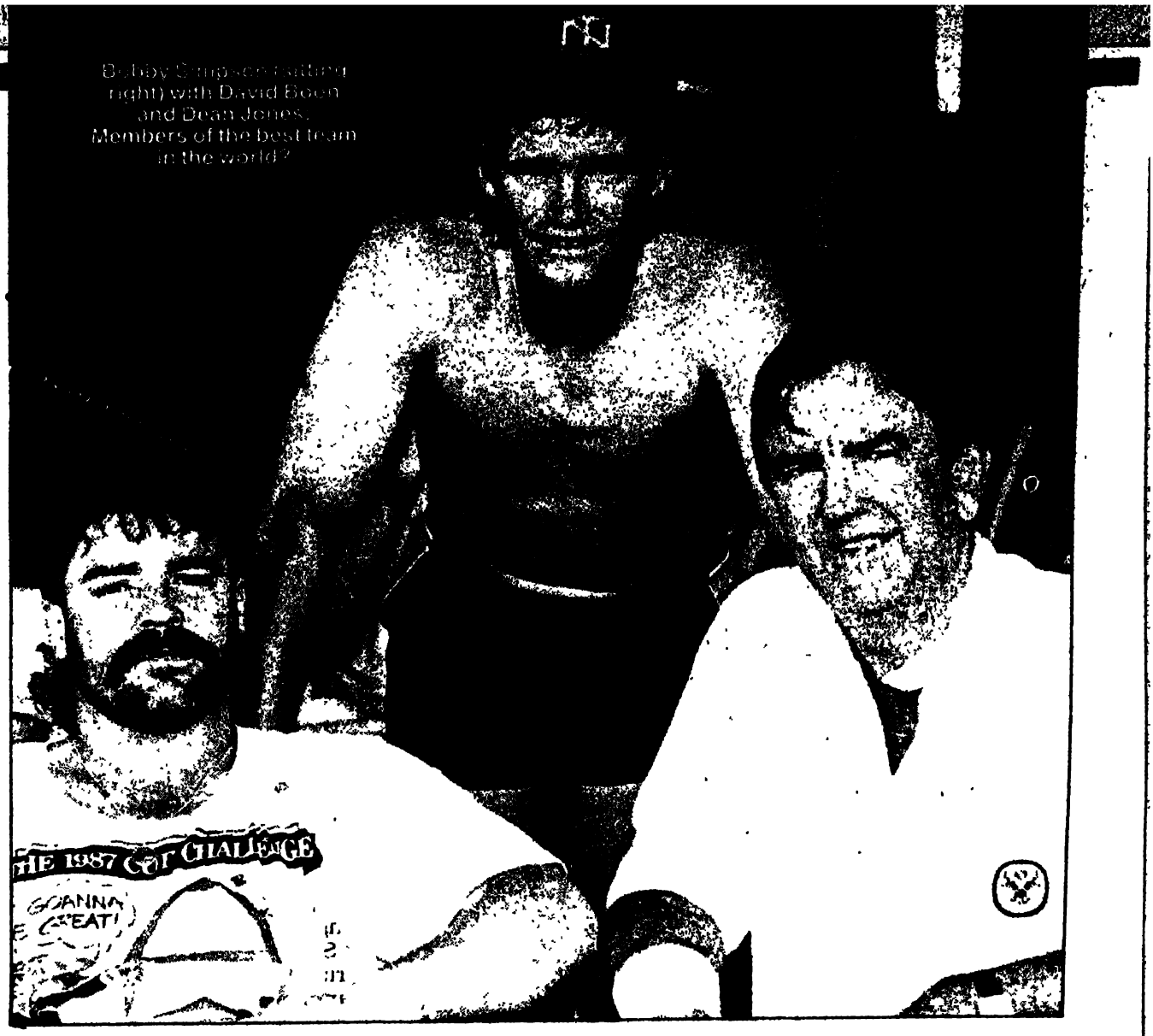
MY COUNTRY, OR YOURS?

WHEN it's India versus Pakistan passions always flow The Aussie spectators at the SCG must have been dead against the kind of support that turned up to cheer the Indian and Pakistani teams in what was the first World Cup meeting ever between the traditional rivals The intensity of the supporters can almost be felt so can the tension

Things were even more tense with the arrival of a gang of Khalistan Supporters A group of Sikhs in saffron turbans and with saffron Khalistan flags did the rounds and for sometime during the Indian innings even joined in with the flag professing Pakistan support

A couple of the Sikhs took the Pakistani flag and waved it in triumph Cries of *Kashmir Banaega Pakistan* (Kashmir will eventually be Pakistan s) filled the air With such tension it was good that the organisers decided to do away with the pre-match formalities of playing the national anthems of the opposing countries Actually the reason for scrapping the pre match formalities was that both the West Indies and the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) raised an objection saying that they didn't have a national anthem or a fixed national flag Therefore the whole concept of the opening ceremony suited the seven other participating teams more since it gave them a kind of patriotic surge before the match—a kind of disadvantage the West Indians and South Africans felt Seeing the kind of vocal and almost fanatical support that turned out for the India-Pakistan game, it was good there was no anthems or flags on the field before the game Just one thought, wonder who the guy waving the Bangladesh flag was supporting?

Khalistani supporters wave the Khalistani flag while rooting for Pakistan in their match against India at Sydney



Bobby Simpson (sitting right) with David Boon and Dean Jones. Members of the best team in the world?

GIFT OF THE GAB

ON the subject of talking too much, one must make mention of Australian coach Bob Simpson. 'Simmo' has something to say about everything; and very often he can be accused of talking balderdash.

After Australia lost their first match to New Zealand he made a public statement, saying that his team would not lose another match in the tournament. Ask him about any of his players and he will react with, 'Oh, he's the best one-day spinner in the world," or "he's the best keeper in the world" or "he's the perfect and best all rounder in the world."

If Simpson is to be believed, his team contains all the best players in the world. If it's a tactic to demoralise the opposition then it shows the former captain in very poor light. It's totally unnecessary and makes a fool out of the coach. Simmo definitely seems to be living in his own world.

The day after Australia rode their luck with the weather and rule book to pip India by one run, Simmo made a statement to the Press saying that Australia, not India.suffered from the rain.

According to Simpson, Australia would have beaten India more easily had it not rained. Simpson claimed that rain badly damaged the white balls that are being used in this World Cup and this makes it much easier for the batsmen. "Once the rain comes, the white balls get very very soft, very very quickly and you lose the bounce out of them. I don't know what it is but somewhere along the way we noticed it even at practice. Once the rain came on, the ball slid and the Indians were able to play it beautifully. But, I think without rain, we would have won more comfortably even with the extra overs. I think our total would have been easier to defend. I think that made a hell of a lot of difference," concluded Simpson,

Okay, Simmo it's one thing to create hype around your team, but it's another when you talk bull....



SMOKEY COOLS DOWN

JUST past his 40th birthday and several months into retirement from the Test arena, West Indian great, Viv Richards says he is happy enough nowadays just to pull on a pair of shorts and "act the beach bum." The master blaster from Antigua, is content with his life away from the pressure and grind of international cricket.

Richards still has a three year contract with the English county Glamorgan and intends fulfilling his obligations there. It will also provide him with the time to do the things he missed out on during his 20 years at the top. Richards is currently in Australia, to promote his autobiography *Hitting Across The Line*, a detailed account of his career on and off the field.

On his omission from the West Indies World Cup squad: "I made myself available and I consider I still had plenty to offer. I was disappointed, sure, but that is in the past. They (the Board) have obviously set a direction and I can understand they have a plan for the future of West Indian cricket".

On West Indian captain, Richie Richardson: "It's too early to say whether he is a good captain or not. He needs another year or two before you can examine him. Richie needs time to settle down and feel comfortable with the individuals around him. When everything comes together I think you will find that he is the right man for the job."

On the best bowler he faced, a topic he has always avoided in his playing days: "Dennis Lillee. He was a fierce individual and competitor. He is the finest bowler I have ever faced."

On Australia's World Cup performances: " I've always enjoyed playing against Australia. It didn't matter how bad they were going at the time you could always expect a real competitive edge. They won the Cup away from home, but it is a different story in front of a home crowd. There is so much more pressure because the people expect and demand so much more."

On Australian coach Bobby Simpson who he



had an altercation with last year when the Aussies toured the West Indies: "Whatever went down (his comments against Simpson) was my honest opinion. I knew the man and what Viv Richards says is what I feel. I don't take anything back."

On entering politics:" You never know, I always showed an interest in it and I can honestly picture it happening one day. I'll be willing to fight for change."

On the likely World Cup winner:" I still think we (the West Indians) can do it. We have our backs to the wall but our boys are fighters." "England are playing well, but you have to ask whether they have peaked too early."

On South Africa: I would not consider making myself available just to play them (in the Test series being planned in April). Mind you, I would have loved the opportunity to do so, not because of the apartheid issue but because they are good cricketers. No, there is no sense of disappointment."

SKILLS, BRAINS AND GUTS

IN a spot crammed with think-alike players who do anything not to fire up an opponent, Javed Miandad is the odd man out. The press in Australia has gone to town over what they call his "competitiveness on the field". The incident with Kiran More in this World Cup was just another of Javed's several 'headline stealing antics' in Australia. He once threatened to hit Dennis Lillee over the head with the bat in Perth. Several seasons ago, he started calling Merv Hughes a bus driver, and, Hughes after taking Javed's wicket, responded with "Your ticket please, Sir".

Javed loves talking about these things, but even he admits that the greatest bravado he ever displayed was the day, four summers ago, when he tackled a four pronged West Indian attack in Georgetown, Guyana.

Reminded of that recently, Javed recalled: "Benjamin bowled me six bouncers in a row, so I came down the wicket and said: ' hit me, c'mon have a try'."

"If you do that, it shows you are not afraid. I don't get scared—I don't care about fast bowlers. If I am in, I'm in. All the time, I just want to fight and play. This is the way I have played my whole career."

"I just want to be aggressive—people take it in different ways. Fifteen years ago, cricket was a different game because no one wore helmets and bowlers pitched the ball up. Now most good teams have three or four fast bowlers and if they can't get you out then they will try to knock you out. You must show them you have a big heart."

Javed, 34, a veteran of 17 years of international cricket, and apart from Imran Khan, the only other player to have played in all five World Cups to date, was once described as Pakistan's version of Australian tough nut Ian Chappell.



Pakistan's Javed Miandad has the last word in an argument with India's Kiran More and imitates the latter's style of appealing by jumping in the air

"Ian was the sort of guy I admired. I came here in 1976 and he was 'The Man', who had put the fight in his boys. He played one innings against us with a broken hand.

Bumping into a group of journalists during one World Cup game Javed asked: "I'm very interested to know what you guys think of the incident with Kiran More. I made your job easy". In fact he had. The Australian press were more concerned with the incident than the fact that India had won the match.

"Has More been appealing like that for four months out here? I reckon he's been doing it for six years", said Javed when told about the Indian wicketkeeper's habit of appealing. Javed does not back down, on or off the field. When asked what he would do today if someone repeated what Dennis Lillee did to him years ago, Javed responds characteristically, "I would hit him over the head with my bat."

In his weekly newspaper column Dean Jones said of Javed's novel demeanour: "He rose from the back streets of Karachi and for that to happen he's got to have a lot of character and ability. He tries to get guys upset and then they start worrying about what he's doing instead of what they are doing."

Compiled by Andy O'Brien

ANKE HUBER Action

IN July 1989 Boris Breskvar boldly predicted that Germany's latest wunderkind, an athletic 14-year-old named Anke Huber, would be playing in the Wimbledon final in five years.

The man who coached Boris Becker and Steffi Graf during their formative years looks smarter than ever after his protege surprisingly captured the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix last October. Huber knocked out Lori McNeil (4 and 1), Natalia Zvereva (2 and 2), Zina Garrison (2 and 1) and Helena Sukova (3 and 6) before lowering the boom on the legendary Martina Navratilova 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 in the final.

"I have been dreaming about this victory, but I never thought it would happen," confided Huber afterwards. "I still can't believe it." The breakthrough tournament, witnessed by her fervent countrymen in Filderstadt, boosted her world ranking to a career-high No. 14 and fuelled her ambitions. "Martina was the No. 1 person I dreamed about beating, but also (Monica) Seles and Graf. The first dream is Top 10, for sure. And then No. 1," she says.

Like three-time Wimbledon champions Becker and Graf, Huber is a "born competitor," according to Breskvar. "If Anke plays for something in real match situations, she plays much better. Some kids play better in training, but not Anke. She likes to play on center court. She asks all the time how many spectators are in the stadium. She likes it when it fills up. And she likes to be on television live," says Breskvar.

Huber got her share of packed stadia and live television at the 1991 Australian Open, her best Grand Slam event so far. The lithe 5'8", 120-pounder impressively ousted world No. 7 Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere (4 and 4), Pam Shriver (3 and 5) and Zvereva (3 and 4) enroute to the quarterfinals where Seles stopped her. "It was very important for me because it was the first time I beat such good players. It improved my confidence, everything," she recalls.

Last May an unsuspecting Gabriela Sabatini, No. 3 and playing terrific tennis, got ambushed 7-5, 6-3 by the improved, more aggressive Huber at the Lufthansa Cup in Berlin. "I played unbelievably. Everybody



DPA FEATURES

Lady

German tennis star Anke Huber is ready to take on the best

was saying she's playing so good now, but then she played very slowly. For me, it (Gaby's performance) was a little bit disappointing. But that shows even the top players can be beaten, ' she concludes.

Like whiz kid Jennifer Capriati, Huber boasts great desire and a killer instinct and attacks the ball early and on the rise. She also has a topnotch forehand, an underrated two-fisted backhand, superb court speed and an unbelievable work ethic.

Huber, who turned 17 on December 4, last year believes she trains harder than anyone on the women's tour: four hours of tennis practice and two hours of conditioning drills every day. She still has weaknesses, such as her net game and occasional impatience, and until recently, she "telegraphed" her shot selection to opponents.

School and boys—two typical teenage activities—clearly have taken a backseat to tennis for the pretty, short-haired blonde. Huber finished middle school last June and decided not to return to high school. She does have a tutor on the tour but is taking only Spanish As for a boyfriend, single-minded Huber says, "No, not yet Maybe in two years. '

Much like Seles and Capriati, she seems to be having a ball and dismisses any suggestions that she's worse off by missing out on a "normal" adolescence back in Karlsdorf. "I most like the travel to different countries and meeting different people," she says.

Australia rates as her favourite destination. "The people are so friendly, they help you with everything. When I was (ranked) about 160 in the world, they treated me like I was 30 or something like this. '

Being a celebrity in Germany does occasionally have its flip side though. Huber was annoyed and embarrassed when a reporter from *Stern* magazine came to the Albert Schweitzer Middle School and hid in the last row to observe her. And the local media attention became so intense that her parents, Edgar and Gerta, had to forbid the mayor of Karlsdorf from mentioning her in his newsletter

'Anke is very, very famous,' says Breskvar with a laugh. 'Almost everyone knows who Anke is now. We went a couple of days ago to a shop to buy clothes in Heidelberg—and she doesn't live in Heidelberg—and everyone knows this is Anke".

So far anyway, Huber has easily handled the mounting pressures and expectations. As Graf said, Anke is pretty strong in her mind and she goes for what she wants'

Ever since Huber won her first tournament at the OTB Open in August 1990, comparisons with Graf were inevitable and frequent. Her usual refrain was, "No, I am not the next Steffi Graf. I am the first Anke Huber".

' I just said that because everybody in Germany was saying 'the second Steffi' and I don't like this", she explains. 'I think Steffi is such a great person and she's done so much for German tennis, I just don't want to be the second Steffi. There will never be a second Steffi."

Paul Fein



Huber with the Porsche she won after beating Navratilova at Filderstadt. A pity she's too young to drive

Like whiz kid Jennifer Capriati, Huber boasts great desire and a killer instinct and attacks the ball early and on the rise. She also has a topnotch forehand, an underrated two-fisted backhand, superb court speed and an unbelievable work ethic

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. 'Simply Red' and 'Prince' are the favourite rock groups of which tennis superstar?
2. Who is the only Indian to have won a title at the French Open championships.?
3. Which tennis site was used in 1943 by the Germans for taking deportee soldiers to the death camps?
4. What was special about the British hard court tennis tournament played from April 22-27, 1968?
5. Tennis provides a cliff hanging finish to which Alfred Hitchcock movie?
6. Who is the only tennis player not to have lost a singles match at any of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments?
7. Only three mens professional tennis players have won at least one Grand Prix singles title each year from 1987 to 1990. Two of them are Ivan Lendl and Stefan Edberg. Who is the third?
8. Who wrote the book on tennis entitled "Lloyd on Lloyd"?
9. Whom did Boris Becker lose to in the 1984 Wimbledon tennis championships?
10. Mary Carillo, the tennis commentator and analyst, has won only one Grand Slam title and that too in mixed doubles. Who was her partner?
11. Before Gabriela Sabatini won a Grand Slam title, her father had said that he would do something if she won a Grand Slam tournament. What was he referring to?
12. Which tennis player was nicknamed "Yawn Bore"?
13. Who was the first tennis player to win a Grand Slam tennis title with today's popular large sized tennis racket?
14. Who is the only tennis player to have been ranked No. 1 throughout the year without winning a Grand Slam tournament that year?
15. Three players have beaten Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova in the same tournament. Two of them are Steffi Graf and Hana Mandlikova. Who is the third?
16. What is the "impregnable quadrilateral" in tennis?
17. He only won two Grand Slam singles titles, both times the French Open. Incidentally, he is the only one from his country to win the French Open singles title. He was imprisoned in his own country and later died in a car accident in Egypt. Who was he?
18. Who is nicknamed, "The Surgeon"?

ANSWERS

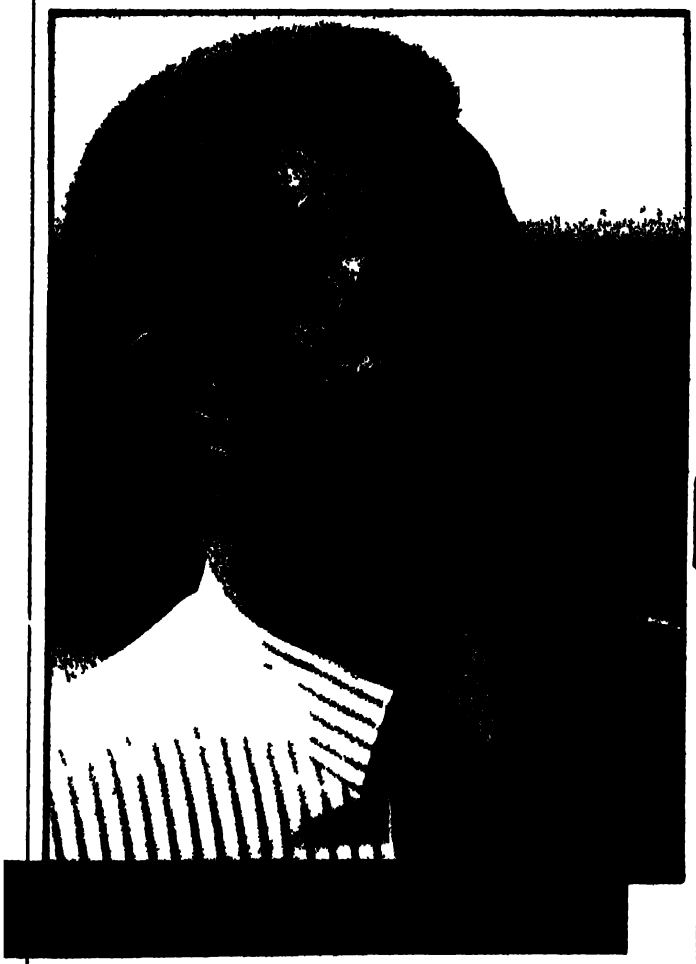
1. Steffi Graf.
2. Ramesh Krishnan. He won the junior mens singles title in 1979.
3. Roland Garros.
4. It was the first Open tournament of that Open era.
5. 'Strangers in a train.'
6. Maureen Connolly.
7. Brad Gilbert (USA).
8. Carol Thatcher.
9. Bill Scanlon (USA) in the third round.
10. John McEnroe, in the 1977 French Open.
11. Give up smoking.
12. Bjorn Borg.
13. Mats Wilander.
14. Jimmy Connors in 1977.
15. Tracy Austin (USA).
16. The Grand Slam.
17. Gottfried Von Cramm (Germany), title holder in 1934 and 1936.
18. Ramesh Krishnan.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
MINHAJ ALAM & SHARIQUE ALAM, LF/16, BLOCK-3, ROAD NO. 10E,
RAJENDRA NAGAR,
PATNA-800 016
BIHAR

All answers sent in by the contributor

EXTRAS

Cricketing news that we don't get to hear about.....



● South Africa's Test 'comeback' seems likely to take place next month in Bridgetown, Barbados, against West Indies. The tour, also containing three one-day internationals, will take place if sponsorship can be found. West Indies and Pakistan will visit South Africa in Feb 1993 for a one-day triangular series.

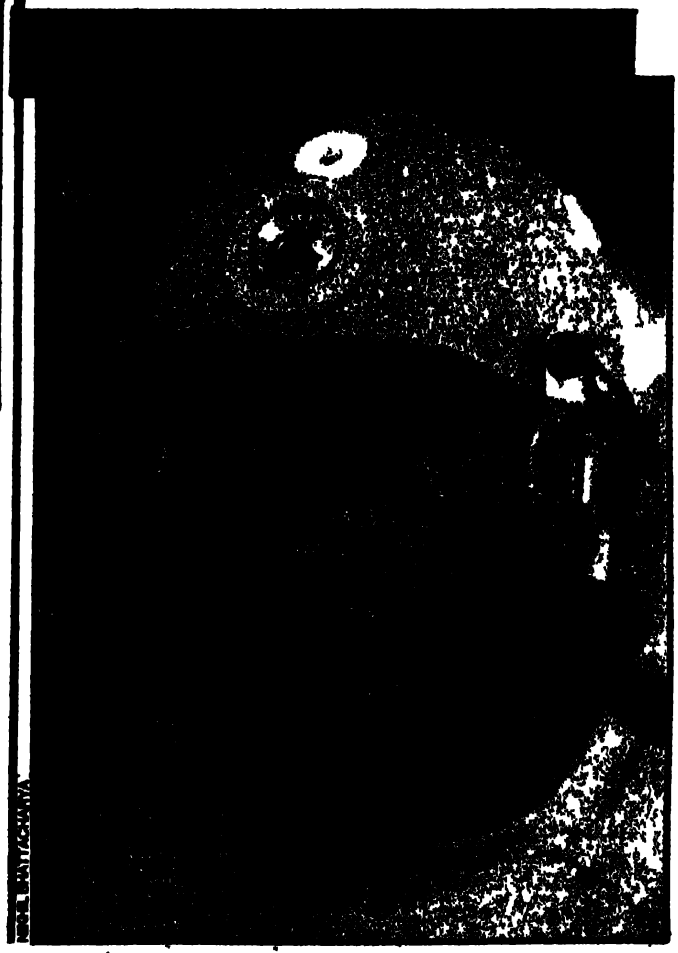
● *Former West Indies captain Sir Garfield Sobers, 55, underwent successful surgery in Miami, Florida recently for a detached retina in his left eye.*

● *Rakesh Patidar, 10, died after being hit by a cricket ball while watching a match at Anjad in Madhya Pradesh.*

● Former Test opener Graeme Wood, 35, has retired from first-class cricket after being dropped by Western Australia. He is WA's highest runscorer, and led the State to successive Sheffield Shield titles in 1986-87, '87-88 and '88-89. He played in 59 Tests, scoring 3374 runs (31 83).

● *Somerset have completed the signing of 23-year-old Transvaal fast bowler Richard Snell, a member of South Africa's World Cup squad, as their overseas player for 1992.*

● The Yorkshire committee voted 11-8 against a proposal to elect one of their number, Geoffrey Boycott, as an honorary life member. The committee also turned down a request from

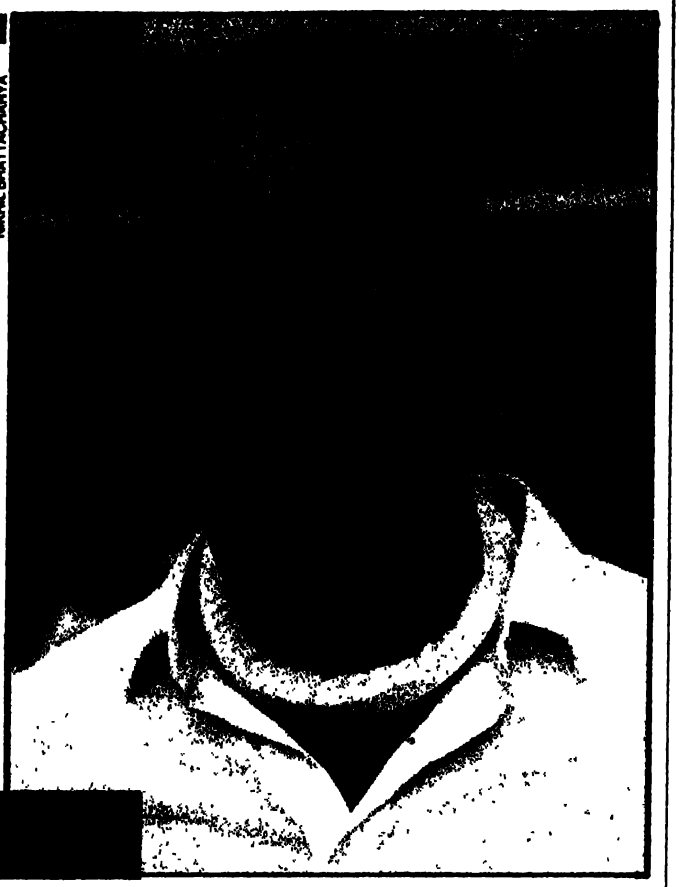


batsman Philip Robinson, who declined a new contract with the county, to be classified as a 'non-contested' registration. Robinson, 28, has found other counties unwilling to take him on as they are allowed only one such signing every five years. Robinson is considering legal action against the TCCB for restraint of trade.

● *Neil Foster has signed to play in the Currie Cup for South African province Transvaal, as cover for Richard Snell and Clive Rice, who will be in Australasia for the World Cup. Rice, a controversial omission from South Africa's World Cup team, has stepped down after 10 years as Transvaal's captain to take up a position as a TV commentator during the competition.*

● Playing for Old Anandians against Rio Sports Club at the Ananda College ground, schoolboy Anjana Jayasuriya scored 339, the highest-ever score in any tournament under the aegis of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka. Jayasuriya, 19, shared a third-wicket partnership of 472—a record for all Sri Lankan cricket—with Sanjeye Attanayake (159).

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA





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● *Over 800 admirers of former Test fast bowler Geoff Lawson attended a $A75-a-head black-tie testimonial dinner in his honour at Sydney in January. NSW's captain Lawson, 34, has missed several matches this season because of injury, but he still managed, in the match against SA at Sydney, to move past Jeff Thomson and Terry Alderman (both 355) into second place in the all-time Sheffield Shield wicket-taking table, behind Clarrie Grimmett (513).*

● Limited-edition commemorative plates of W.G. Grace and Vivian Richards were stolen in a recent burglary at Nubern Products' Kent workshop.

● *Orange Free State have won South Africa's Nissan Shield limited-overs title after beating Eastern Province by four wickets. EP's total of 120 was the lowest-ever in the final.*

● David Hookes, in what could prove to be his last match at Sydney after 17 years, registered his highest score on the ground, 87, for South Australia against NSW. He hit 20 in one over from fast bowler Wayne Holdsworth, the last four balls going to the boundary: Hookes was out immediately afterwards. In the same match, NSW batsman Trevor Bayliss hit a ball from off-spinner Tim May to within 15ft of the SCG pavilion clock during his innings of 133.

● *Australian Test umpire Peter McConnell is suing the* Daily Telegraph Mirror *for damages over an article by Sunil Gavaskar in which the former Indian batsman made comments on some of the umpiring decisions in the Sydney Test, in which McConnell and Steve Randell officiated.*

● As part of the regular tour of Lord's, the last hour of both World Cup semi-finals (March 21-22) and the final (March 25) will be shown on a large screen at no extra charge.

● *Queensland batsman Greg Ritchie was fined $A500 for abusive language when dismissed in the NSW match at Sydney, the penalty being suspended for 12 months. Dirk Wellham was reported to the ACB for knocking the stumps over after his dismissal, but no action was taken. NSW won what was seen as a 'grudge' match, with Greg Matthews (85 not out and 67, plus 11 wickets) becoming the seventh Australian to perform the 'match double' in a Sheffield Shield game, after G. Giffen (eight times), J.N. Crawford (1913-14), C. J. Hill (1932-33), T. J. Jenner (1973-74), P. H. Carlson (1978-79) and J. C. Scuderi (SA v NSW, 1991-92).*

● A Tottenham teenager beat his stepfather to death with a cricket bat after an argument about mess caused by his puppies. Paul Davies, 19, admitted manslaughter at the Old Bailey in February.



PATRICK EAGER

● *Australian batsman Geoff Marsh, an asthmatic, is contributing to a TV advertising campaign to help people recognise and deal with the health problem.*

● Eastern Province, captained by South African skipper Kepler Wessels, will play two one-day matches against a World XI on Aug 29-30 during the 1992 Scarborough Festival.

● *Waqar Younis (904) tops the bowling list of Coopers & Lybrand Ratings, ahead of West Indians Malcolm Marshall (874) and Curtly Ambrose (804). Despite a drop of 40 points in his personal rating, Graham Gooch (836) remains on top of the batting list, ahead of Richie Richardson (823) and Robin Smith (784).*

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"WHEN YOU FACE DONALD... DUCK!"

South African paceman, Allan Donald is driven by many ambitions. But only one thing drives him Down Under...speed

IT was a matter of irony that South Africa and the West Indies trained side by side for their historic encounter at Lancaster Park. Everyone had spoken of the great friendship between West Indian and South African players, primarily through contact in the English county competition. But you could not be blinded by that (the training session before the game) into thinking that both sides were prepared to welcome each other completely. The practise, in which the two teams were batting within metres of each other, nearly became a test of who could bowl faster and who could hit the hardest—almost showing off in front of each other and the number of media personnel and excited onlookers.

Most pace bowlers tend to conserve their energy during training, but the same dictates of training do not hold for South Africa's Allan Donald, who threatened to knock off several batsman's heads as he practised his discipline with great speed.

Donald dismisses the tag of 'fastest white man', rather blatantly, saying



that he is here to help his country perform well in their first World Cup. "I haven't come out here to prove something. This is our first World Cup and it's a great opportunity to play against great countries and bowl to great batsmen."says the 25-year-old, whose pre-match routine is to lose himself to the soulful tunes of reggae and dance music. "It get's me going," he admits.

Donald gravitated so fast via the Currie Cup into English county cricket that the first original English sentence that he strung together—and let it be known, he did it rather well—apparently had more Birmingham jargon laced around it, than anything even vaguely resembling the lingo of English speaking South Africans.

Before he even knew it, Allan Donald had become more of an English professional, thereby discarding the label of 'South African amateur': the types that generally play in the Currie Cup competition. In fact, such was his meteoric rise to stardom as Warwickshire's new pace bowling spearhead, that Donald achieved celebrity status abroad long before he had even been acclaimed at home.

The limited-overs game has its own quota of constraints that a pace bowler of Donald's speed has to adhere to and unfortunately it means that he has to cut down on his main weapon... pace! Instead of reducing batsmen to paraplegics with his sheer speed he now has to concentrate on one code: bowl a more dainty looking line and length. Nevertheless, he does manage to serve notice by launching a missile once in a while.

"Obviously in one-day cricket, the margin for error is reduced," Donald admits. "You can't give a batsman any width or else you will pay dearly. I try to keep bowling at the body and you have to be up."

This is precisely what Donald has been doing this World Cup. His tally of 'kills' places him second to none other than one Mr. Ian Terence Botham on the highest wicket takers' list so far. And while he is not exactly enraptured by his opening spell in his World Cup debut against Australia; Donald has no doubts that his first delivery in World Cup competition should have been rewarded with a wicket. "He (Geoff Marsh) told me that he was sorry about that first ball. It was the first thing that he said to me. He hit the cover off it, it was so blatant!" recalls Donald off the first ball incident featuring Aussie opener, Geoff Marsh.

Somewhere during the rapid passage of time, Donald has also discovered the uses of a commodity called zinc cream. He now portrays the kind of visage that would have made Chief Sitting Bull proud. Accompanying the war paint is a snarling primeval cry—that was previously best performed by Dennis Lillee—whenever he rapped a batsman between big toe and quivering wrist. This is automatically followed by the pumping-knee, pumping-arm war dance routine that precedes the departure of yet another victim.

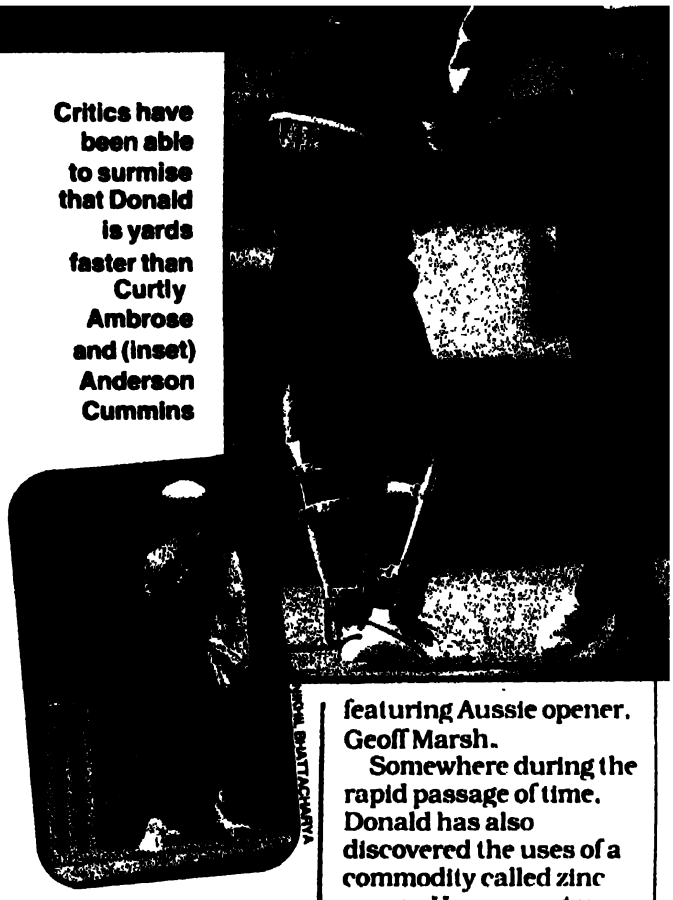
Allan Donald is the sort of player, the kind of character, that makes big time cricket tick. He's so deadly that he's called 'White Lightning'. Little wonder that a sign appeared at the Gabba some days ago when South Africa faced Pakistan. It read thus: 'When you face Donald...DUCK!'

Andy O'Brien



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Allan Donald stretches out during a practice session. (Inset) he is also South Africa's new pace bowling spearhead



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Critics have been able to surmise that Donald is yards faster than Curtly Ambrose and (inset) Anderson Cummins

Instead of reducing batsmen to paraplegics with his sheer speed, Donald now has to concentrate on one code: bowl a dainty looking line and length





As if his contribution with the bat wasn't enough, Sachin Tendulkar also chipped in with his accurate medium pace





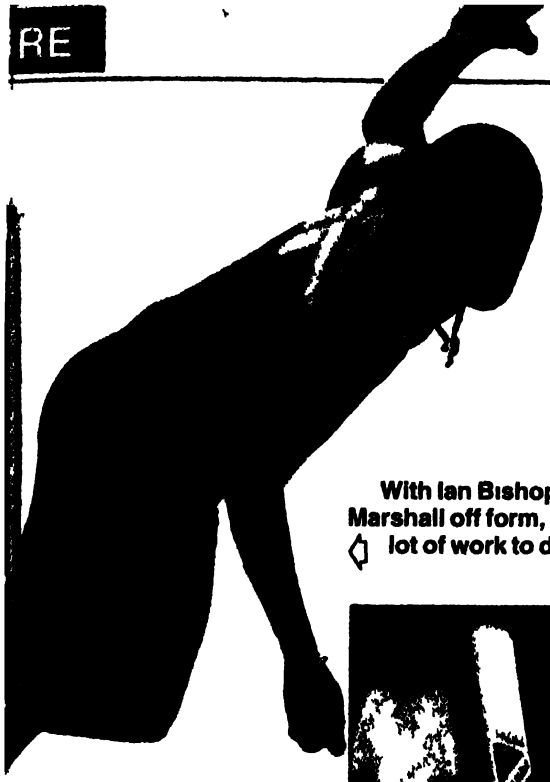
Australia's Dean Jones came good eventually...but was it too late?

The Zimbabwean bowling, though spirited, never really troubled the opposition

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY KODAK

World Cup moments...

RE

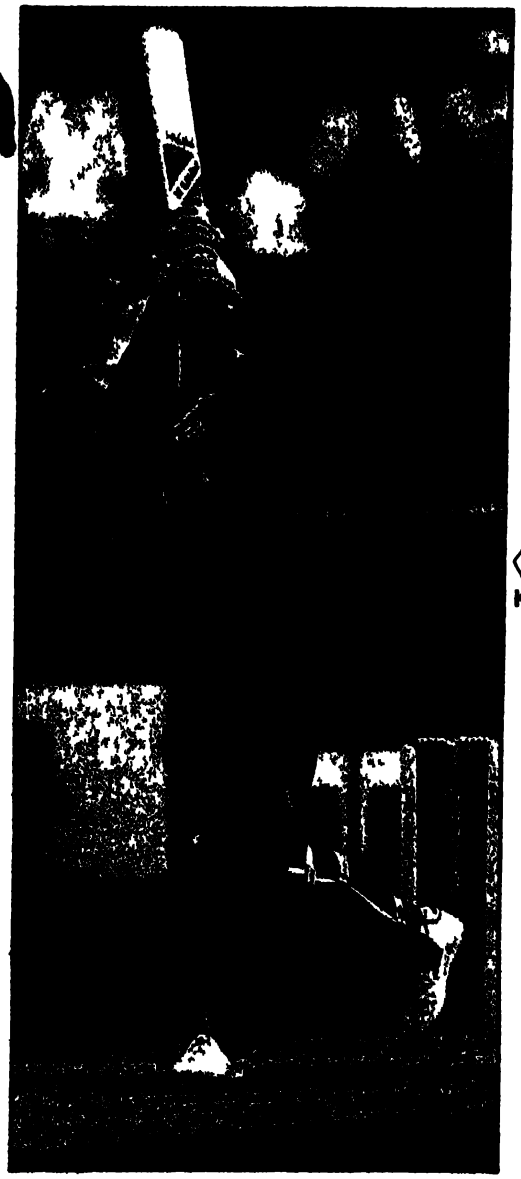


With Ian Bishop injured and Malcolm Marshall off form, Winston Benjamin had a lot of work to do for the West Indies

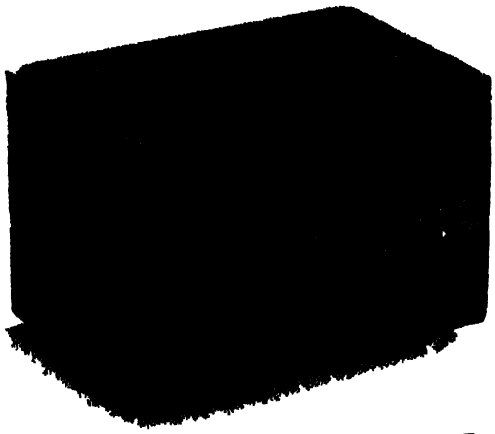


The fury of Patrick Patterson didn't bother too many batsmen this time





Kapil Dev's strike-rate with the bat must be the envy of many top-order batsmen



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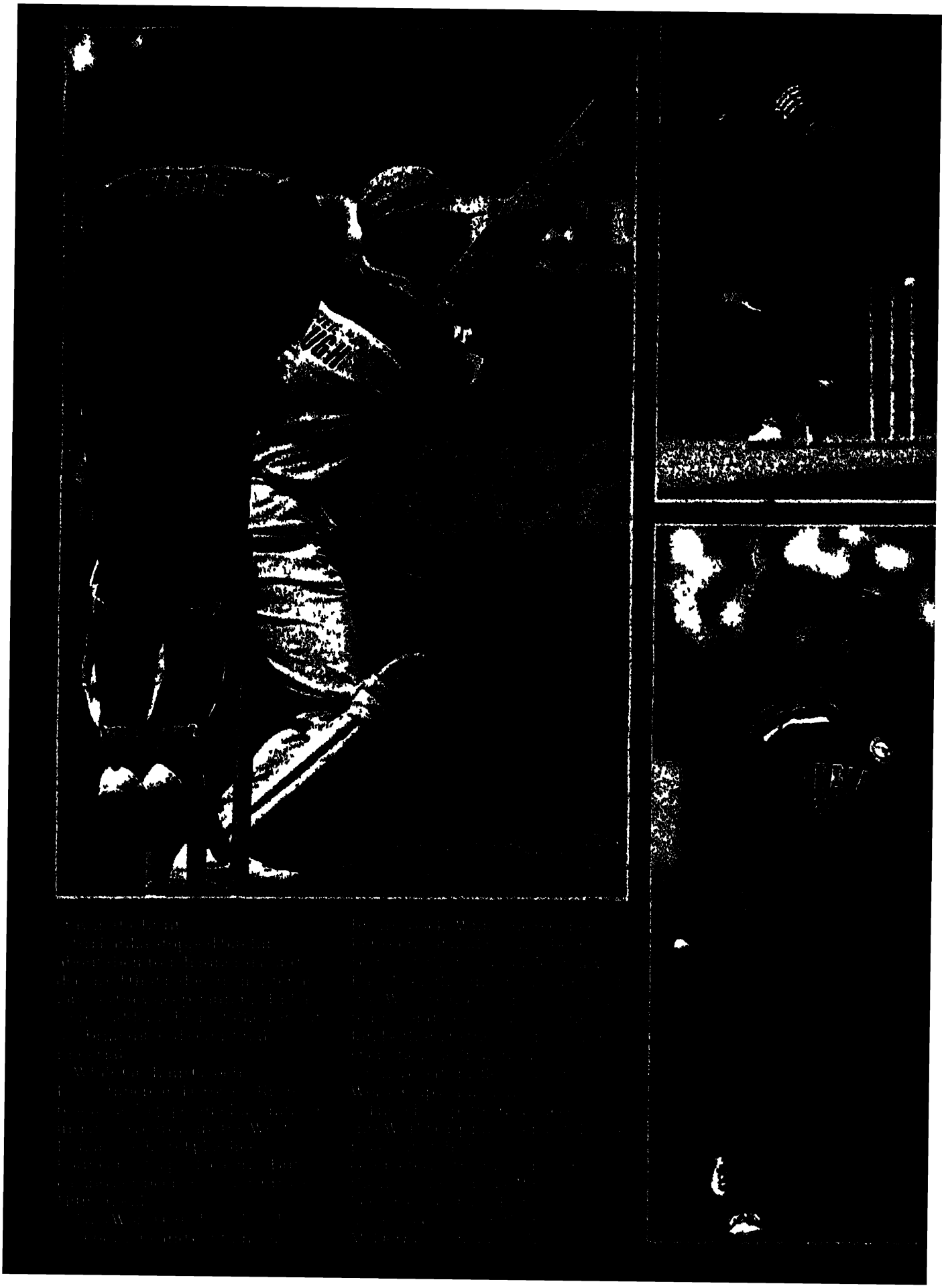
BY ANDY O'BRIEN, SYDNEY



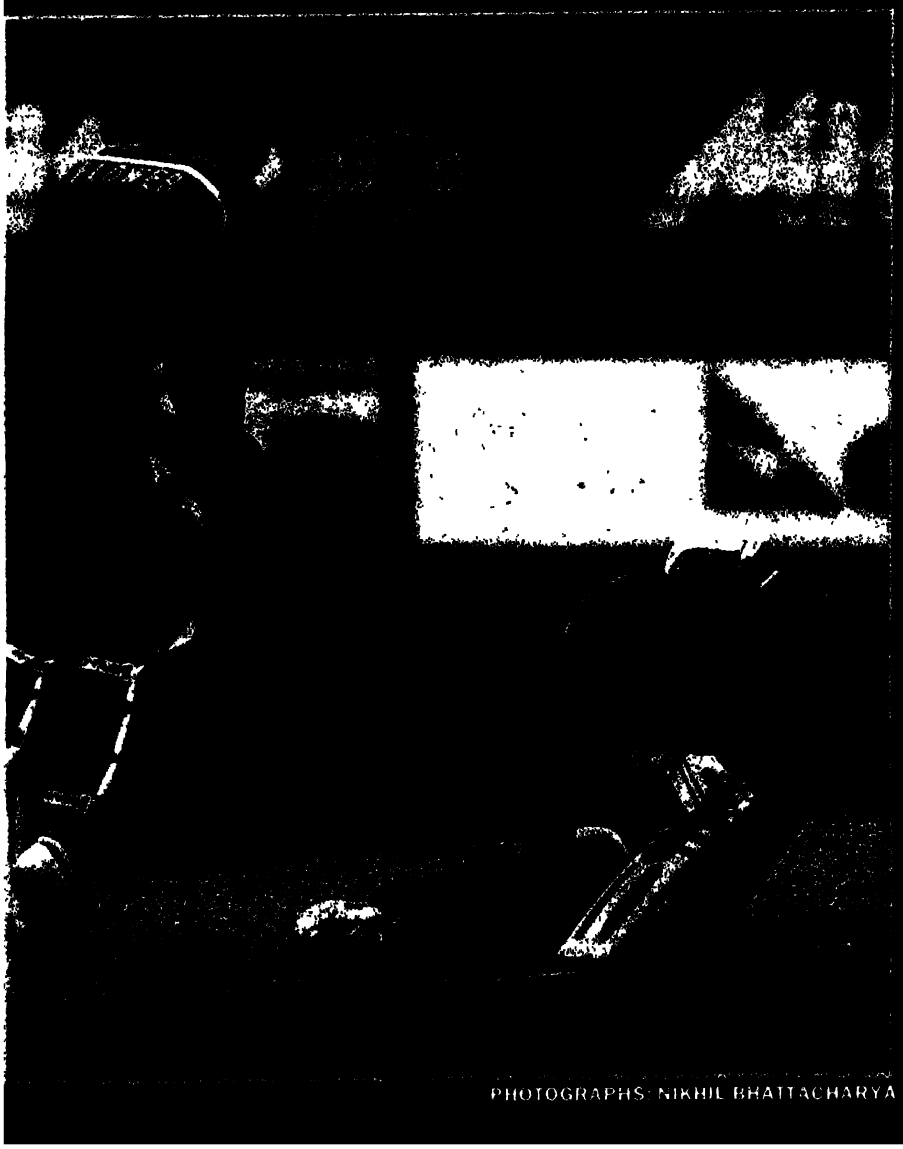


(Clockwise from left) They might end this World Cup without a point, but Zimbabwe will not have disgraced. Mey Rick Pringle's unbeaten ninth of 41 not out against the West Indies did the trick for South Africa. Kapil told the world what he thinks of his own performance. We agree. Kapil, England's Chris Lewis is thrilled to get England's second wicket against Sri Lanka.









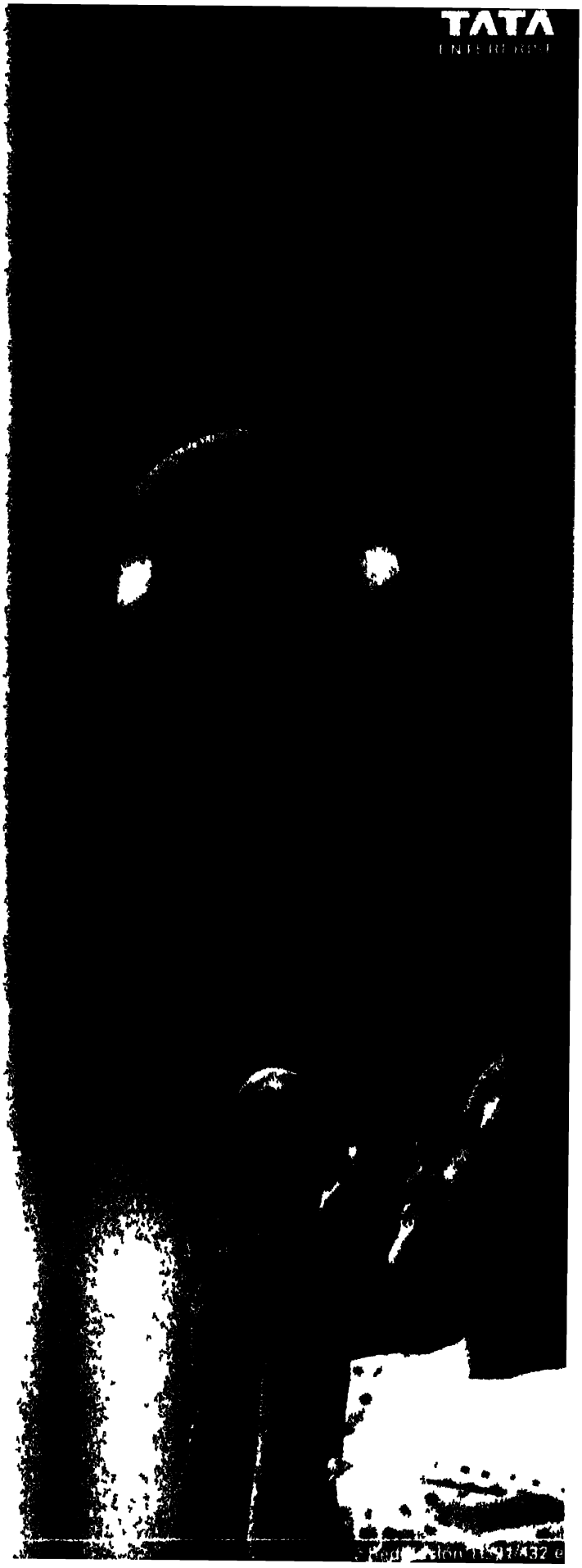
(Clockwise fom right) Dean Jones feasted on the Indian attack while Shastri's refusal to bowl still baffles; A moment of discomfort for Brian Lara, who has otherwise been electrifying; Jadeja's all-round utility definitely helped India; More tries his hand at levitation as Steve Waugh adds to his score; Simmons' struggle for form continues

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

T E L

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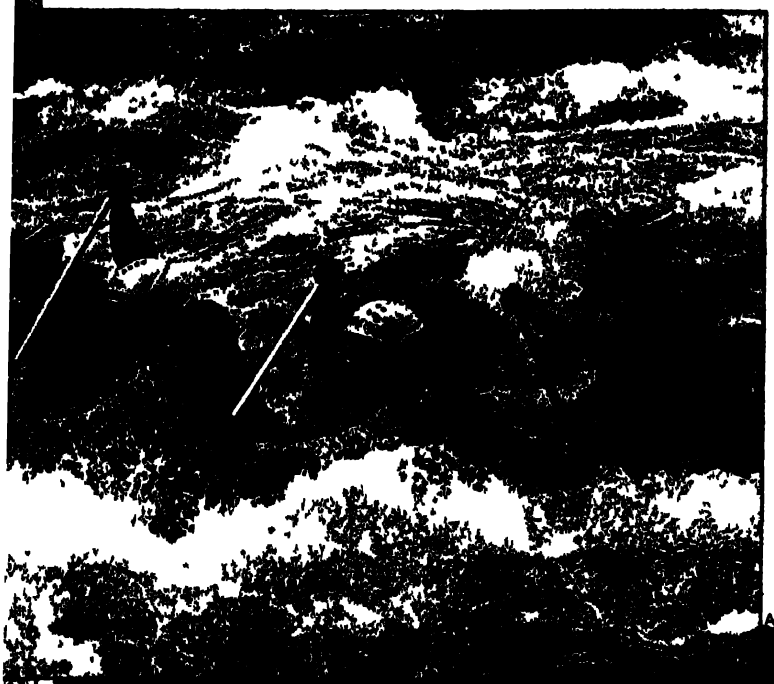
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vehicles on the roads of the developed world Doers behind a movement that will ultimately redefine the limits of what can be achieved.

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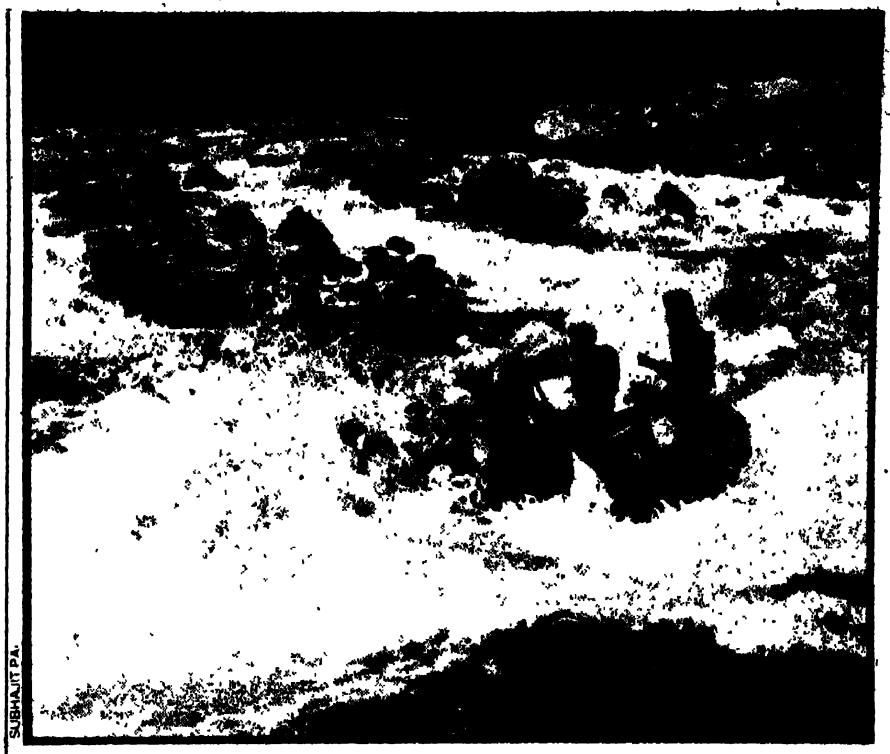


ASHOKE CHAKRABORTY



K.O.Jacob watches the 9th Dogra Unit of the Indian Army take on the mighty Tista river in a white-water rafting expedition...and come out victorious

Whatever enchants, also guides and protects. Passionately obsessed by anything we love— sailboats, airplanes, ideas—an avalanche of magic flattens the way ahead, levels rules, reasons, dissents, bears us with it over chasms, fears, doubts. Without the power of that love...(Richard Bach)



SUBHAJIT PAL

The rapids that kept appearing at this stretch of the river with alarming frequency, tested the navigational aptitude of the rafters to the maximum

A road-side sign on National Highway 31 said, 'Welcome to Sikkim.' And what a welcome it was. The blue sky, the cool breeze, the clouds of mist over the jeep top and the sun playing hide and seek, what more could frayed and tense city nerves ask for?

Down below (about 200-300 feet) flowed the river Tista in solitude. There were no people on the river bank. No people washing, bathing, or fishing. Just a surprisingly barren yet picturesque and somehow friendly sight. Sometimes, on the way to Gangtok, the river was just 50-60 feet below us. On other occasions the river was almost like a stream as it meandered along, winding its way amongst massive rocks and boulders. Yet on other occasions it came through with all its fury as it gushed past, the normally green hues of the river turning white, as it unleashed its wrath on the rocks for coming in its way. The landscape was stark, the hills littered with pebbles and boulders, telltale signs of landslides, and in the midst of all this wilderness and barrenness were plants and trees. One wondered about the uniqueness of creation and nature, and how everything was in perfect ambiance.

For ages the Tista has surely enchanted Sikkim. And so, the 9 th Dogra Unit of the Army thought it time to pay its tribute to the river by launching a rafting expedition that would cover a distance of approximately 150 kms, starting at Tung in North Sikkim and culminating at the Tista Bridge.

This expedition; covering some of the most turbulent parts of the river (virgin waters that had never been explored before), comprised a team of 40. That they were amateurs, whose sense of adventurism made them overlook the dangers and pitfalls, only made it more exciting. At the helm was the 22 year old 'veteran' Akshay Kumar, the guide and technical expert of the expedition who started rafting when he was 14 1/2 years old.

"This is a very technical river and one of the most difficult ones to navigate, especially in the upper stretches," he said as he showed me the rafts. Named 'Tangkar La and 'Kongra La' (after two passes by those names), they were Avon rafts imported from Britain by the Mercury Himalayan Exploration Company (for which Akshay works). Costing around two lakhs each, these 16x6 feet rafts with a tube diameter of 19" seemed quite safe... provided they were in the hands of professionals.

But how did he see 40 people—all totally new to the sport—handling the rafts and navigating them? "Well it's a pleasure rafting with the Army. They are full of courage, vigour and enthusiasm, and yet at the same time they will not take any unwanted risks. And this is actually nothing compared to the military exercises that they do."

I still wasn't satisfied. Still sceptical about the safety bit, I spoke to Maj. R.P.S. Waraich, the captain of the expedition. It was

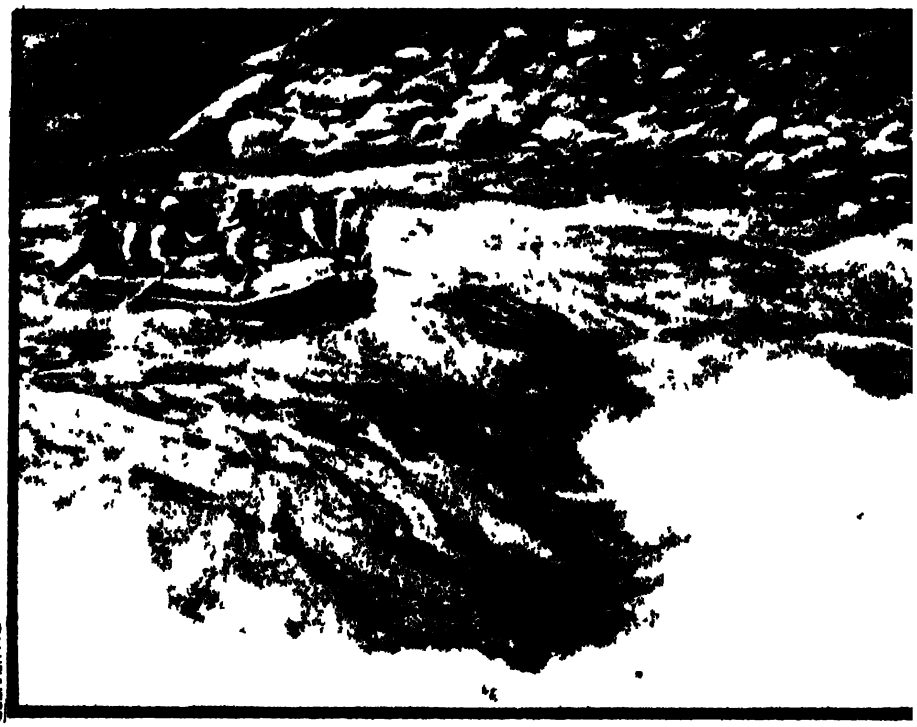
(facing page)
One of the rafts tackles a fall (inset) and boulders and rocks present in the river made the task of the rafters even more difficult

through him that I gauged the enthusiasm that was prevalent in the other team members. Married for just two months, he had spent barely two weeks with his wife before starting training for this expedition. The zest soon caught on and there were people milling around to take on the challenge of rafting for the very first time

Then came the task of elimination. Though it broke a few hearts (of the people who could not participate), it was done keeping the safety element on top of the priorities. The boys were taken to Milli (a rather calmer stretch of the river) and were gauged for their water-man-ship. They were, without warning, thrown into the freezing waters to judge how they would react. It there was a glimmer of panic visible in their countenance, they were straightaway eliminated. Then the participants were sent for gruelling swims, both upstream and downstream, to acclimatise them to the cold water. Finally came the exercises that tested co-ordination and team-work.

Only if an incumbent came through all this, was he selected. I still was sceptical: the training should have been in rough waters if it was all about safety, right? "Well that would rob the expedition of some of the adventure. If you are rafting a stretch that you have done before,then you know what to expect", said Waraich. "But if you are doing it for the first time then the uncertainty adds to the adventure." Talk about gluttons for punishment.

It was only after we reached Tung (the starting point) that the enormity of the work at hand struck me. It was for the first time that we scribes approached the banks of the river. And what a sight it was! The green water flowing with great force through the bed of rocks and boulders (some over 10 feet high, jutting out from the water), with the stark, yet beautiful, mountains in the background. How would they manage to get their rafts through these boulders I wondered? At times the boulders were so placed naturally that there was no space for a raft to go through. At other spots the water descended with such force over rocks that it created falls of over five feet.



SUKHJIT PAL

In every fall and rapid there lurked dangers,and the raftsmen always had to be on their toes

But when the rafters clad in blue shorts and yellow windcheaters with red life jackets and white crash helmets, amidst cries of 'Jai Ma Tista' got into their rafts and started the journey, they made everything look so very possible. They manoeuvered the raft with the expertise and simplicity that one would generally attribute to rafting pros. Cries of 'all forward' or 'left back' punctuated the air, the guide in each raft (the crew consisted of nine persons in each raft) instructing the rafters on how to row.

All forward—where all members in the raft rowed forward—propelled the raft forwards. Left back meant that the people in the left side rowed backwards so that the boat went sideways. Sideways was how they tackled the falls and some rapids, because if a raft went headlong into a fall it would fill with water in no time. Hence it all depended on total co-ordination and the unision with which the team members worked. This took its toll on the navigators and it was possible to cover only a stretch of only 15-17 kms a day

Another reason for this (seemingly) short distance covered in a day was because, apart from the mental and physical strain, the waters in the starting stages—for about 80kms—had never been rafted before. So after every five or six kilometres the rafts would be brought ashore and a reconnaissance team would get out and recce the stretch ahead, looking out for rapids, rocks, and the general flow of the river. Then they would plan strategy and start rafting again. At times the flow was so bad, or the rocks in such a position that a stretch could not be rafted. During these occasions the rafts (which weighed 70kgs apiece) were carried along banks (a very arduous job because of the huge rocks that lined the banks) till a suitable spot was found to re-launch them.

When, at the night halt after the first day, I met the weary raftsmen, I was aghast to hear that three rafters had fallen into the water. But Maj. Waraich's very matter-of-fact attitude and



Akshay Kumar (extreme right) directs the raft to be turned sideways as they tackle yet another rapid

confidence dispelled whatever fears I had about this sport. "Once a person falls into the water and if he is near,then he tries to latch on to the life-line that goes all around the raft, and in case the current is too strong and he is swept away then a lifeline is thrown to him and he is then pulled in," said Waraich very clinically. I must have turned pale hearing his story and it must have registered on my features because Akshay interjected, "And then there are times when the whole raft topples over. And it could happen anytime if we read the current wrong, or if we navigate a rapid the wrong way."

That would be some sight I thought, a raft overturned and all nine rafters in the freezing water. Akshay continued, "In that case all rafters surround the raft, and one rafter pulls the raftline (a nylon chord that runs all around the raft) downward with all his might till the raft comes the right side up."

So far so good, but what about the person pushing the raft down? He's underneath the raft when it becomes the right-side-up again, and ends up drinking a lot of water as it takes some time before he is brought up again. This is where nerves of steel come into play. It was after this conversation that I fully understood the perils of rafting, and my respect and admiration for these Army personnel braving nature, increased manyfold.

The only sore point of covering the expedition was that we could not witness many of the interesting happenings of the expedition. Though we were following the rafters by road, most of the time the rafts were mere specks down below in the river as it dropped about 400-500 feet below us. Worse still, the sheer drop in the mountainside made it unreachable. Whenever we could, we used to go down the mountainside, and what an experience that was.

On the couple of occasions when we got really near the river banks it wasn't easy going. Tackling 500 feet of downslope strewn with round pebbles only got you to the river-bank, a good 50 feet still to be covered before one came to the waterline. It was this last stretch that was the most difficult, because one had to climb rocks sometimes over seven feet tall and totally rounded. One almost felt pity for the photographers as they struggled with their heavy camera bags.

As if this wasn't hard enough, climbing up was what sapped us of our energies. And one had to be extremely careful because one slip meant that we end up where we started from—the bottom.

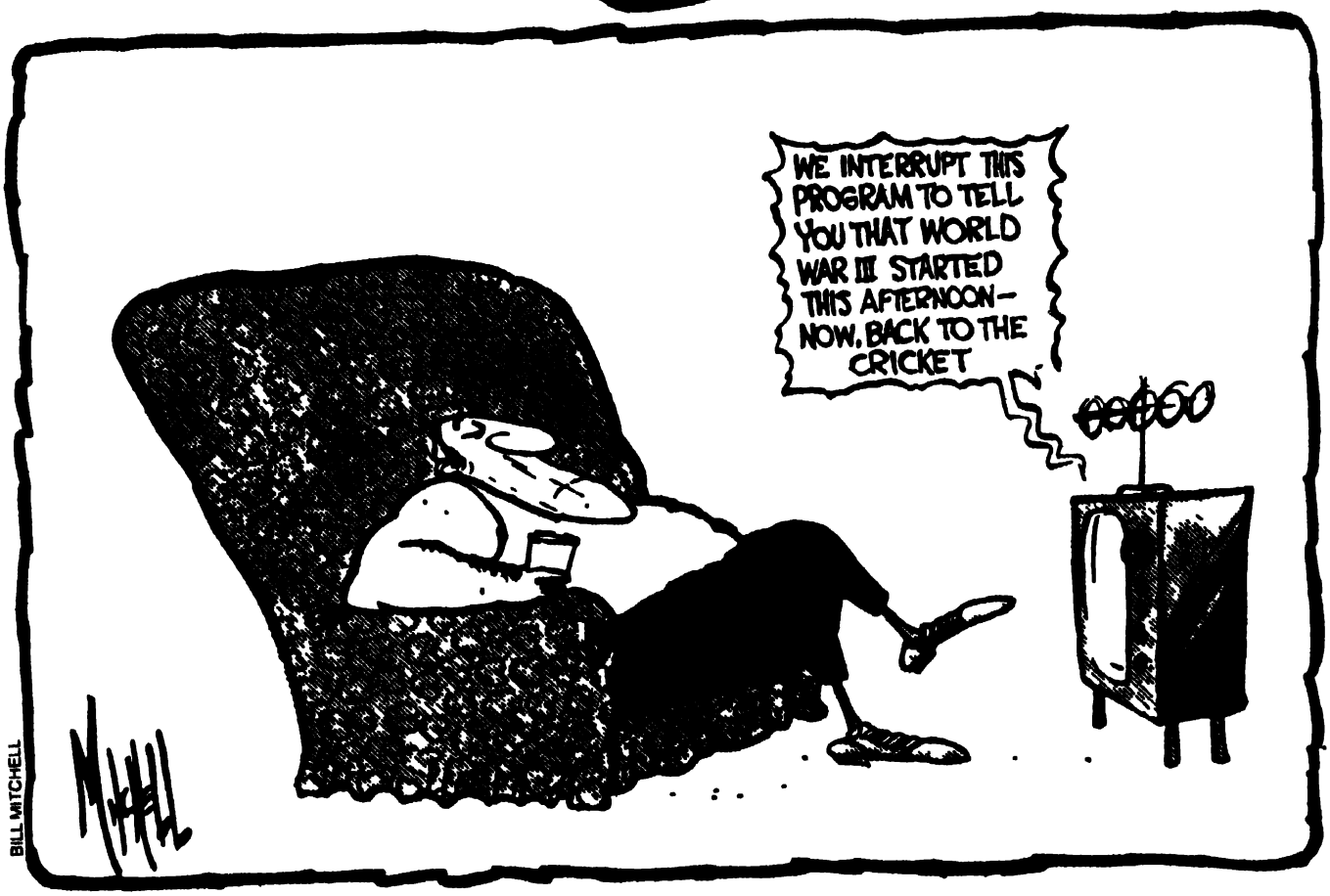
The terrain again saw to it that we journalists and photographers missed out on yet another spectacle. On the third day we trekked a good six kilometres (much to the consternation of the convoy we were with) and chose a spot on the bank which the rafters were to cross in about an hour. The hours rolled on and we were there for a good six hours, before they came into sight. The reason being, as I learnt afterwards, was that one of the rafts got pinned against a rock and it took them a couple of hours to extricate themselves from the place. A raft getting pinned against a rock in a nightmare for rafters because the current is so strong that it is just held against the rock. Then starts a elaborate process of everyone getting onto the rock and then gently and gingerly changing the position, till they finally manoeuvre it into the river again.

Each day had its own share of thrills and spills but except for scraped knees and sore limbs there was no major damage. Or maybe it was the ever pervading sense of camaraderie and companionship that saw them through. At the end of each day it was a very weary—yet still eager—bunch of rafters that I encountered.

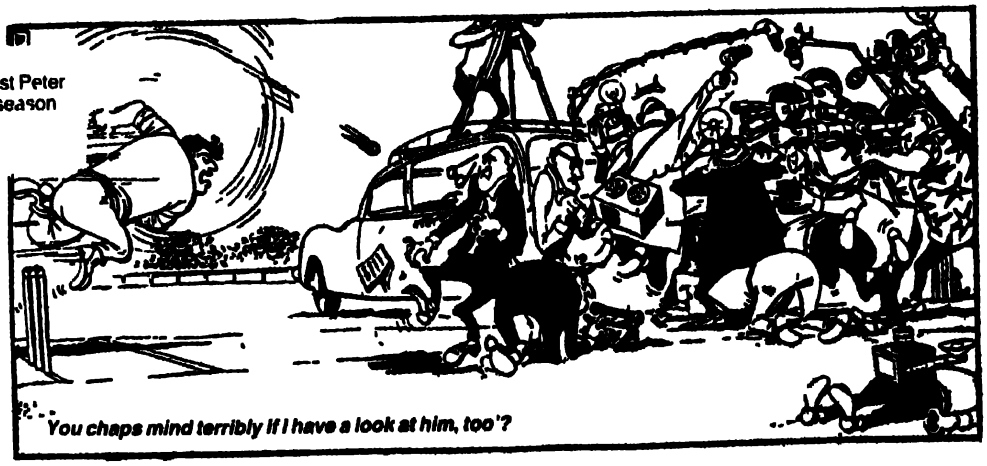
Maybe it was this sense of courage, this zeal, this perseverence so evident in the rafters, that led to the Army organising such an expedition, at a cost of approximately 55,000 rupees. Wasn't this a bit too much for the Army to spend on an undertaking like this specially when the economy was going through such a financial crunch?

Said Brigadier Bhupinder Singh, the Chief Coordinator of the expedition, "In the Army you don't just take the horse to the water. You make sure that it drinks the water too." ●

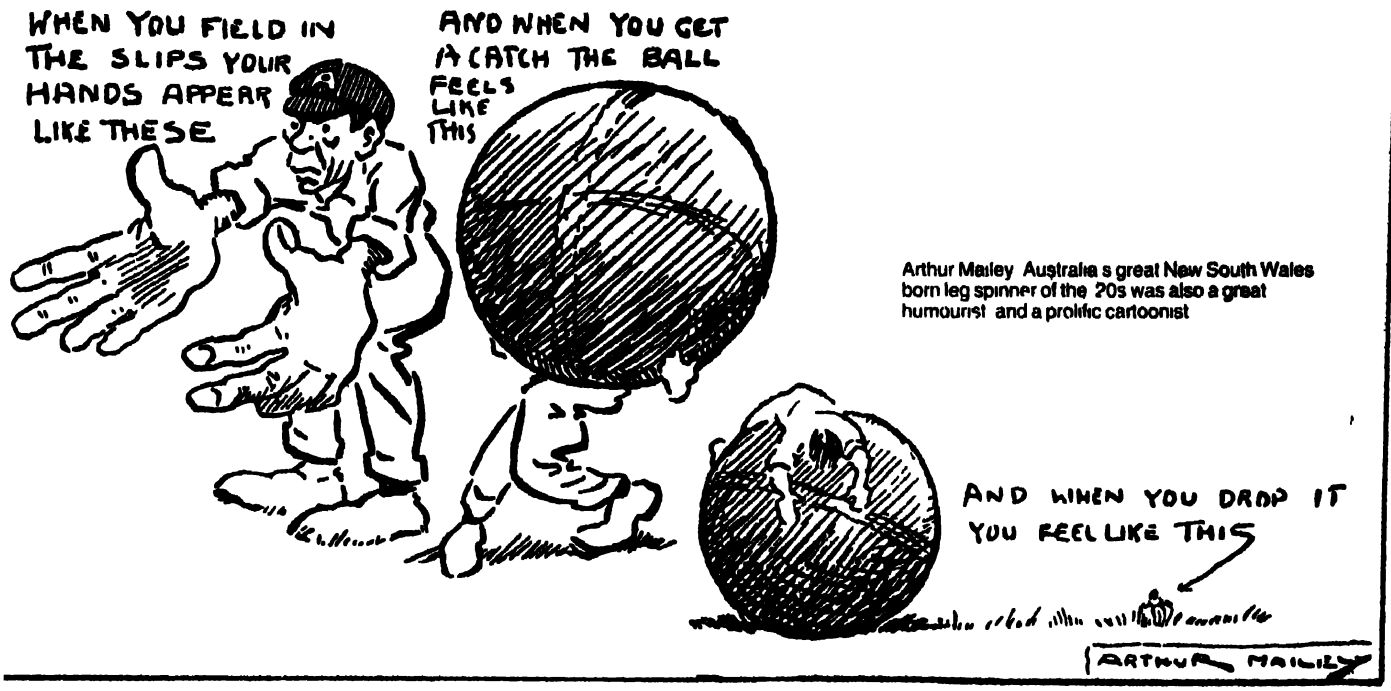
Cricketoons



Norman O Neill s first appearance against Peter May s MCC team in Perth in the 58 59 season attracted enormous interest

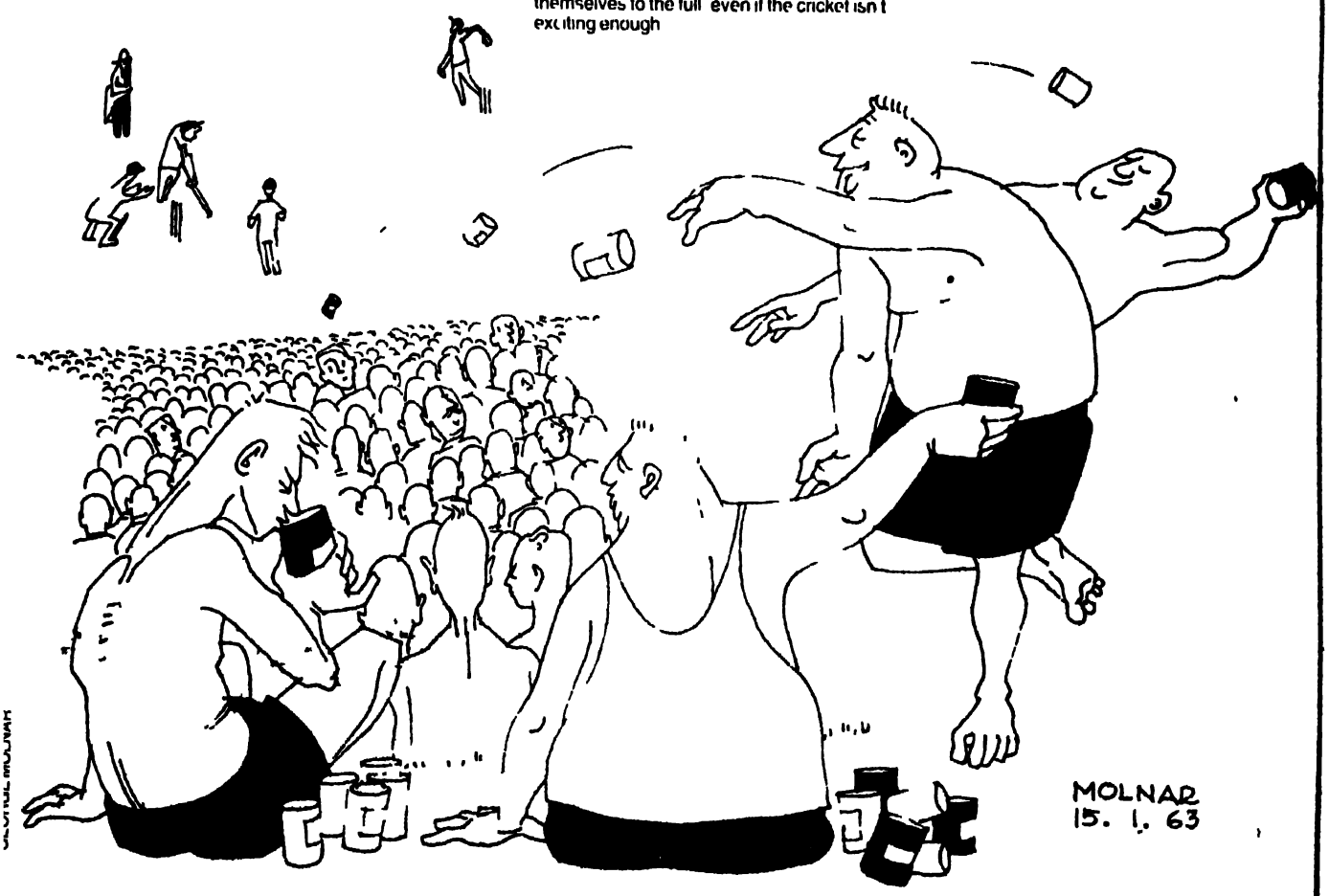


Here we present a series of hilarious cartoons by some of the craft's masters to celebrate cricket's greatest carnival Down Under

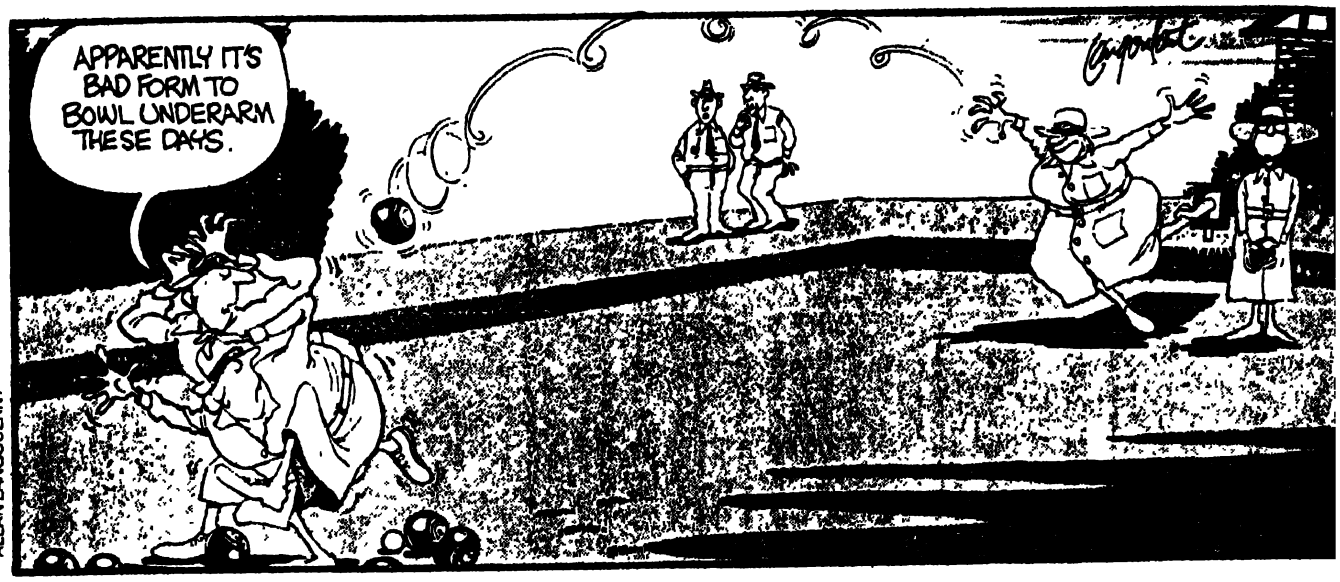


Arthur Mailey Australia s great New South Wales born leg spinner of the 20s was also a great humourist and a prolific cartoonist

The notorious Sydney Hill crowd enjoy themselves to the full even if the cricket isn t exciting enough

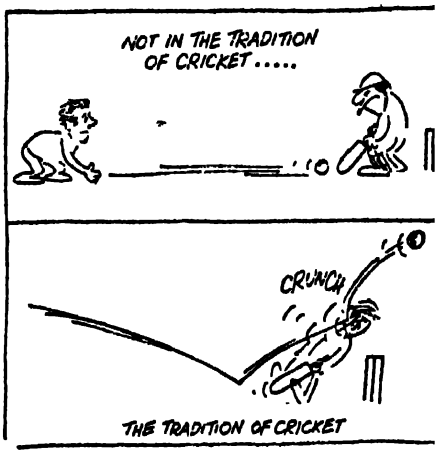


'Cricket dull? It's jolly good fun'.



ALLAN LANGOULANT

Skipper Greg Chappell's instruction to his brother Trevor to bowl underarm for the final delivery of a one-day game against New Zealand at the MCG in February 1981 prompted worldwide criticism Australia ensured a narrow victory when the final ball was blocked in disgust by New Zealand's eleventh man Brian McKechnie

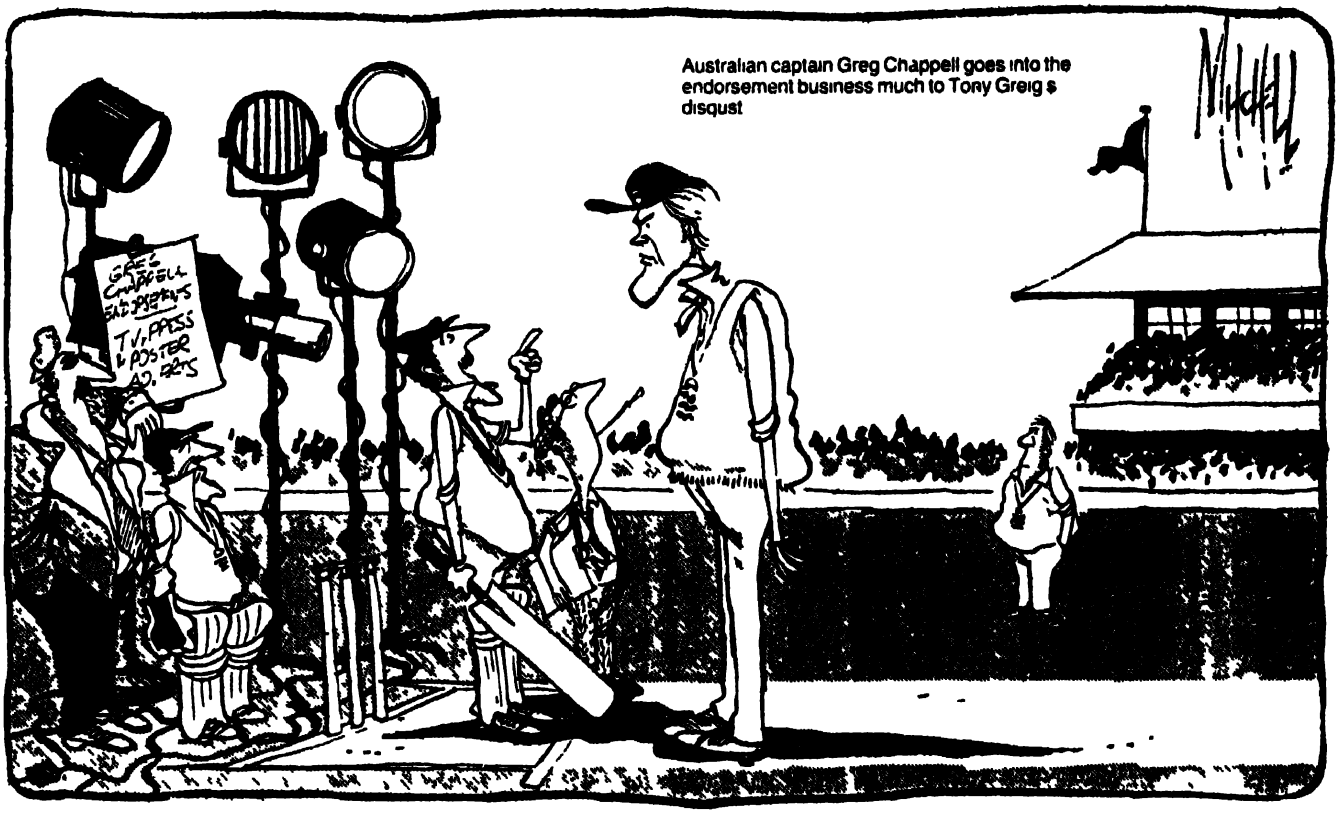


Ron Tandberg

Once at loggerheads with each other, Kerry Packer's Channel Nine and the Australian Cricket Board surprised the world by forging a cricketing, and of course, mutually profitable, alliance



ALLAN LANGOULANT



Wouldja mind, slow and loose down the leg side my director says a hook shot presents by best profile

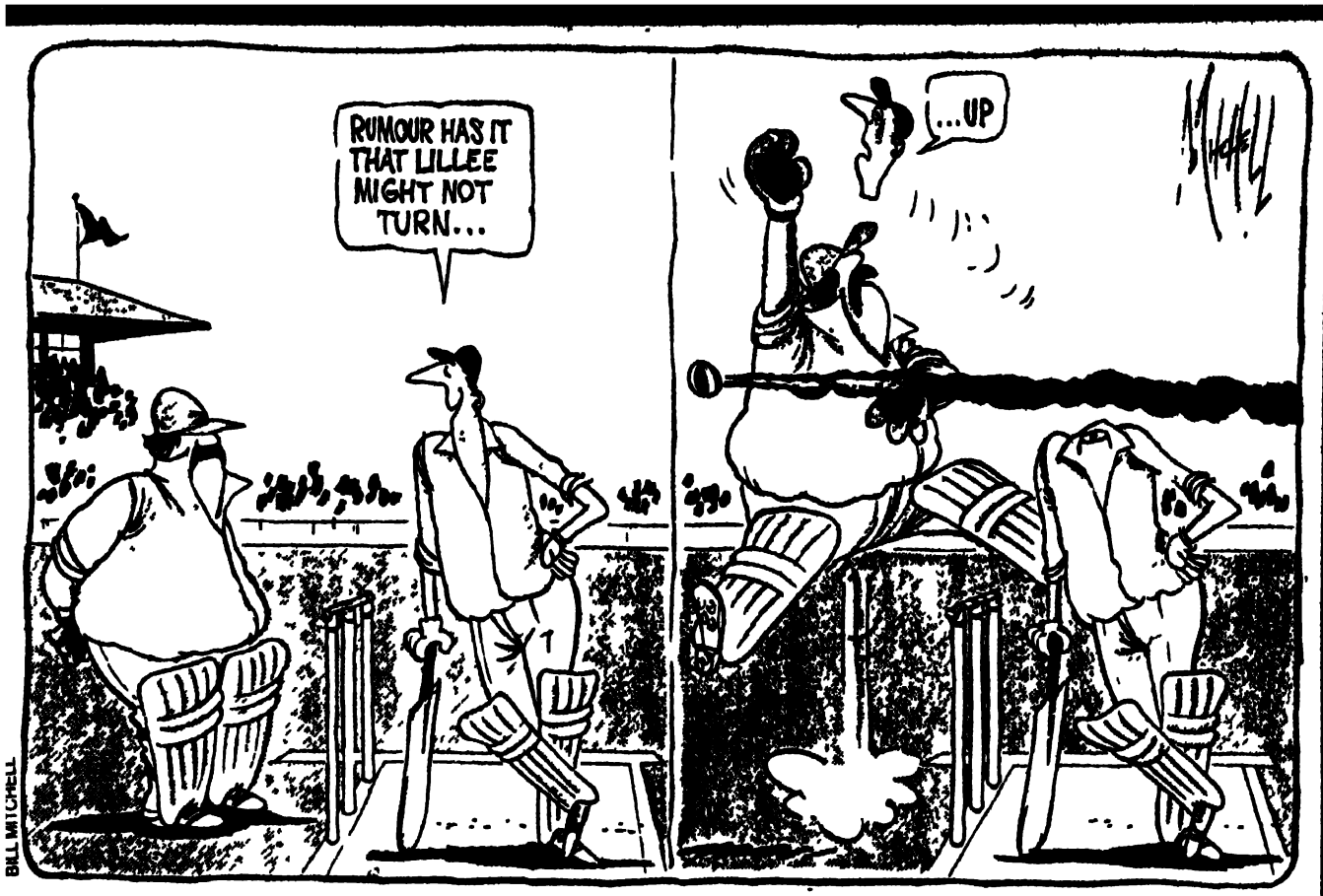


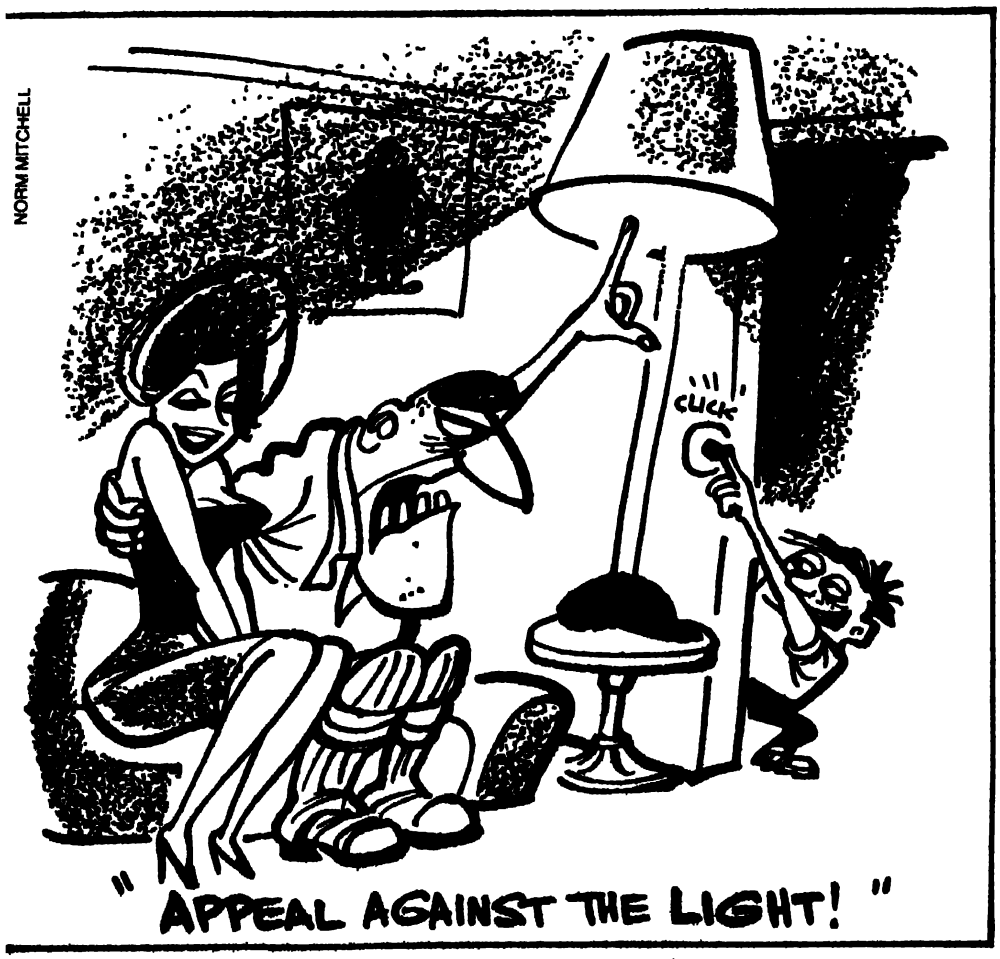
The signing of the W D & H O Wills company as Australian cricket s No 1 sponsor through the Benson and Hedges brand name was not greeted with unanimous praise

Test cricket s first eight day match the fifth Test in Melbourne between Australia and England in 1928/29 prompted this *Punch* cartoon England made 519 and 257 Australia made 491 and 5 287



Father Time (making for exit towards end of fifth day of first innings)
I'M ONLY TIME THIS IS A JOB FOR ETERNITY '





Reproduced from *Cartoonists At The Cricket* published by Currey O'Neil Pty Ltd, and edited by Ken Piesse

Some of these cartoons were used before in 1984 We thought they were so good that they merited repetition

POONAWALA BREEDERS' MILLION, BOMBAY

ONLY THE BRAVE WILL FLY

SUNDAY March 8.1992 was Poonawalla Breeders' Million Day at the Mahalaxmi Race Course Bombay. The money capital of the country was hotting up very quickly indeed with the mercury crossing the 32° mark. But even the heat and the humidity could not prevent the vast crowd who thronged to the race course giving it a touch of gaiety and glamour that is rarely ever seen so late in the season.

Sponsored by the Poonawalla brothers, Cyrus and Zavaray, the Million came into being in 1990. Since then it has received tremendous support from breeders all over the country and finally what looked to be a pipe-dream in the early 80s had become part of reality. It is the richest race of its kind in the country for three year old juveniles and for youngsters it is the most talked about race of the year because in a shade under one and a half minutes the winner crosses the one million rupee mark in earnings and he becomes the first equine millionaire of his vintage.

At 4 p.m. on that Sunday, a field of 11 colts and four fillies lined up to face the starter, while the biggest challenge came from Bombay, the racing centres of Bangalore and Hyderabad were also well represented. In fact, the favourite for the race was the Bangalore-based colt Treasure Hunt. Surprisingly enough he was the even money favourite in a field of 15 while the second favourite was 6 to 1 and over. But what was attracting more attention than the equine line-up was the line-up of jockeys who were riding in the race.

The legendary Lester Piggott was there. From Hong Kong came Tony Cruz, while Paul Eddery, who has had a fantastic season in India this winter, had stayed behind just to partner Treasure Hunt. Also, flying in from Hong Kong was the Irish professional Mick Kinane. Amongst the Indian riders were such big names as Pesi Shroff, Vasant Shinde and Aslam Kader. Hence if one said that the race has not succeeded in attracting the best three year-olds in the country, you could counter it by saying it certainly attracted some of the greatest riders in the world.

Flying Brave and Aslam Kader proved that reputations don't mean a thing...once the gates clang open



Rashid Byramji saddled his first Million winner

Added to this was the Poonawalla Breeders' Million Contest where you had to nominate the first four in correct order for the race. It looked a tall order but then the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow—a swanky red Maruti, a Kinetic Honda Scooter and a colour television set—was equally attractive.

The field of 15 broke fairly level from the gates and it was Fortune Hunter who led them into the straight. It was at this juncture that Pesi Shroff brought Ace to challenge while Lester Piggott on Bay of Biscay seemed to be moving very well too. The favourite Treasure Hunt however seemed to be in a bit of trouble and it was soon apparent that he was not going to win. Flying Brave with Aslam Kader astride was just behind

by CYRUS J. MADAN



looking for an opening to begin his run.

At this juncture, Piggott who had just two in front of him looked over his shoulder to see how the rest of them were doing. "I did not want to make my move too early" he said "and that's why I had a peek over my shoulder to see whether I should wait or go for it". Piggott decided to press the button and Bay of Biscay hit the front and looked a winner all over when Aslam Kader and Flying Brave really got going. He gradually wore down Bay of Biscay but it was not till the last two strides that he managed to hit the front and win by three parts of a length. In third place was Splendid Girl while Treasure Hunt finished fourth.

Flying Brave certainly had the credentials to win. He was bred at the Usha Stud Farm, as was the favourite Treasure Hunt. Moreover he was unbeaten in two starts in Bangalore, and frankly speaking, had no business being available at 10 to 1

Flying Brave, who is owned by Mr D. Khaitan and Maj. P.K. Mehra, is trained by none other than Rashid Byramji. The Khaitan silks "gold, red belt and arm band, red cap" are exceptionally well known in Calcutta but Mahalaxmi Bombay is gradually beginning to realize that when it comes to the big races these are the silks to watch out for.

History seems to be repeating itself in the Poonawalla Breeders' Million. In the inaugural year the Pratap Stud Farm had the favourite for the race Ashwamedha. But it was not Ashwamedha who won. It was the lesser fancied Pratap Stud-bred entry who came up trumps—a colt named Le Gris Cheval. The following year, Ponto Delgado came out trumps, getting the better of Vigilante who was the favourite and came from the same farm where Delgado was bred. Even more to the point, Le Gris Cheval came out and won an ordinary race on Million Day in 1991, and in 1992 Ponto Delgado, the winner of the previous Million, won in Class II on the occasion of the third running of the Million.

Flying Brave certainly had the credentials to win. He was bred at the Usha Stud Farm, as was the favourite Treasure Hunt. That meant that he had great chances if history was anyting to go by. Moreover he was unbeaten in two starts in Bangalore and frankly speaking, had no business being available at 10 to 1 in the betting.

Bombayites have this bad habit of thinking that any horse which comes from outside Bombay is useless. Once he wins in Bombay however, they think he is a world beater. This was precisely what happened with Treasure Hunt and in the bargain they forgot all about Flying Brave until it was much too late.

So the Usha Stud had produced its first Poonawalla Breeders' Million winner. Trainer Rashid Byramji had saddled his first Million winner in Bombay and Aslam Kader had shown that he was second to none, having got the better of two world class jockeys in a close finish.

After the dust from the race settled the festivities continued and a lady named Norma Chatalier of Bombay kept pinching herself to make sure that she was not dreaming when it was announced that she had won a Maruti car for naming the first four in the Poonawalla Breeders' Million.●

The Crazy Dutchman

EVEN though most of his contemporaries firmly believe that he should carry on Hans van Breukelen is adamant that his time has come Ignoring all opinions and persuasion from colleagues and family members the celebrated goalkeeper recently announced that he would play his last match for Holland in June and then quietly pass into oblivion

It obviously is a wise decision For Breukelen at 35 there is nothing much left to look forward to in soccer but certainly he has a glorious past and a wonderful career to look back on And of course a reputation to remain intact So, Breukelen wants things to remain that way, taking no more risks by playing on and smearing his hard earned reputation

Breukelen became his nation s soccer god in the European championships in 1988 when the Dutch team won their first major title Van Breukelen also won the Champion s Cup with PSV

In all he has 65 caps—second only to Ruud Krol with 83 caps—and has seldom failed since his international debut in 1980

Sadly, however Breukelen has never been very popular in Holland In fact, he has often been subjected to ridicule with football writers as well as coining many a nickname for him digging at some of his peculiar traits For instance Breukelen came to be known as Mr Positivo for what his detractors described as his exaggerated optimism

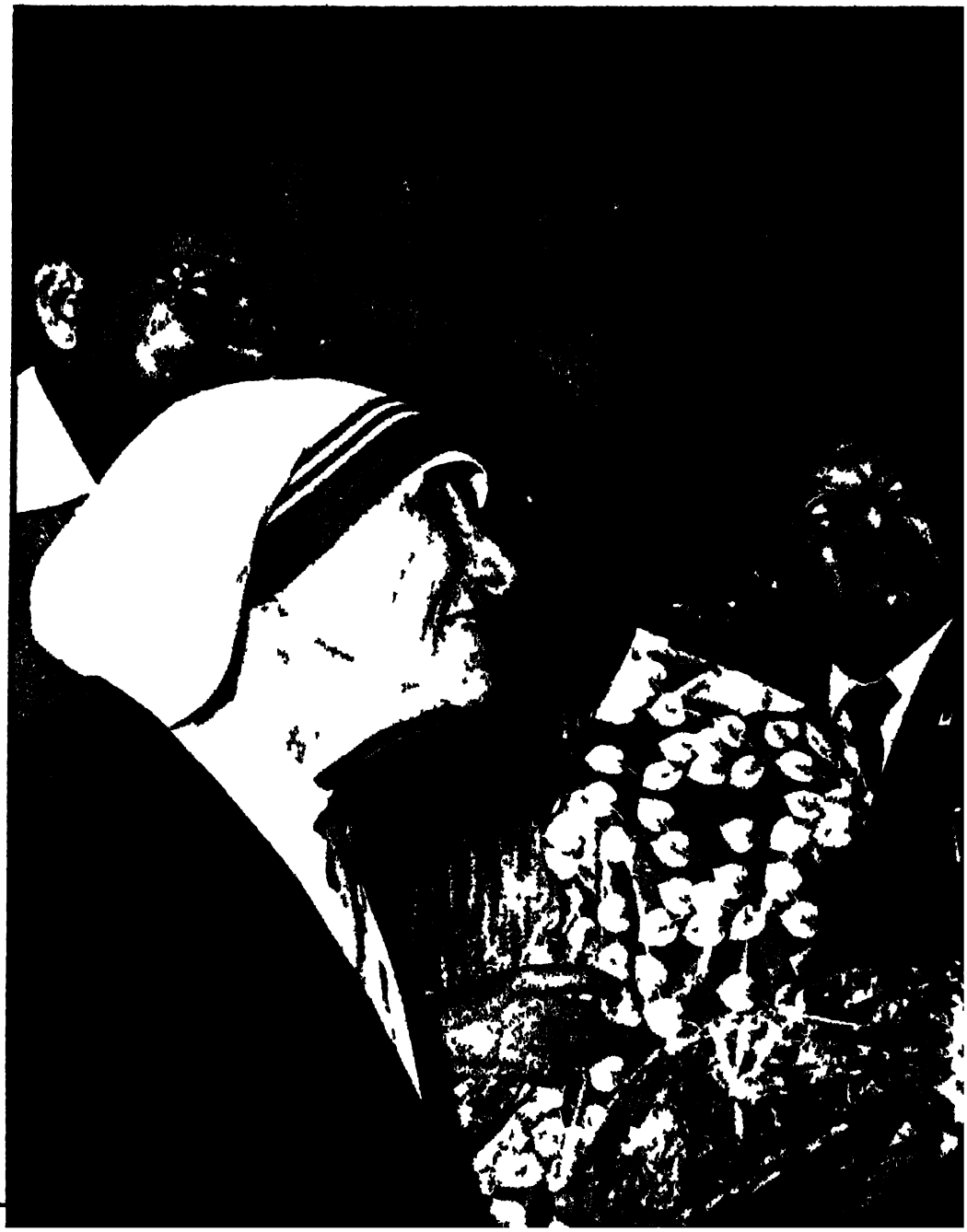
And once when Rinus Michels dropped him for a match against Hungary in 1987 there was a public delight For some reasons, people don t like me Breukelen said dejectedly

Will Maradona Come Back?

WILL Diego Maradona return to football after his 15 month ban is over? Well the maestro seems to be taking a lot of pleasure in keeping everyone guessing about his future plans

At first he said no, when asked about his comeback chances and the no seemed to be final He even expressed his intention to leave Argentina sometime this year settle down in the US and play indoor football there

Maradona now spends much of his time after his

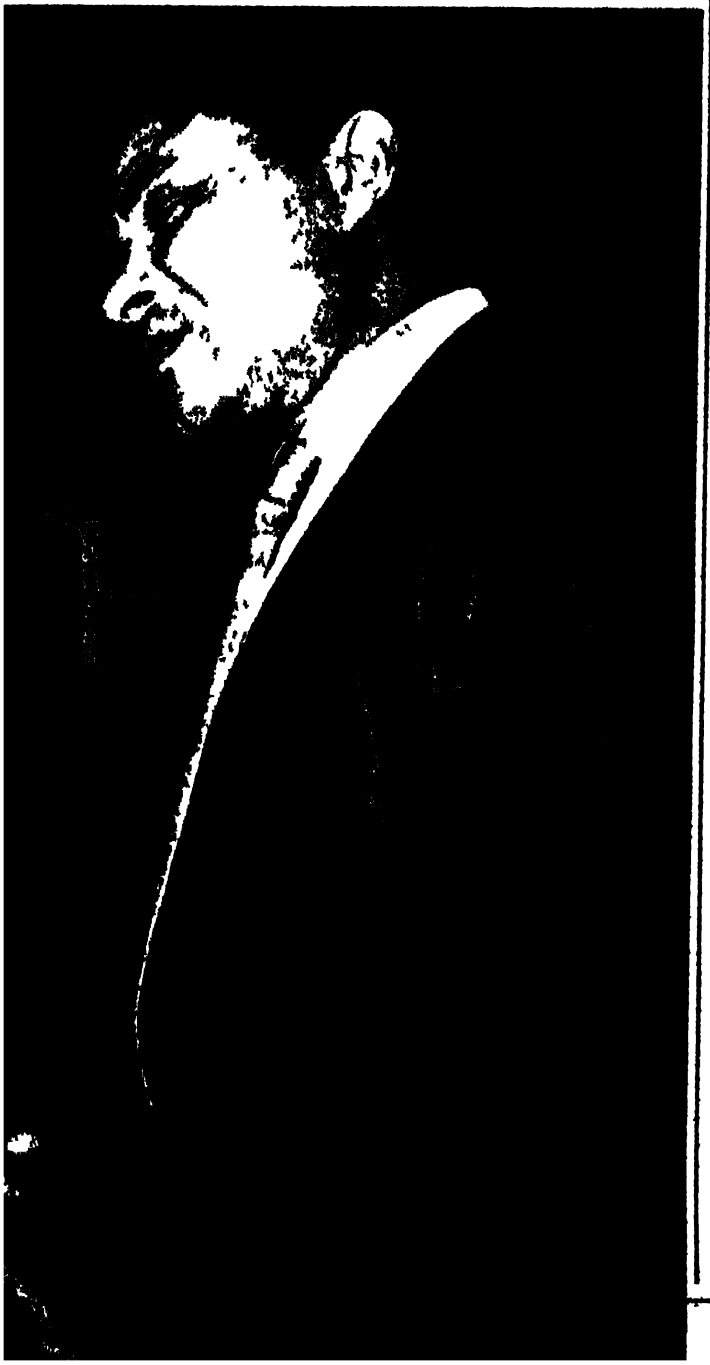


EXTRA

newest passion racing He now owns a racehorse and gained his first success when his colt Midir won a race at the San Isidro track on the outskirts of Buenos Aires

And to confound the whole world that same evening perhaps encouraged by his horse s success 'Maradona said I may play again because my younger daughter Yanina is always saying she s never seen me play

Well what do we make out of that?



Eusebio with Mother Teresa during his tumultuous tour of Calcutta, where he received a hero's welcome

Eusebio: The Living Legend

PORTUGAL has recently paid its richest tribute to its greatest soccer hero when a statue of Eusebio was unveiled at Benfica s stadium on the maestro s 50th birthday And there can no doubt that the god they put on the pedestal of hero worship was a genius

For Benfica itself he scored 727 goals in 715 games In UEFA competitions he still holds the record of 57 goals 46 of them in the Champions Cup, and he scored another 41 for the national team

Eusebio of course had his share of injuries perpetrated by unsporting opponents as is the case with almost all of soccer s greatest talents but the big burly Portuguese never surrendered As many as six operations on his knee failed to stop him on his tracks And the goals never stopped coming

His countrymen have always acknowledged their debt of gratitude to this 'true representative of Portuguese sport,' as his merits and personality were recognised when he was awarded national honours in 1962, 1973, 1981 and 1990 But now the country's president Eusebio Soares has said that on October 5 (Republic Day) he will award the master the Order of the Infante, something that only Carlos Lopes and Rosa Mota the Olympic gold medallists, have achieved.

Don't let that little boy go, said Bella Guttmann, Benfica's former manager when he first saw Eusebio Nor will Portugal let the legacy of this great master ever pass into oblivion

The Japanese Boom

THE world at last has discovered the El Dorado of the east Japan is now being viewed as the latest soccer goldmine like Colombia and North America in previous times Despite its resolutely amateur domestic pattern, prevalent only a year ago Japan has suddenly and quickly undergone a sea-change in its attitude towards the game and subsequently became a most profitable place to play soccer

With huge sponsorship coming in from such industrial giants as Nissan, Mitsubishi Sony and others the football market of Japan is headed for a boom time ●

No Play

Only stoppages

A COMPANY in Sweden has released a fascinating set of statistics. Like for example, did you know that in the last football World Cup in Italy, scheduled 90 minute matches lasted from anywhere between 90-110 minutes, not including halftime. There's more...

In these matches, the ball was in play for an average period of 50-55 minutes. In other words, nearly half a football game is filled with stoppages. Injuries, freekicks, throw-ins, and general messing around

Compare this with a game of tennis. An average men's singles match lasts quite as long as a football match, but the ball is in play only half as long. In the Australian Open final, where Jim Courier beat Stefan Edberg in four sets, the match lasted for as long as 2 hrs. and 25 mins. and the ball was in play for 26 mins. 39 secs. In other words, for 83 per-cent of the match, Courier and Edberg were doing things other than playing tennis. That's news.

Horse Sense

In the butt

EXCITING news from the world of horse racing. The Radcot Handicap Hurdle at Newbury in England ended amidst controversy with a full-fledged brawl between two jockeys.

Billy Morris, who turned out to be the villain of the episode was charged with head butting his counterpart, Jamie Osborne in an incident after the race. Osborne had his dentures dislodged as a result of the butting and valets had to step in, to pull the two riders apart. Morris was found guilty of improper conduct and was fined £200 by the stewards after the confrontation was reported by Oliver Sherwood, the trainer for whom Osborne rides.

Osborne seems to have a bad record of getting beaten up most of the time for no fault of his. On Scottish Grand National day in 1990, Osborne was slapped on the face in the weighing room by one Jenny Pitman. Pitman was also fine £200.

In his defence, Osborne reflected simply, "I must have the sort of face that people like to hit."

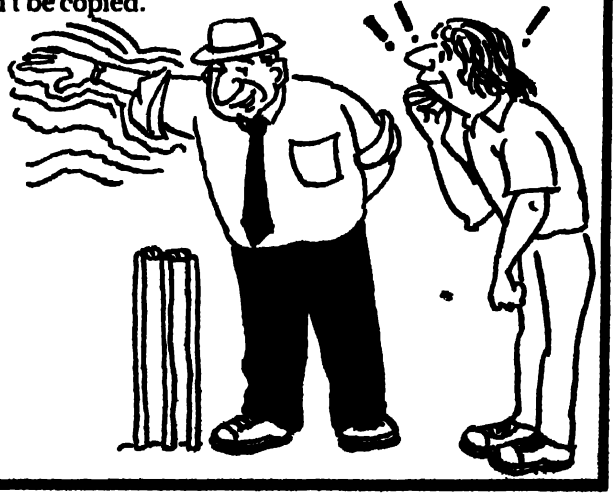
Official Habits

Stupid signals

UMPIRES and their peculiar habits have been under close inspection at the ensuing World Cup, Down Under. Each officials' idiosyncrasies have been carefully analysed and noted down.

The favourite of the Kiwis, is Khizar Hayat of Pakistan, who indicates a boundary in the most delicate of fashions, fluttering his hands like a butterfly. India's Piloo Reporter is a trifle more demonstrative, punching the air to signal his decisions. But David Shepherd seems to be the unanimous choice as winner. His stork impressions while standing at square leg just can't be copied.





Luck counts

IF India missed out on anything during this World Cup, it was luck. There were times when India looked very comfortable, and near victory, only to be brought down by defeat. In the match against Sri Lanka, a bit of luck would surely have had the match wrapped up in our favour. Losing against Australia by just one run was another instance when Lady Luck just turned her face away from us.

But it should be said at this juncture that the players are also to be blamed in this respect. Time and time again they have just crumbled under pressure when they should have stood up to the challenge. Though everything seems to be going against the Indians in this tournament, they have to really start working at their game if they are ever to surface from this depth.

MANISHANKAR GHOSH, Assam.

Why the discrepancy?

THE cover of the issue dated 26Feb-3 March showing the banner of all the nations playing in the tournament was a brilliant idea except for one error. There was a very blatant omission in that of South Africa. This World Cup will go down in history as the first major tournament in which the South Africans participated after they came back from oblivion. It was really shocking to see a magazine like *Sportsworld* commit this error. One only hopes that the mistake was unintentional because otherwise it was in very bad taste.

SABYASACHI CHATTERJEE, Calcutta.

The transparency on the cover was of a hoarding released by the tournament authorities before the last-minute inclusion of South Africa in the World Cup was finalised. Hence, there was very little we could do—Editor.

Make way, Ravi

THE time has certainly come for Shastri to opt out of the Indian team. Ravi Shastri, who at one time impressed fans all over by his mesmeric hard-hitting style of batting, has now disappointed by his very mediocre performance. He seems to have forgotten that the World Cup happens to be a tournament of one-day matches. He bats like he has all the time in the world, as though he is playing in a Test. It has been said that if



Srikkanth sizzles then India wins, but if Shastri stays India loses. Like for example in the match against England he scored only 57 runs off 112 balls. Certainly not the best way to be playing in a one-dayer

But the vice-captain has certainly not realised this fact and it seems like the captain also did not make Shastri aware of what his responsibilities are. At the same time it should be said that if Azhar is finding the role of captaincy too heavy a burden then he should step down for others. There is no point in him continuing as the captain when he cannot deliver the goods.

And lastly while Mr. Baig is in Australia he could take a few lessons from the books of the other managers present there. Mr. Baig, till now, has been the most ambiguous manager of Indian cricket that one has encountered.

M. A. RADHAKRISHNA, Bangalore.

An ode to the cup

Who will win the World Cup?
Who'll be the ones with their collars up?
Will it be the defending champions
The brave fighters—the Australians?
All the hopes of Pakistan,
Lie on Akram, Malik and Imran.
The Kiwis can come up with a win,
Only for the batting of Martin.
We'll be in for a surprise,
If the Lankans end up with the prize.
But the surprise of surprises, I say,
Will be, if the trophy goes to Zimbabwe!
But beware, the ones with a good chance,
Are the new and talented South Africans
If God is really an Englishman,
Then no team can come near this one.
Hey, what about the Windies?
Who used to win with such ease
And now, what about India,
Can they repeat the performance of that year ('83)?
If the motto of the Indians is to win,
They'll have to depend on Kaps,
Krish and Sachin.
But for a man called Shastri,
We might never see the face of victory.

RAAKHEE MUKHERJEE, Calcutta

Give us a break

THE poster of Monica Seles that accompanied the issue dated 5 Feb-11 Feb was really disappointing. It once again had a shot of a playing Seles and hence she looked all worked up, and her face was contorted. It would certainly be appreciated if you could give us posters of sportsmen that are offbeat in nature and when they are not playing their respective sports.

M. ZAMAN, Bangladesh.

Hope you liked the photo feature on Seles in the issue dated 4-10 March—Editor.



Eat what your body really needs and not what your mind craves for!

HOW TO

THE question of how often to eat —and what to eat—is perhaps the most perplexing for fitness enthusiasts Since the main motto of people into fitness is to preserve their figures and in some cases even make them better, the right food at the right time is all important

Actually it's not so intriguing as some people think it is It all depends on your caloric needs, your metabolism and your personal needs If you are ever in doubt as to when you should eat, eat when you are feeling hungry And enjoy your food instinctively Eat what your body craves for, and not what your mind craves for Common sense tells us that the foods to avoid on a regular basis are processed foods and junk foods French fries, potato chips, cold drinks, butter, and double cheeseburgers are all very appetising, but they do not contribute to any long-term health advantages

It is true that in today's world one cannot set aside fixed times and fixed diets to adhere to, because the man of today is always on the move much more than his earlier counterparts. But there are certain guidelines—and they are broad enough to allow some discrepancies to set in—that people should follow.

Another grave mistake that dieters commit is starving for six days of the week and then pigging out on the seventh Not only is this bad, it also nullifies the dieting that was done during the week True it is very difficult to resist the temptation very often, but the secret is to allow yourself a meal once in a while that is outside the strict dieting regimen you have set for yourself However, eat only till you are full, and not till you explode

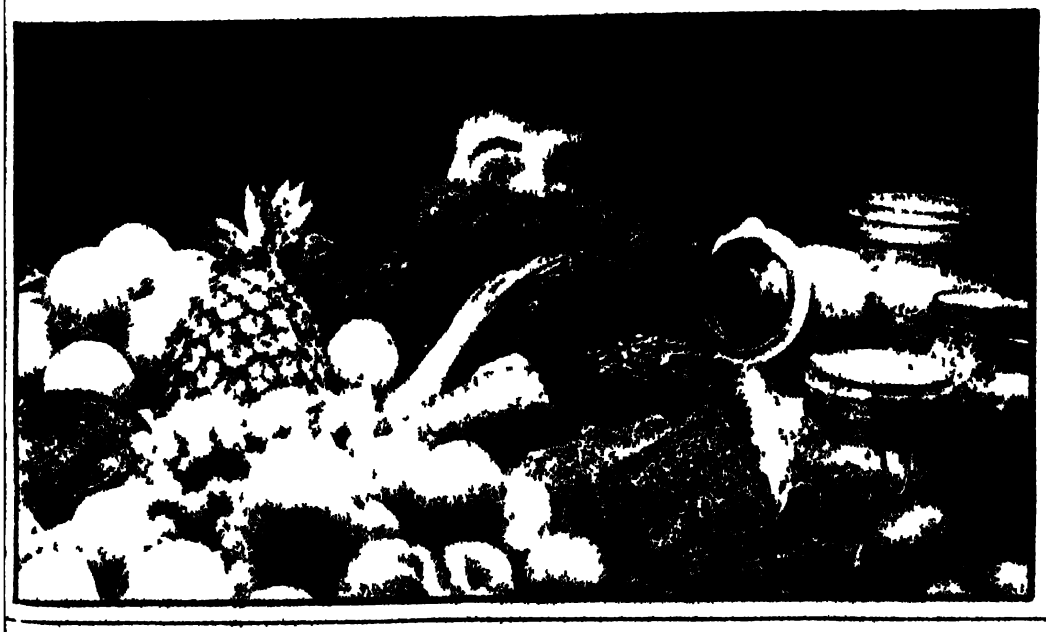
Regarding junk foods also, there are times when nothing else is available and you have to settle for them. What you have to be specially careful about when you are having these is to look out for salt, sugar

and fats Cut down on salts and table sugar Fruits and vegetables contain enough salts and sugar (enough at least to meet your needs) And never forget that fats makes one fat and that is one thing an athlete can do without When you are eating out in restaurants (and that s become a very common phenomenon) ask firmly but politely that the food be cooked as you want it Ask them to reduce the sugar salt and fat content in the foods After all you are the one paying for it and there s no point in paying for trouble is there? If the restaurant cannot adapt to your needs then find yourself a better eating place Many executives and salesmen complain of this common occurrence When this happens get your food cooked and packed at home as far as possible

Do we hear you asking 'but where's the time for all this? For starters, let's take a look at how an average executive who is a bit health conscious eats He skimps on breakfast because he hasn t allowed himself enough time for it At the best of times he has a couple of slices of bread and glugs down a glass of coffee Lunch usually consists of a thickly buttered sandwich or other snacks containing once again an overdose of fat and sugar This then is all washed down by a soft drink or two Dinner is the one meal of the day that one eats at his own will and when one eats the most

Then after dinner one usually heads straight for the bed and the extra food that you ve packed in is laying extra stress on the digestive system Imagine how much better and beneficial it would be for the body if you took several balanced meals all through the day Most nutritionists opine that having about four or five balanced meals in the day is the best way to keep the calories in check

LOOK GOOD.... AND FEEL GREAT



The Health Column

Talk calories and the first thought that comes to mind is dieting If you are dieting you don t have to keep check of every single calorie that you put into the system But at the same time you should have enough knowledge about calories so that you know roughly how much you are injecting into the body To shed excess weight calorie consumption should be reduced while keeping protein carbs and fats in the same proportion Eat clean food only No calorie dense nutritionless foods like chocolate butter ice cream, cookies, candies or sweet desserts

And lastly, always keep the objectives of dieting very clear in your mind good health, added fitness clearer skin and a body that gets noticed That should make all the self denial worthwhile! ●

Remember that the right foods, at the right time,is the only secret to fitness and a great body

CRICKET OVERLOAD

WILLS BOOK OF EXCELLENCE ONE-DAY CRICKET BY Ayaz Memon Published by Orient Longman Price Rs 250

It's all here not just in black and white in vivid colour too This book charts the tumultuous progress of the one day game from its days of confused infancy to the high it enjoys right now And for a self confessed one day cricket basher I once did a think piece on the edit page of a newspaper in consonance with this destructive righteousness (against the limited overs version of the great game of cricket) he writes in the prologue—Ayaz Memon has definitely altered his stance

Nevertheless one has to commend ITC on their timing Their foresight to ride the World Cup wave—of course so has everyone else—will make sure that even the glut of sport in the media will not dissuade potential customers And if you're one of those cricket enthusiasts who appreciates the necessity of change then you're going to love the chapter on Packer In keeping with the revolutionary attitude of the game there's also a chapter on the new generation people who are just making their mark

As usual a great package like the rest of the Wills books

ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL CRICKET RECORDS by Arun Arnaw Published by Pustak Mahal Price 24

'ONE DAY International Cricket Records is a commendable effort because there is still a dearth of good statistical books in India and this one is more than worth its price Arun Arnaw has already made his name in compiling several statistical books including other sports too

After giving a brief history of the important competitions including the previous World Cups the author has done well to provide tables giving year wise performance of teams in Prudential/Texaco Trophy (in England) World Series Cup (in Australia) Wills/Charminar Series in India all Sharjah tournaments and previous World Cups This is followed by a very exhaustive and most useful series wise and match by match description of the details (strangely except tosses) of the 678 one day internationals played upto the end of the Texaco Trophy matches in England in 1991

No statistical book of this proportion can perhaps be error free and it seems some inadvertent discrepancies have inevitably crept in the most glaring of which apart from several spelling mistakes is the confusing and wrong figure of 394 on the back cover which is different from 678 the number of actual matches covered in the book

WORLD CUP CRICKET by Ravi Chaturvedi Published by Tarang Paperbacks Price Rs 75

World Cup Cricket is renowned TV commentator Ravi Chaturvedi's fourth book which has encapsuled all that happened in the four previous World Cup competitions The price is reasonable and the reading material plentiful There is a short history on the origins of the one day game and the World Cup But the bulk of the 200 page book contains detailed scoreboards and succinct one page commentaries on each and every match in the four World Cup competitions held so far

It is an ideal book for both the lay man and expert involved in covering and watching the World Cup Down Under and in New Zealand Gamblers who examine previous records before deciding on their stakes have made a beeline for this book as well For the statistically minded there are pages of copious statistics But overall the style is pithy and readable

Novy Kapadia



DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL BOOK OF CRICKETING CONTROVERSIES Researched by Ravi Kant Srivastava Published by Ritam Publications Price Rs 50

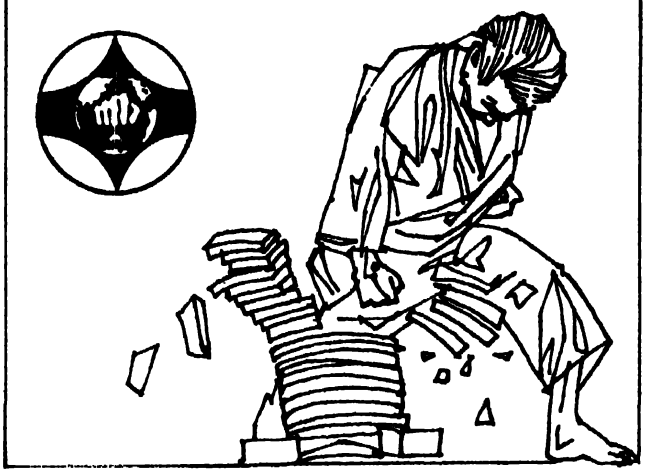
YET another of the World Cup crop this book is an interesting collection of the controversial episodes that have punctuated cricket's path The Jackman deporting, the Vaseline incident the underarm ball Gatting-Shakoor Rana showdown the aluminium bat it's all there

Very offbeat very well compartmentalised, this book is definitely a good read for those of you who follow the game with a ferocity If you're trying to pick up the rudiments of the game though, you had better leave this book for later.



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



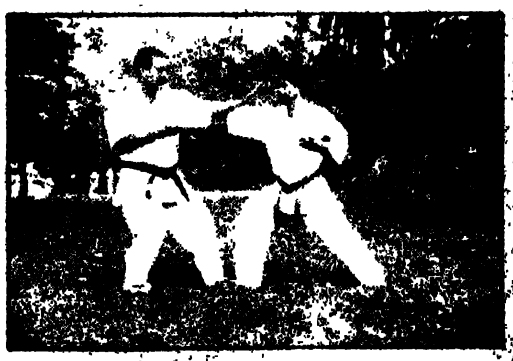
THIS week we're moving onto yet another self-defence technique, this time using the *mawashi-uki* block from *kokutsu-dachi*.

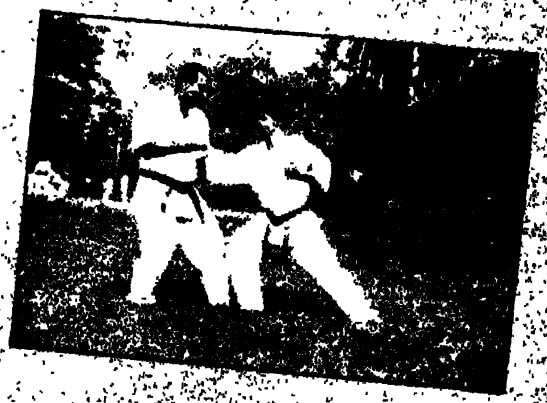
Lean back, going into *kokutsu-dachi*, and block the punch thrown at you. Then pulling him towards you by his outstretched arm, deliver a punch to the chin.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushankaikan Karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA









Go into kokutsu-dachi and block the punch with a mawashi-uki block (insets). Then pull him towards you and deliver a punch to the chin

NEW DELHI

Inter-University Women's Judo

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY (GNDU) Amritsar regained the overall title in the 5th edition of the All India Inter University Women's Judo Championship Earlier they had won the title in 1989-90 at Kurukshetra

GNDU captured the overall title with 14 points with one gold two silver and three bronze medals As many as 103 Judokas from 21 universities took part in the four-day meet

Defending champions and hosts the University of Delhi came second with 13 points having won two gold and three silver medals while Punjab University Patiala were third with 12 points from one gold two silvers and one bronze medal

Neelam Dalal of Delhi University extended her reign in the below 52 Kg category winning it for the second year running Neelam knocked out her opponent Bharti Dogra of Punjab University

In the below 56 Kg category last year's winner Tini Tare representing Barkatullah University, Bhopal retained the gold with the bout being conceded by Sharambir Kaur of Punjabi University, who sustained an elbow fracture in the final

Delhi University's Ajit Kaur in her inter university debut defeated Mamta Rani of Punjabi University in the below 44 Kg category In a well contested open weight category bout on the concluding day, Navneet, an undergraduate fourth year student representing GNDU Jalandhar, defeated Ravinder of Punjab University, Chandigarh

The tournament was inaugurated by Dr G S. Sivia, Jt Secretary, Association of Indian Universities, while Jagdish Tytler, Minister of Surface and Transport gave away the prizes

Santosh Kumar Lau



Ajit Kaur of Delhi University was triumphant in the below 44 Kg. weight category

PSCB Hockey

BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION LTD emerged winners for the second year in succession when they beat Oil and Natural Gas Commission 7-6 via the tie-breaker in an evenly contested final in the 10th PSCB Inter Unit Hockey Tournament held recently at the Shivaji Stadium K P Mohan scored twice for Bharat Petroleum while Mohd Nasir and Kailash Chand equalised for ONGC With both sides evenly matched at full time (2-2) extra time was enforced, but this also failed to produce any score Eventually the tie-breaker had to decide the winners and this is where BPCL clinched the issue

For BPCL Ajit Singh, Ashwinder Singh, S Jheelani, Ravi Nayyakar and A Verman all scored. While for ONGC R Chauhan, V.K. Singh, Md Nasir and R Singh converted while R K Mishra failed to find the mark Earlier in the semi-finals, Bharat Petroleum had trounced EIL 5-0, while in the other semi final, ONGC prevailed over Hindustan Petroleum 4-0. This year's tournament was organised by Engineers India Limited.

Rudolph Vance

CALCUTTA

Inter-government college athletics

HOOGHLY MOHSIN COLLEGE finished team champions in the third inter-government college athletics meet held at the Netaji Subhas Sports Authority of India complex Salt Lake Two hundred students including 58 women from 17 colleges took part in the two-day affair

Mohsin College dominated both the men's and women's events While the men's team scored 48 points to clinch the team title their women scored 13 to finish at the top

The individual titles were shared by Ismatara Ali of A B N Seal College and Subhankar Dey of Hooghly Mohsin

Sovan Baskey of Hooghly finished as the fastest man of the meet blazing the 100m cinder track in an impressive 11 5 seconds On the distaff side Krishna Das completed a sprint double for Hooghly Mohsin when she won the 100m gold with a timing of 13 9 seconds and the 200m clocking 29 seconds

Ideally Das should have finished best in the women's individual section, but Istamara's better showing in the field events made the overall difference Istamara's best wins were the javelin gold and silver in the discus and shot put She accumulated 11 points in all

Subhankar Dey shone in the long-distance races He won the 400m gold with a timing of 54 7 secs and the 800m gold clocking 2 mins 5 7 secs, which was a new meet record. His third gold came in the 1,500 metres

On the opening day of the meet, there were as many as three meet records. This speaks eloquently of the fact that the annual affair is being taken seriously by the college students.

Subhankar Bhadra of Hooghly Mohsin high-jumped 1.79 metres, Sovan Baskey broad jumped 6.42 metres and Biswanath Adhikari of

Chandannagore threw the discus as far as 32.46 metres to set up the new meet marks of the competition.

Dr Mohit Bhattacharya, the Vice Chancellor of Burdwan University, presided as the chief guest on the final day.

Soumitra Bose

Sports journalists' workshop

A workshop for sports journalism was held after many years in early March. It was jointly organised by the Calcutta Sports Journalists' Club (CSJC) and *Aajkaal*, a leading vernacular daily of the city.

The idea of a workshop was mooted in 1991 to discuss the problems dogging scribes and steps taken to improve on various fields of reporting. The workshop had also decided to include students of sports journalism and practicing journalists from the districts, to educate them with first-hand knowledge from full-time and professional men in the field.

The CSJC-*Aajkaal* workshop attracted as many as 65 participants. For starters, the response can be termed overwhelming. The meet was dedicated to the late Mukul Datta, who is considered by many to be the father of modern journalism.

Eminent sports scribes and radio broadcaster, Ajoy Bose compered the day's proceedings in his own fluid style. Among the many speakers who were present on the occasion were Mr Ashok Dasgupta, the editor of *Aajkaal*, veteran journalist, Mr Shyam Sundar Ghosh of *The Statesman*.

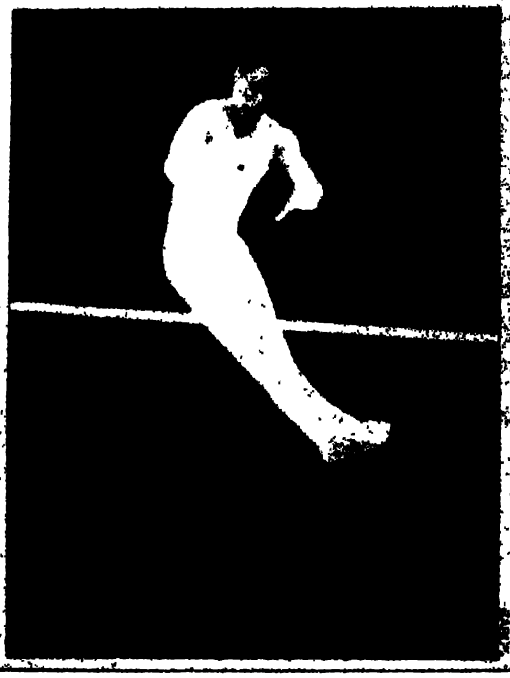
Mr Ashok Kamath of *The Telegraph*, Mr Manik Banerjee and Mr Syed Ahmed Khan of the news agencies, UNI and PTI, respectively. They covered a wide range of subjects in their speeches including page-making and choice and placing of news articles.

But one of the day's most interesting speeches was given by Dr Pallab Basumallick, who is also famous as a television

NEW DELHI



New Delhi played host to the Fifth Asian Junior Gymnastic Championships recently. The competition saw a vast number of participants from in and around South East Asia and India's neighbouring countries. Though the Indian challenge faded rather early, the meet saw some fantastic performances by the Chinese and the two Koreas. Above: Kang Sun Yang (DPRK) in action in the balance beam. Sun Yang secured a silver for her efforts scoring 9.57 points. Below: Jo Sung He of Korea exercising on the horizontal bar. He later on went to share the gold medal with Yuan Hongxing of China. Both scored 9.65 points





The journalists' workshop organised by the CSJC in progress. Several luminaries of Calcutta journalism imparted valuable tips to beginners in the trade covering a large number of topics

commentator.

Dr Basumallick, who spoke on the role of sports medicine, highlighted the fact that journalists should know some basics about sports medicine to make their reports more factual and interesting.

He cited the advancement of sports medicine in first world countries like Germany and the United States, and while doing so, informed us that one of the factors for Germany's success in the Italia '90 was the fact that it was the only team which never suffered from stomach ailments during the entire period of the event. This he said, was due to sports medicine and bio-medicine research which the German experts did for almost four years before their football squad landed in Italy.

Dr Basumallick also spoke of psychological training in order to bring the best out of sportsmen. He said that tests, in the United States have shown that Leander Paes' 'killer instinct' are actually a few notches higher than that of John McEnroe. The doctor also answered a wide range of questions from the participants.

All participants were awarded certificates at the end of the seminar.

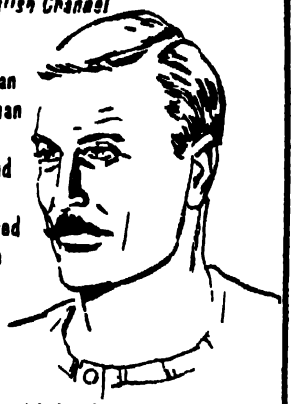
Soumitra Bose

SPORT SHORTS

by Fred Hull

MATHEW WEBB

The first man to swim the English Channel



On August 25th, 1875 an Englishman Capt Mathew Webb was the first man to swim across the English Channel His incredible feat took 21 hours and 45 minutes This was such an impossible swim that 36 years passed before another swimmer crossed the 20 mile channel!

Ironically, the world fame Webb gained led to his tragic end while touring the United States he decided to perform another fantastic feat- be the first man ever to swim Niagara Falls That was to be his last bid for fame. The notorious Niagara rapids won, Webb drowned!

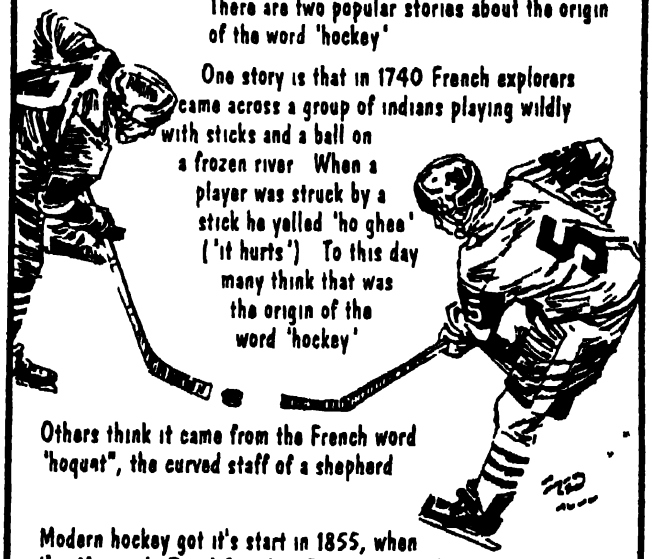


THE ORIGINS OF ICE HOCKEY

Field hockey can be traced back to 2,000 B C. in Persia Ice hockey is a newcomer, originating in Canada in the last century

There are two popular stories about the origin of the word 'hockey'

One story is that in 1740 French explorers came across a group of indians playing wildly with sticks and a ball on a frozen river When a player was struck by a stick he yelled 'ho ghee' ('it hurts') To this day many think that was the origin of the word 'hockey'

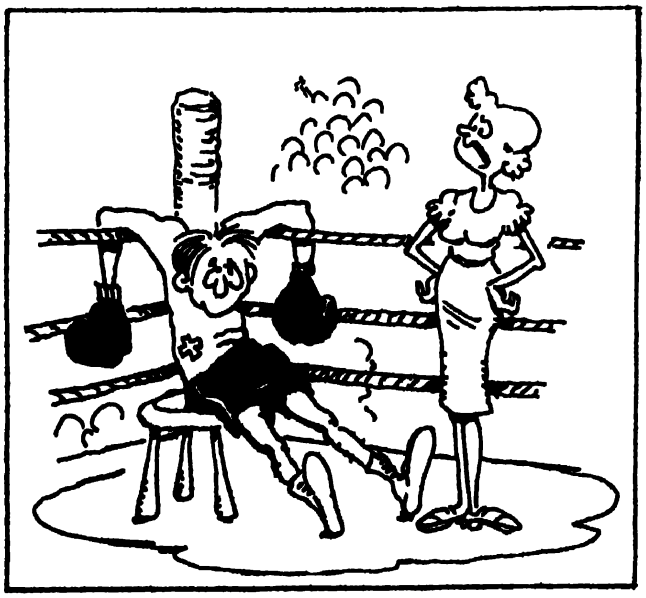


Others think it came from the French word 'hoquet", the curved staff of a shepherd

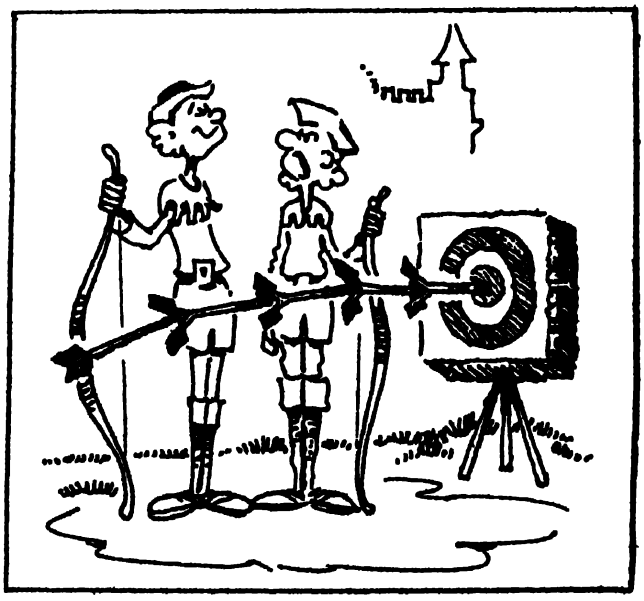
Modern hockey got it's start in 1855, when Her Majesty's Royal Canadian Rifles played their first hockey game on ice near their barracks in Kingston Ice Hockey was an outgrowth of a game which soldiers called "shinny' a field hockey game that had been played since the 1830's

Be a Sport

by Jim Jones



"I'm sick of sitting at home while you're out at nights."



"O.K...O.K...It's a tie!"

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

ON **Mar 18, 1982** Anna Malekhova of USSR set a world record in air rifle shooting for women by collecting 395 out of 400 points at The Hague Netherlands

SETTING a world record in fishing M Salazar caught a tarpan weighing 28 3 lb (128 36 kg) at Lake Maracaibo Venezuela on **Mar 19, 1956.**

LIJIANG world gymnastics champion and winner of a gold medal and three bronze medals at the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988 was born on **Mar 20, 1970** in China

WHEN he flew 2 004 km in his aircraft Voisin at Issy les Moulineaux France on **Mar 21, 1908,** Henry Farman became the first man to fly more than two kms in an aeroplane

RAJASTHAN retained the National Cycle Polo Championship title by defeating Punjab in the final in New Delhi on **Mar 22, 1982.**

IN a free style wrestling championship bout between Dara Singh and Majid Akra on **Mar 23, 1968,** at Bombay Dara Singh emerged the victor

IN a welterweight boxing championship match held in New York on **Mar 24, 1962** contender Emile Griffith knocked champion Benny Paret senseless who died 10 days later

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

CHOSEN: National table tennis champion Kamlesh Mehta Chetan Baboor and Niyati Shah as the table tennis team to represent India in the Barcelona Olympics
TO TOUR: South Africa the West Indies next month to play their first Test match after they were readmitted into the mainstream of international cricket
REINSTATED: South Africa by the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) which now clears their way for participation in the Barcelona Olympics.
WON: By Monica Seles the $350 000 Evert Cup women's tennis tournament She defeated Conchita Martinez of Spain 6-3, 6 1 in the final played at Indian Wells This was Seles' 23rd career win

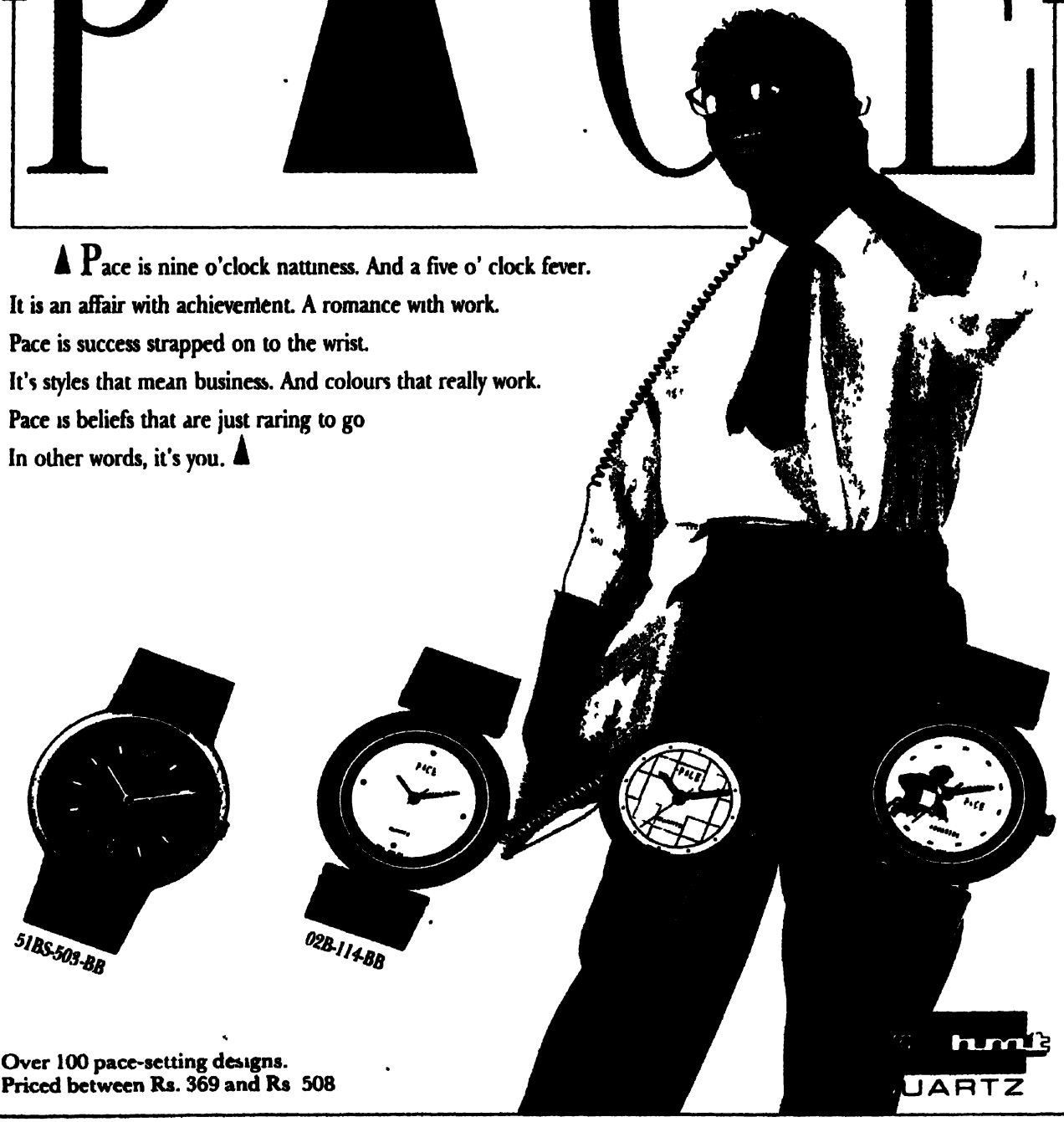


Anita Nall celebrates her new world record in the 200 m breaststroke with Jill Johnson at the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials

WON: By South Korea the 16th Asian Boxing Championship held in Bangkok They led the tally with six gold medals India finished with two bronzes and India's Dharmendra Singh Yadav was voted the most promising boxer of the championship.
WON: By Michael Chang the Champions Cup tennis tournament. He defeated Andrei Chesnokov of Russia 6-3, 6-4, 7-5 in the final.
WON: By Steffi Graf the Virginia Slims of Florida tennis tournament. She defeated Conchita Martinez in the final
RECORD SET: By Anita Nall in the 200m breaststroke event at the U.S. Olympic Swimming Trials in Indianapolis Nall broke her previous world record with a timing of 2.25.35

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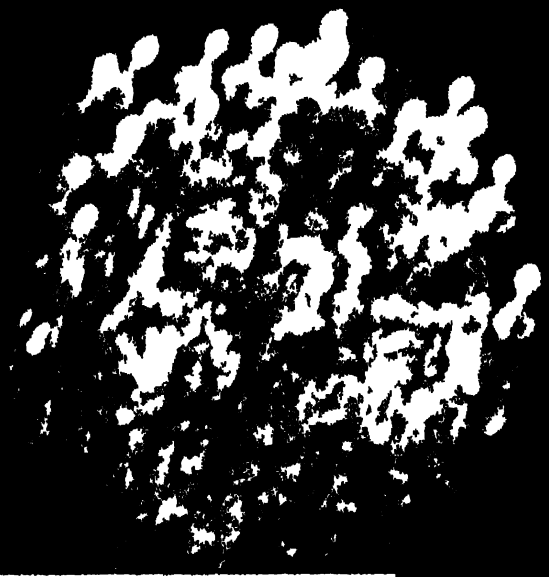
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TENNIS



FRANCE's all-time won-lost record against the United States in Davis Cup finals: 6-3.

NUMBER of matches that Brad Gilbert won in Grand Slam tournaments in 1989 when he was ranked No. 6 in the world: 0.

THE most favourite athlete by a wide margin in *KidSports* magazine's 1991 readers' poll in the "other sports" (other than basketball, baseball and football) category: Andre Agassi.

THE player whom all-time great Bill Tilden called "the most fascinating figure in tennis" in the mid-1930s: Baron Gottfried von Cramm.

NUMBER of top 10 ranked players that John McEnroe beat in 1991: 0.



TRIVIA



TWO heroes of Mark McCormack, the founder and CEO of International Management Group and one of the sports world's most powerful people: Bjorn Borg and Paul McCartney.

ONLY men's player to finish 1991 ranked in the top 15 in the world in singles and doubles: Emilio Sanchez.

TITLE of 1957-58 Wimbledon and U.S. champion Althea Gibson's autobiography: "I Always Wanted to be Somebody."

STAR player who was almost thrown out of his own tournament in Florida in 1982 for obscene language and gestures, arguing line calls and smashing his racket: Ilie Nastase.

PRESIDENT George Bush's sports heroes: Lou Gehrig, Babe Ruth, Don Budge and Gene Mako, the doubles team.

NUMBER of donation requests David Wheaton received in a two-week period while at his Minnesota home after returning from winning the $2 million top prize at the Grand Slam Cup: 50.

NUMBER of men's players who earned more than $ 100,000 in tournament prize money in 1984: 43.

NUMBER of men's players who earned more than $ 100,000 in tournament prize money in 1991: 140.

Compiled by Paul Fein

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

Hefty paychecks

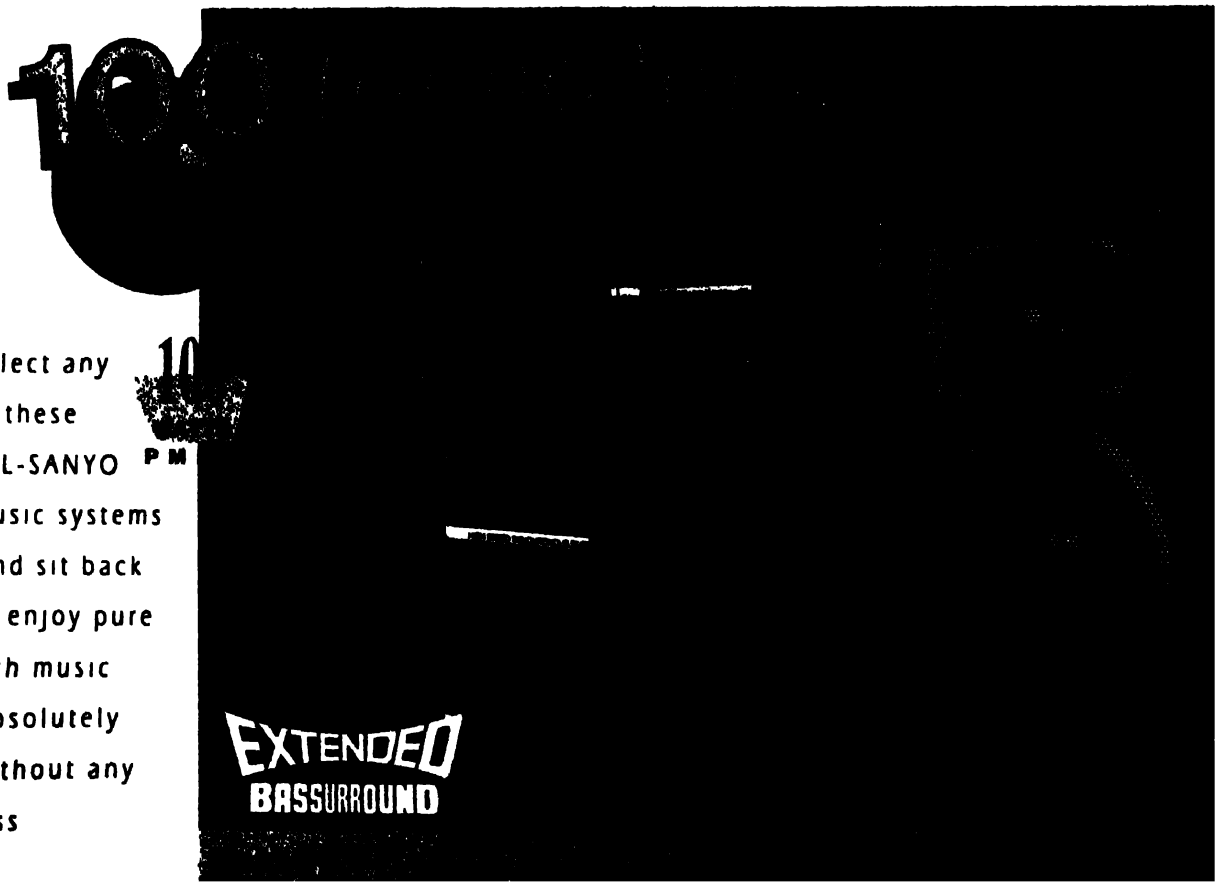
JENNIFER CAPRIATI may have set her sights on winning a Grand Slam title in 1992, but the same couldn't be said for her when she strove to get her driving license. Capriati failed to get the license but bagged her first pair of eyeglasses instead, after failing a vision test for her drivers' permit.

"I always knew that I needed glasses, but no one would believe me," she confessed. "I could see the ball okay when playing a game, but I couldn't see the other players' face."

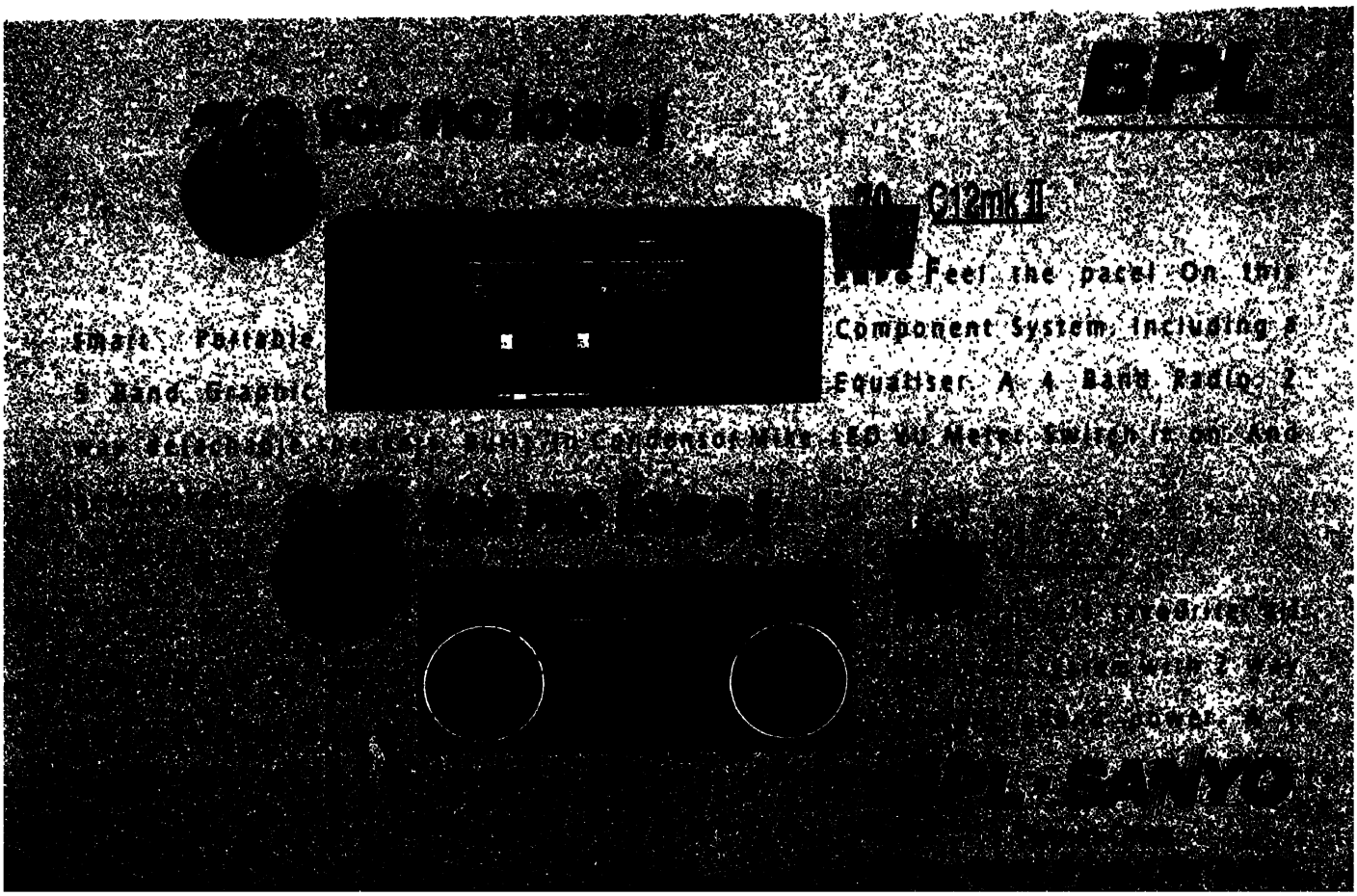
How come the failing eyesight some people may ask. The reason could be attributed to the bulging of eyeballs at the sight of very heavy paychecks, at such a tender age.



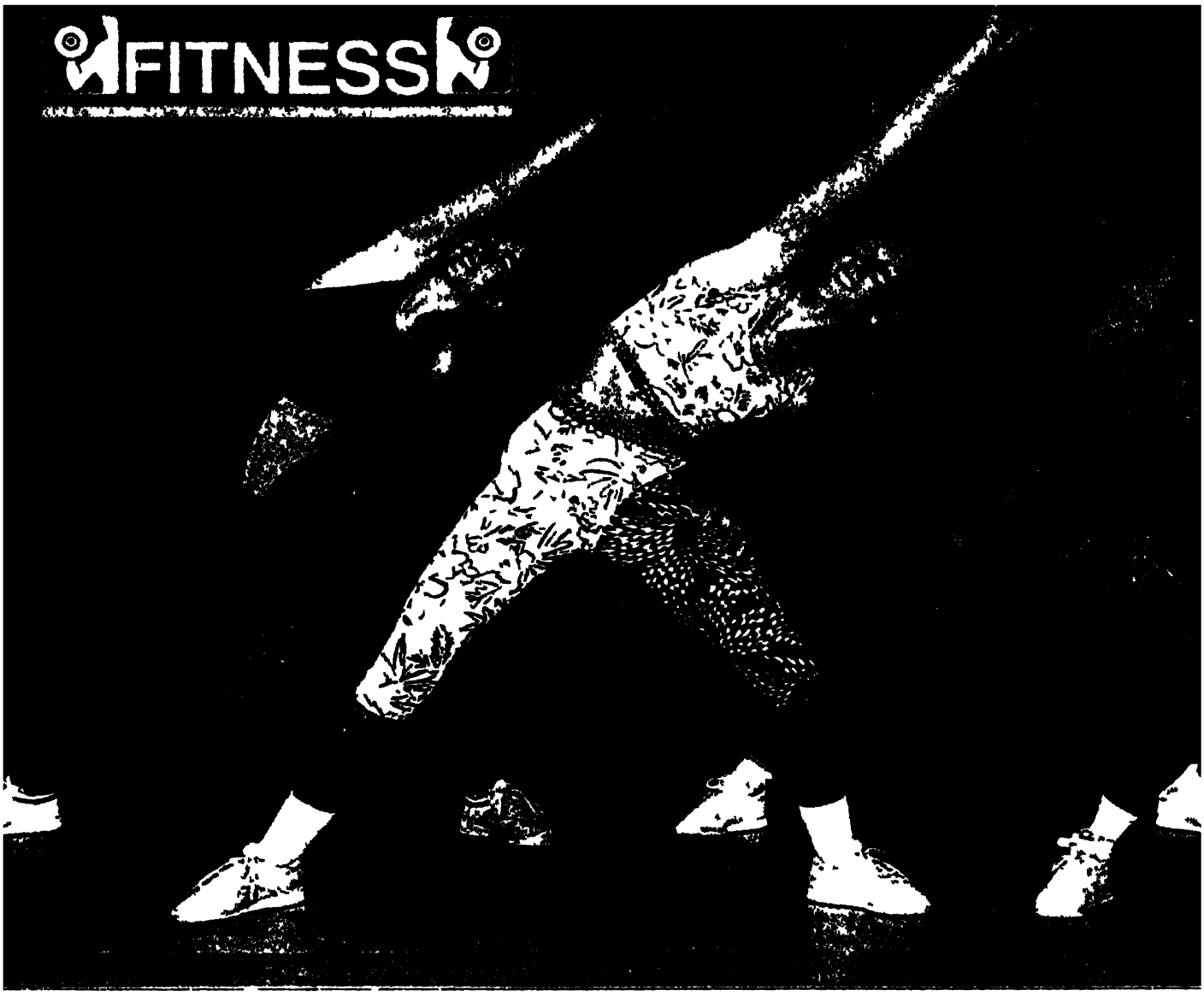
Jennifer Capriati: setting her sights on a drivers' license






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FITNESS

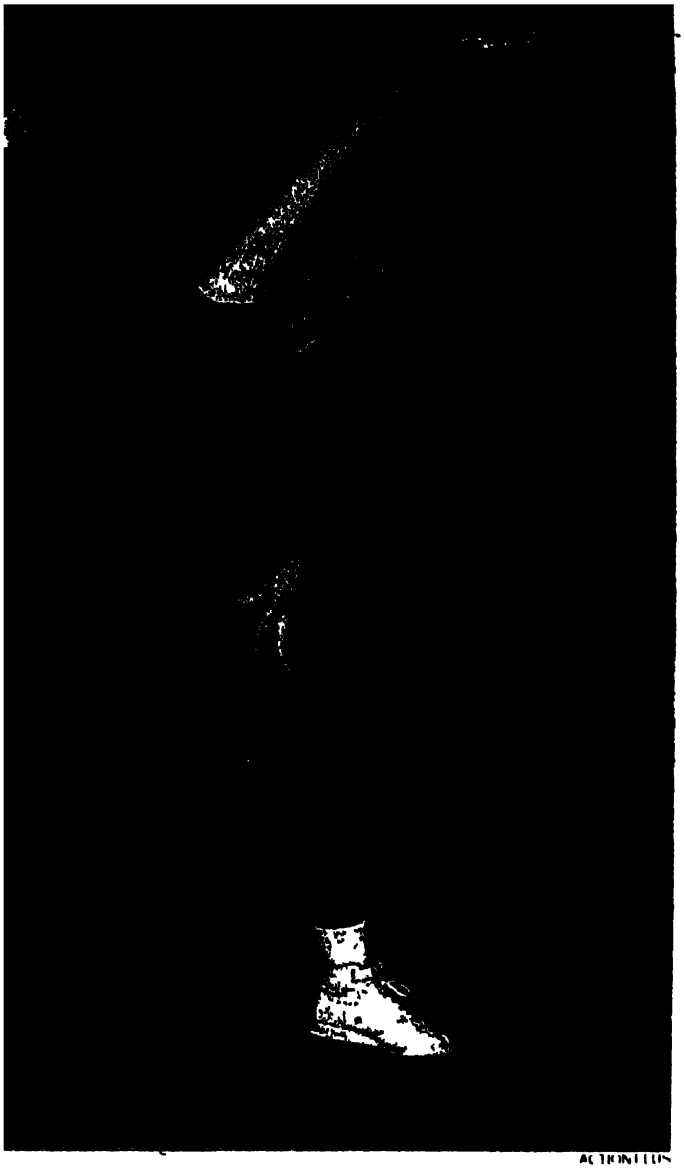


AEROBICS + WEIGHTS = PERFECTION

THIS is the final part of Cory Everson's article on women and weight-training. Like she's said earlier, don't get put off by the thought of ugly bulging muscles. If you do things in proportion, you'll be surprised at the body you'll build for yourself. Here goes:

Like other body-builders, I've found that intensity is the key to adding muscular size. But experience has shown that *moderate repetitions* work best for adding size. I prefer to never do fewer than 10 reps in any exercise. In some exercises, such as leg curls and leg extensions, I'll often do extended sets, in which the reps can go as high as 20-30.

I'll also avoid techniques such as forced reps, where a training partner helps me push past the point of failure; and negative reps, where you do the lowering portion of an exercise with unusually heavy weights. I believe these methods have value for men, but often lead to over-training and injuries in women. The reason relates to a woman's smaller joint structure, which is more vulnerable to intensity-inducing



techniques.

I work to create an illusion of size. One way to do this is by reducing bodyfat while maintaining muscle size. A cut body always looks bigger onstage than it really is. This is where the illusion comes in. People are often surprised to notice that I'm not as big as they expected me to be in person.

You also create a size illusion through selective choice of exercises. For example, in training my thighs I'm careful not to do too many leg extensions. Overdoing this exercise builds size in the knee area. By keeping this area small, I make my upper thighs look much larger than they really are. Again, illusion.

Can you lose fat and build muscle mass simultaneously? I believe you can. The key is proper nutrition. You must ingest enough calories to maintain a positive nitrogen balance to prevent muscle catabolism, or size loss. But you must be discerning in your choice of calories. Not all calories are the same.

In practice, this means emphasising low-fat sources of high-quality protein. Such foods include egg whites, chicken, turkey and fish. To maximise nutrient absorption, divide your food intake into small portions and eat more frequently. Try to eat 4-6 small meals daily about every three hours. Studies show that eating smaller meals more often allows you to increase your caloric intake with less chance of getting fat.

To provide the energy you need for intense training, your diet should emphasise complex carbohydrates. These are high-fiber sources of natural carbohydrates such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains. For gaining size, try to get about 4 grams of carbohydrate for every kilogram (2.2 pounds) of bodyweight. This will make your carb intake about 65-70% of your total daily calories.

Limit fats as much as possible. This is especially important for women, because the more fat you consume, the higher your estrogen levels. Estrogen stimulates fat buildup, especially in the lower body. High-fiber foods help the body excrete estrogen, which is another reason such foods should be a major part of your diet.

Although aerobic exercise is great for losing fat, women interested in gaining muscular size shouldn't overdo aerobics.

Training in the manner I've described will forever delete the cliche 'The Weaker Sex' from your vocabulary." ●



freewheeling

...es between ...and Pakistan are ...own in some fixtures ...'Curry Cup' matches, ...and tradition has it, that ...they can be as hot and ...spicy as the dish that ...lends its name to the ...Cup.

Imran Khan went out of his way to get fit for the grudge match against India. That he took the help of the Indian team physio, Dr. Ali Irani to be ready for the match ... provided ... sensational headlines in some tabloids of the Eastern world.

But the Western world—in cricket terms that is England and Australia—are involved in a battle of their own. Burdened with an economic crisis and growing criticism, Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating chose the Queen's visit—incidentally she is the head of the Australian state—to divert attention from economics to ...

Botham ... [illegible]

... that they were ... [illegible] ... overtime by boldly placing his arm around the Royal waist, with Mrs. Keating looking ... about to faint by failing to bow to the Queen as ... does ... at ... occasions. While the Royal visit was over Keating continued his Pommie bashing, saying that Britain had no place in Australian lives because the mother country had let Australia down during the World War II. He claimed that England had failed in defending Singapore, which fell to the Japanese, and that ... Australia ... [illegible] ... managed to save Darwin in the north.

What, you might ask, has this bit of politics and history got to do with the World Cup?

Everything. In the midst of all this controversy, it so happened that England met Australia at the SCG where Australia's flannelled fools, clad in canary yellow, were present to prove the Aussie case. There had even been a suggestion that a nation's political independence be ... [illegible]

... [illegible] ... who married ... [illegible] ... Ian Botham who ... remarked, even before Keating broke to the ... country that the ... [illegible] ... $100,000 ... [illegible] ... the World Cup final at the MCG in 1992, his greatest cause a few weeks earlier, before 40,000 of them. And even before the first ... [illegible] ... the Queen ... [illegible] ... Diana ... [illegible] ... support ... [illegible] ... Australia. What ... the country ...

... [illegible] ... Australians ... [illegible] ... barbecues were sitting in the cheap seats. But there were no noisy Pommies at the SCG ... that it wasn't a laughing matter when it seemed somewhat clear that, owing to the state of the Australian economy only the visiting Poms could afford tickets.

Australians waved their flags with it's Union Jacks—that symbol of historical supremacy—in their left hand while ...



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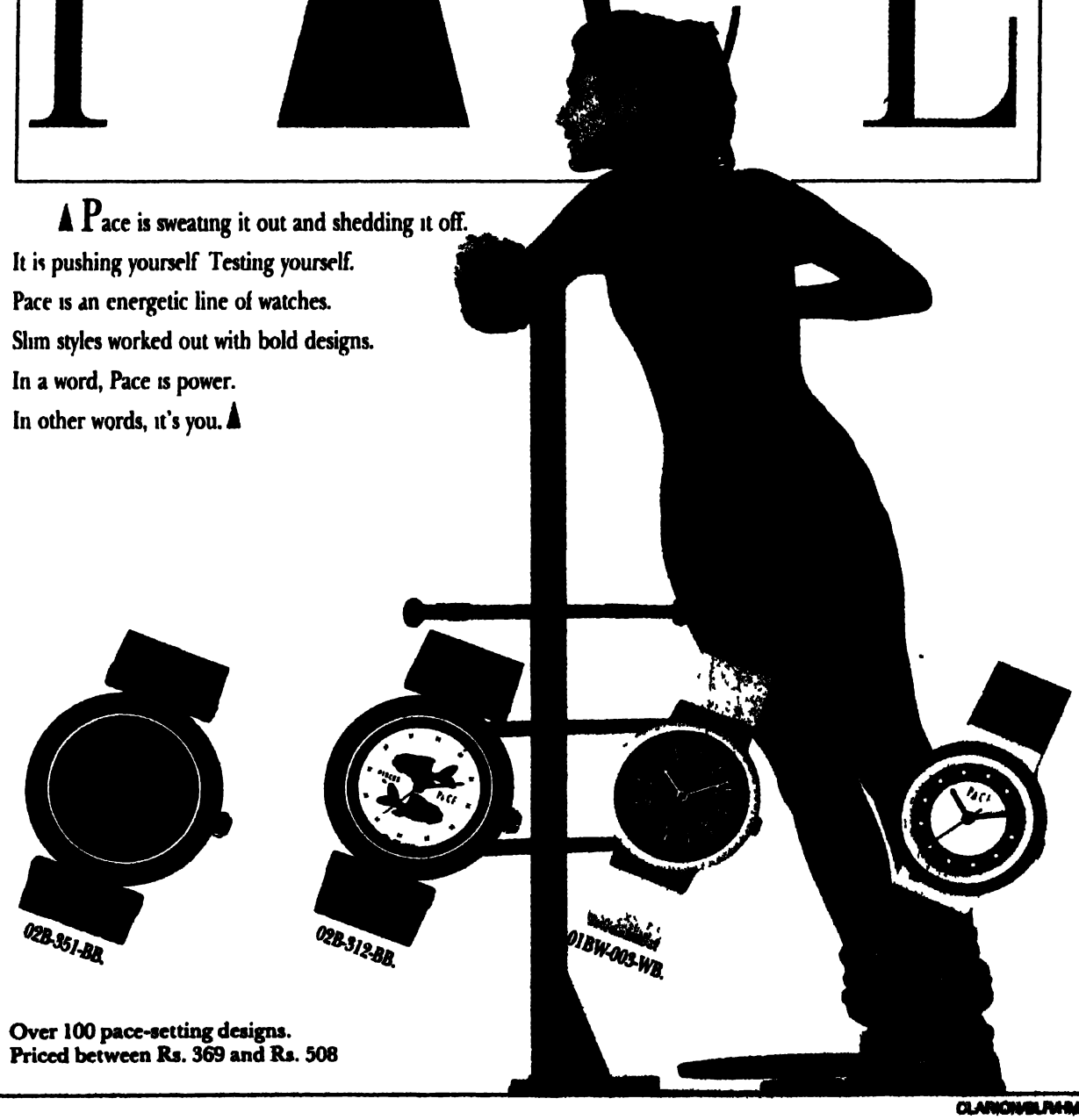
Gotta see who'll rule the world



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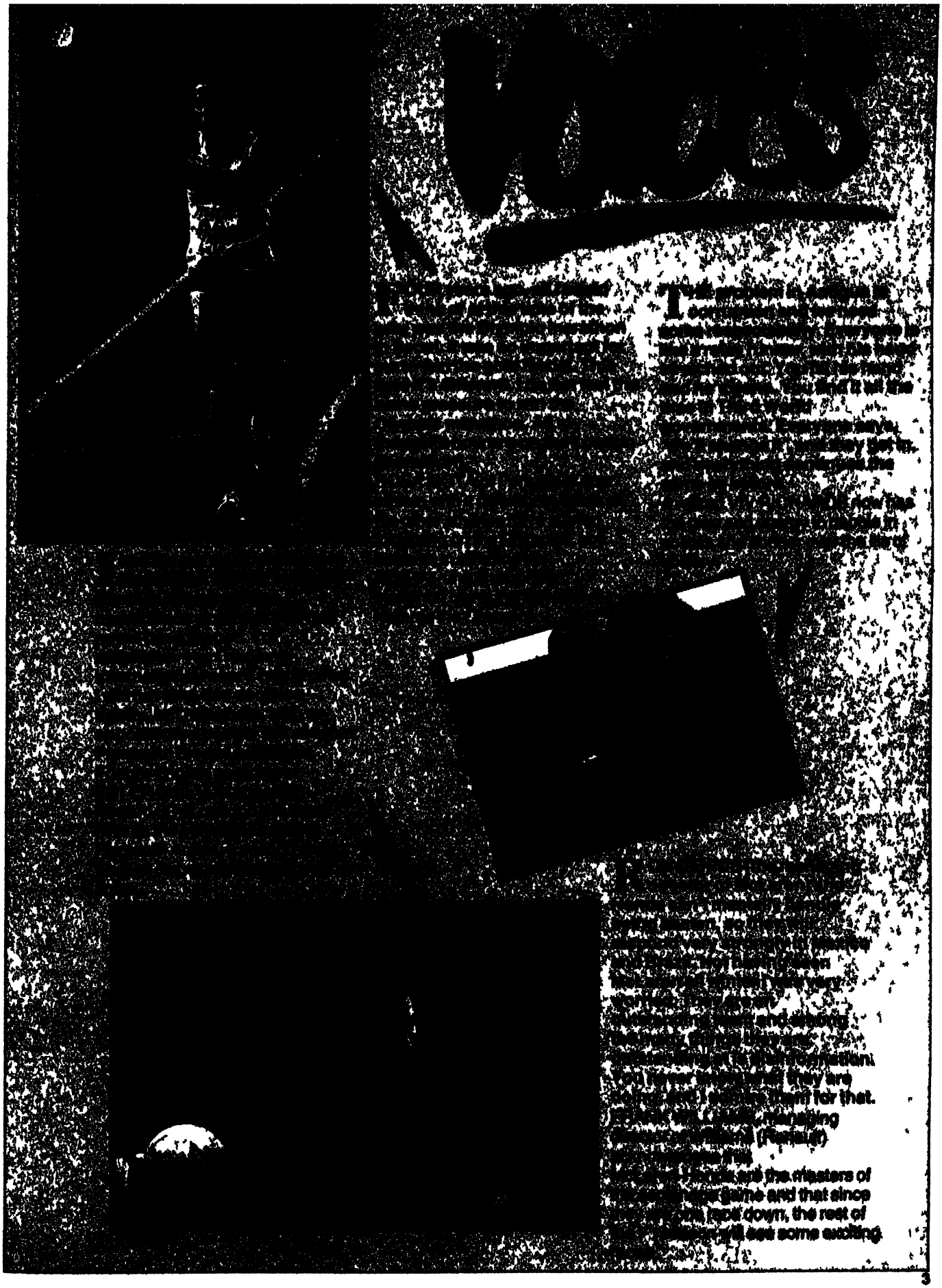
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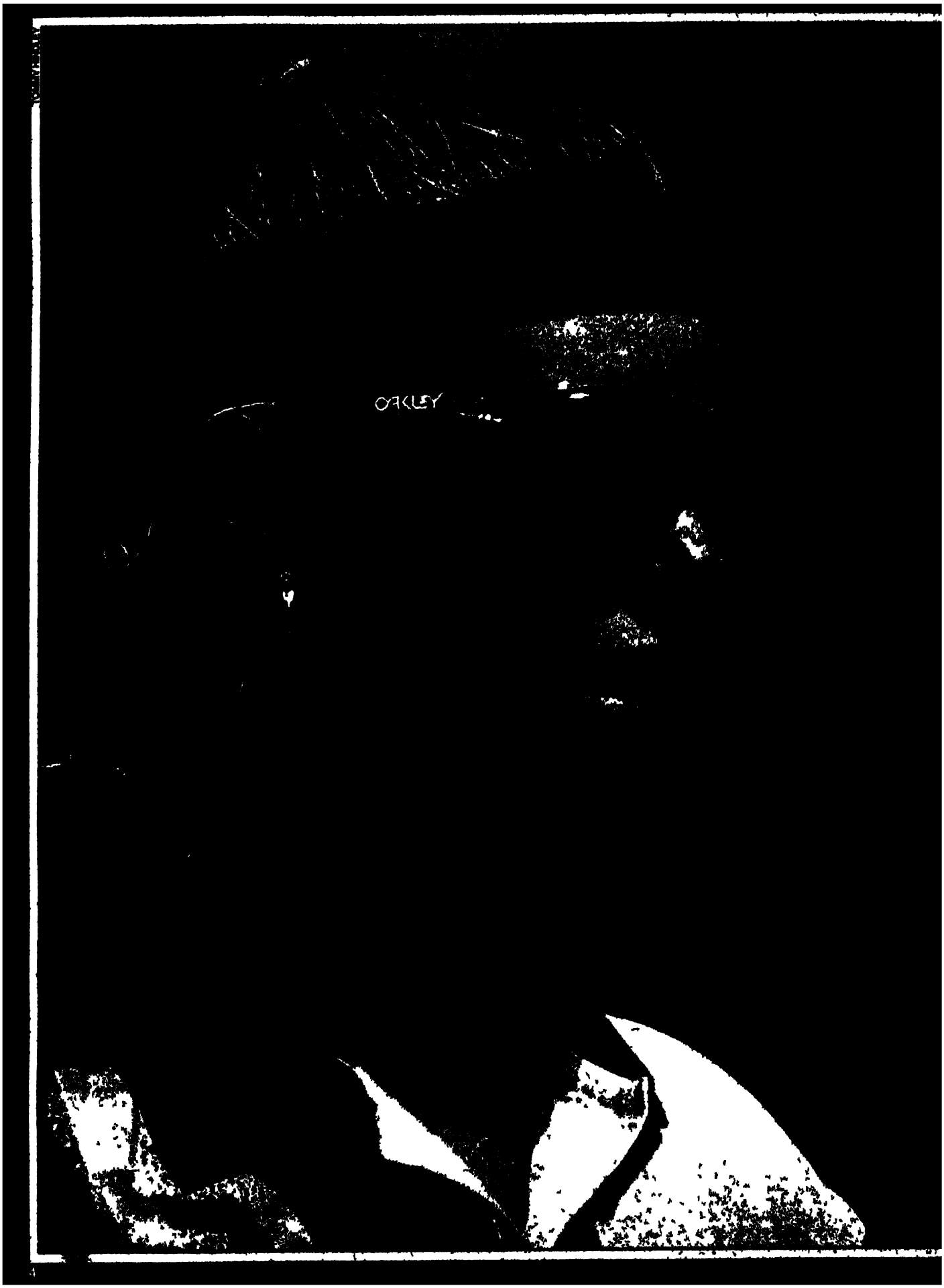


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NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

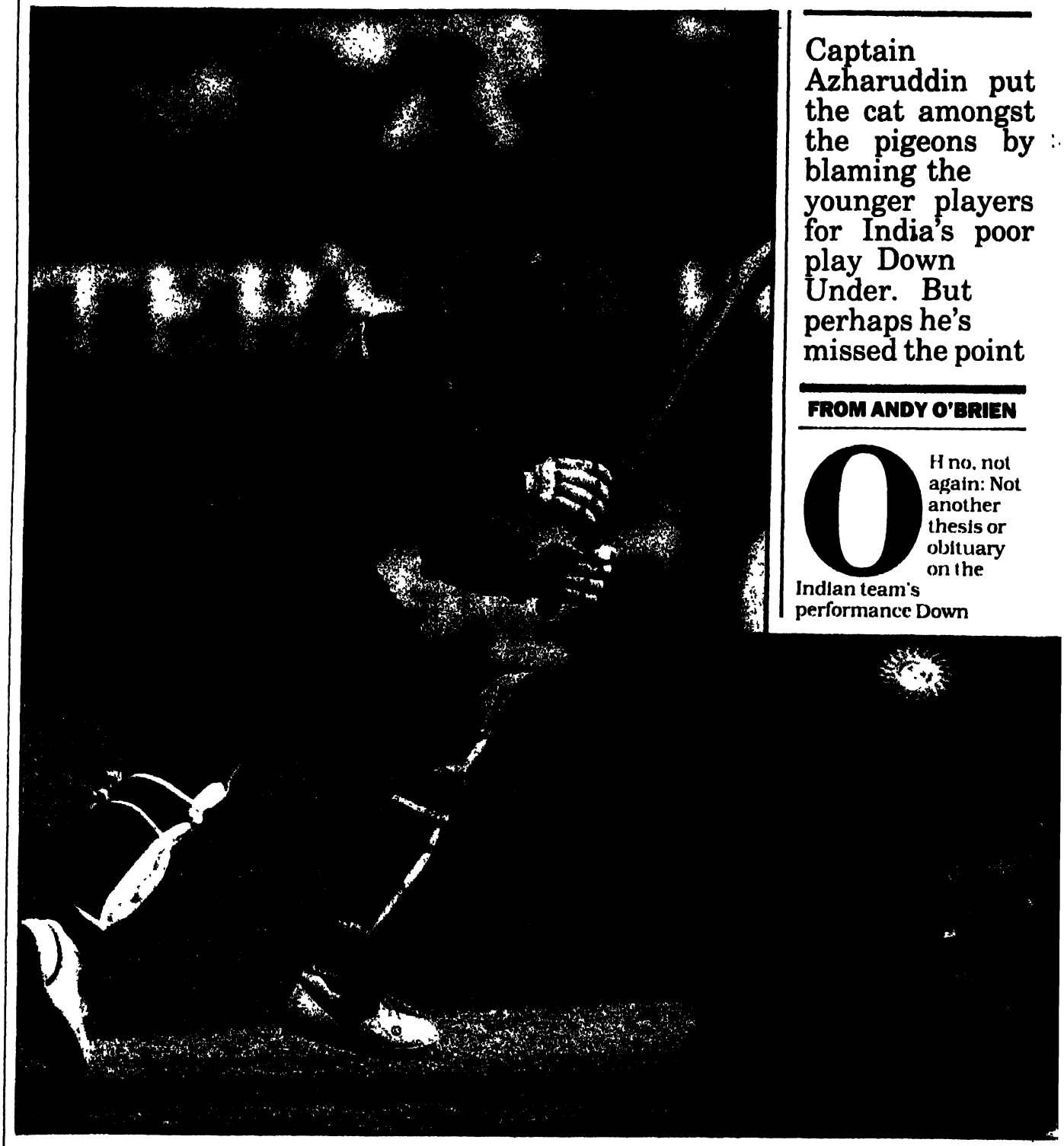
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Who was Azharuddin passing the buck on to?

THE INDIAN CHALLENGE IS OVER

WHO'S TO BLA

Captain Azharuddin put the cat amongst the pigeons by blaming the younger players for India's poor play Down Under. But perhaps he's missed the point

FROM ANDY O'BRIEN

OH no, not again: Not another thesis or obituary on the Indian team's performance Down

The Indian team has "too much of an individualistic attitude" according to Abbas Ali Baig

Under! Haven't you Press guys worn out your typewriters, blasting the Indian cricket team? Anyway, go on, criticise one more time and be damned.

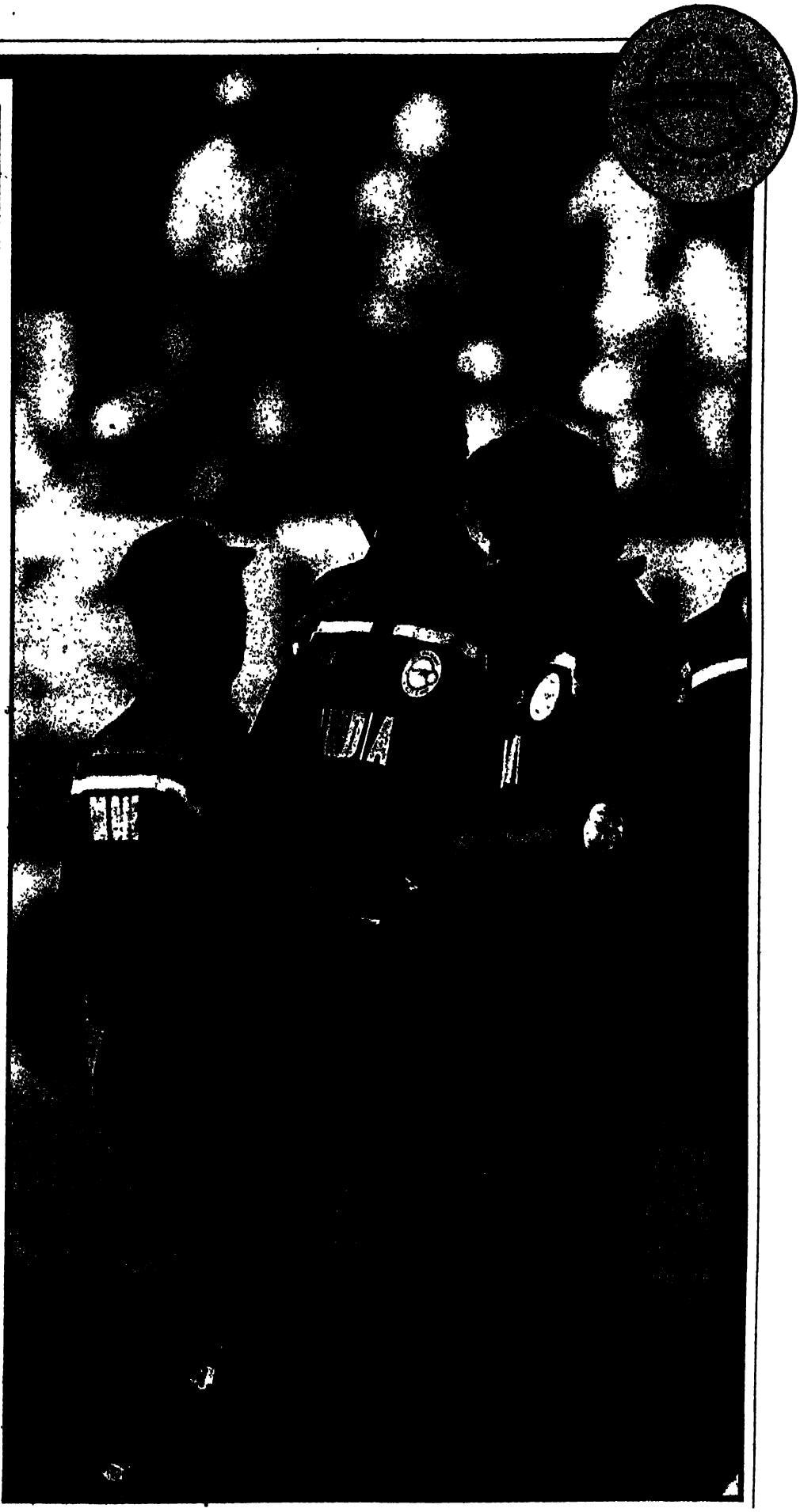
I know that's what you must be saying before you venture into reading yet another analysis of our performance in the World Cup. But seriously there's so much to tell you about our team, that maybe one ought to consider writing an entire book on the topic. But here goes anyway.

Plenty has been said by everybody, so perhaps it would be more relevant if we just dealt with what the people concerned had to say.

Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin, dropped a somewhat illogical bombshell when he accused the younger players of his team of letting the team down. "I was very disappointed with the performances of the youngsters. I didn't think they performed to expectations," the skipper claimed at the Press conference following India's last World Cup match against South Africa. This statement is being seen by some people as something like Dilip

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

ME?





Like gunfighters in some old Western, (from left) Srinath, Prabhakar, Jadeja and Raju walk out for yet another showdown

Vengsarkar's claim (in an interview to *Sportsworld* after the West Indies series for which he was captain) that some of his players were running away from the ball. Azhar, of course, like Vengsarkar was obviously meaning what he said. He perhaps truly had expected more from the younger players and was indeed somewhat disappointed when his high expectations were not lived up to.

But to blame them for India's poor performance in the World Cup, and indeed the entire summer, would seem more than a trifle unfair. Who was Azharuddin passing the buck on to? Which youngsters? If he was indeed referring to the Cup, then it seemed as if it were, in fact, the younger lot of players who contributed the most towards the team. The seniors were the ones who hadn't lived upto expectations. Ravi Shastri had been dropped from the team because the man, who has hit six sixes in an over, was found wanting for pace in his batting.

"I was very disappointed with the performances of the youngsters. I didn't think they performed to expectations"— Azharuddin

Kapil Dev, after a splendid summer, didn't really maintain the high standards he had set in the early part of the tour. Srikkanth's contribution in the World Cup campaign was so negligible, that it is a pity but international cricket has probably seen the last of this dashing batsman...unless of course, five wise men (or is it one man?) decide to do away with the team of the 90s and instead fall back on the team of the over-30s.

Who the hell was Azhar pointing the finger at.?

"No, I wasn't pointing the finger at anyone in particular, just generally saying that I thought the younger players had the potential to contribute more. I think they have to play a few more years of first-class cricket before they are pushed into the Indian team. I think there's a big gap between playing domestic cricket and playing international cricket."

At the Press conference, when an aghast Press asked Azhar which of the youngsters he was

refering to, the Indian captain said precisely the above. When he was being questioned further, it was manager Abbas Ali Baig, who, noting Azhar's discomfort came to his rescue. "I think what Azhar is saying, is that the Indian cap seems to come too easily these days. Just a couple of first class games and you are there."

The following morning the Indian team were flying out of Adelaide and into Sydney from where they were to fly home. Baig was about to check out of his hotel room when my call disturbed him.

When I told him that the entire Indian Press had gone to town over Azhar's quote about the youngsters, he cut me short disowning all responsibility. "I didn't say it, did I? The captain said it." Judging by his reaction and what he said, it was obvious that the manager felt that Azhar had made a boo-boo. But didn't the manager explain to the Press what Azhar was saying? Didn't that mean that he comprehended Azhar's view and agreed with it? The manager denied this. What then is Baig's view if he were asked to single out the main reason for India's failing? Was it an attitude problem?

"There was a complacency in the team with regard to players in the playing eleven. There was no real fear, that you would lose your place in the team if you didn't perform consistently" —Abbas Ali Baig

"Absolutely, it was all in the mind," he replies.

Normally very diplomatic, Baig was at last putting his finger on the pulse in order to define the fever. And this time he was not holding back. "There was a complacency in the team with regard to players in the playing eleven. There was no real fear, that you would lose your place in the team if you didn't perform consistently. No terrible fear at all. There was this attitude, that the done my bit, I've scored my 30-40 runs or bowled tidily enough, so that's it. I've done my bit. I'll be in the team the next time, so why worry. After that it was upto the rest."

Then Baig went a step further: "And when a player was left out of the team, he felt aggrieved. They even sulked. It came down to not bothering whether the team won or not. There even may have been people who, at times, didn't really want the team to win."

Why was this so?

"Because overall, there was too much of an individualistic attitude," says Baig. "It was more 'I' than 'We'. And because of the circumstances, it was a case of each one fending for himself to save his face, whether that ended in winning or losing was immaterial. Losing seemed to be the team's problem."

Baig points to Praveen Amre and says," I tell you if everyone had the fantastic attitude of that lad, we would have been going to Sydney or Auckland to play in the semi-finals."

So here we go again. If Amre's attitude is fantastic, Tendulkar's performance brilliant, Kambli's performance not disgraceful, Srinath's will to win deadly, then why was the captain blaming these boys for the team's debacle?

Perhaps the captain was a little confused. He even praised the Indian bowling which had done so well on the tour, but in the crucial matches in the World Cup let the team down. It's strange that this Indian team required a separate batting wicket to score runs and a separate helpful pitch to be effective in the bowling department. Unfortunately, the World Cup rules allowed each match to be played on a single wicket! ●



Manjrekar goes, and Pakistan celebrate. At least we won that one

THUNDER DOWN UNDER!



Four teams: England. New Zealand. South Africa. Pakistan. Three matches: two semi-finals and one final. One trophy. Gotta see who'll rule the world

FROM ANDY O'BRIEN, MELBOURNE

NEW ZEALAND captain Martin Crowe is reminiscent of Lee Marvin as Kid Sheleen in the movie *The Ballad of Cat Ballou* Sheleen, a good gunfighter, shoots his twin brother, a bad gunfighter, and his friends are shocked by this Freudian climax

Kid they exclaim you just killed your own bother!

Yeah, says Kid Yeah It was great

After pulling the gun on their brothers from across the Tasman in the opening game of the World Cup, the Kiwis put the bullet right through the Australian team's head by failing to keep a clean slate in the preliminary stage of the tournament Their first defeat—to Pakistan—in effect putting an end to all Aussie hopes of sneaking into the semi-finals of the tournament

In a situation laced with irony, in a cruel twist of fate, New Zealand, the World Cup leader with a 7-0 record, were in the perverse position of needing to lose its last match against Pakistan to avoid the injustice of playing its semi-final against Australia away from home If New Zealand preserved their unbeaten record by adding an eighth win and Australia beat the West Indies by a sufficient margin (by 35 runs if they batted first, or finished off the match in the 42nd over if they were chasing) Border's blokes would slip in, with eight points, into fourth position. That seemed to be the arithmetic everyone was working on to see the hosts—and pre-tournament favourites—into the last four stage.

But in all arithmetic there is the X factor, which in this case was Pakistan. If Pakistan were to be the first team to beat New Zealand, it would knock Australia out directly

AP PTI



New Zealand rode Mark Greatbatch's hard hitting into the semi-finals. Can they go all the way?

And even if Australia went on to beat the West Indies, it would still be Pakistan—and neither the Windies nor the Aussies—who would make the play-off stage of the competition.

As things turned out on that last day of the preliminary matches, had Pakistan not accounted for New Zealand, the Kiwis would have been penalised for their outstanding consistency by playing their semi finals in Sydney against Australia rather than on the familiar and friendly mattress that passes as a pitch at Eden Park, Auckland All this, thanks to a pre-tournament agreement struck between the two host boards NZ finishing on top and Australia fourth was a scenario never seriously considered And Australia missing out completely was hardly contemplated

And yet it came to pass that Australia's hope rested not only on their ability to beat the West Indies handsomely, but also on the 'honest trying of our cousins' (it suddenly became brothers for a day though) across the Tasman to keep Pakistan out of contention

It seemed extraordinary that if Australia could take advantage of their last gasp chance and made the semis, which Allan Border admitted was an outcome they did not deserve, they would play host to New Zealand, the most deserving side of the tournament Poor Australia, from being the hot favourites, the World Cup had come down to a question of faith and morals. The Australian Press was full of articles telling the Kiwis how highly their honesty was regarded and messages to Crowe and his team that they were expected to live up to those high expectations of sportsmanship The word on everyone's lips was "throw" not as in 'propel through space' but as in 'lose intentionally'

'Was this a Godsent chance to level the score with Australia for the underarm incident 11 years ago?' the New Zealand captain was asked. 'No" he replied, trying hard to contain his astonishment. 'I

don t know who suggested this sort of stuff I know the Australians aren t Perhaps it might have been best had we played our semi final in Sydney If we then went on to win the Cup at the MCG we would deserve to be named world champions Otherwise people might say that we are only playing our matches in New Zealand The better the challenge the better for us if we come through

For Crowe all this was not a platitude but a genuine feeling He is an intense man who places great store in sports psychology and believes devotedly in the cumulative benefit of habitual success That he actually lost to Pakistan was a big blow to Crowe's intentions of winning all the games in the World Cup Mathematically, seven successive wins was not necessary and was no guarantee of a semi final victory But in the rarified air of the dressing room it is worth a ten over start As a man who has been on both sides of a streak in just a few weeks Crowe knew this

For Border and his men the World Cup campaign ended when they were into their 37th minute of batting against the West Indies and the MCG crowd of 45,572 were told (because of the time difference) that Pakistan had beaten New Zealand by seven wickets From that moment with Australia 40 for no loss off 16 overs, they knew they could not make the semi-finals No miracle reprieves were on offer from the other side of the Tasman and there was no denying that none were deserved

In fact, the cricket world was not sure whether Pakistan s win over New Zealand was an upset at all In the context of what had happened in the tournament, perhaps it was But it was worth remembering that the Pakistanis began the tournament only marginally behind the Australians in the betting and the Kiwis were at very generous odds There were many who felt that sooner or later ability and form—like water—find their natural level and that the Kiwis were not capable of carrying their bats through the tournament But what even these people, who kept writing New Zealand off, should realise is why the outcome of that match even mattered at all

THE only reason Pakistan was still in contention on that last day was the crucial point they won in the match in which they were bowled out by England for 74 the second lowest score in World Cup history The rain made that match one of the most potentially far reaching Great Escapes in cricket history

After injury and bad form marred the early part of their campaign Pakistan began to click later in the tournament and promptly set its plans to become the first team to beat New Zealand in this year s World Cup after remaining in the hunt for the tournament finals with a four wicket victory over Sri Lanka Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam always believed that his team had the qualities to end the Kiwi s outstanding run We were very confident in Christchurch just as we are for the semi finals he said after his team had eagerly watched—on hotel television sets—the Aussies shutting the door on the West Indies in Melbourne later that day New Zealand wickets don t have pace and they have a low bounce which suits the players in our team he added

The Pakistanis are an enigmatic—and lucky—outfit who always looked disorganised when they trained Where other teams opt to wear a team outfit even to net sessions the Pakistanis wear anything and wicketkeeper Moin Khan trained in a shirt which other players might wear to a disco

But they are always a dangerous team who could at anytime make an impact on the Cup While they boasted of a pace attack feared by opposing teams it was the performance of an unobtrusive leg spinner that maintained the team s hopes of qualifying for the finals The quiet Mushtaq Ahmed became an important figure in his team's survival of the last week of the tournament He has got some wickets at crunch times for us in this tournament said Intikhab

He may have given 40 runs in his spells, but he has been the one to get the wickets the pace bowlers seemed unable to dismiss He is a very confident young man and that s why we like to have him in the team

With a little bit of luck and plenty of performance when it was

England's walking wounded: physio Lawrie Brown works on DeFreitas



necessary the Pakistanis entered the business end of the tournament at not much shorter odds than they were at the outset which constitutes a remarkable comeback There is no particular morale to the story of them sneaking into the semis virtually through a back door given that cricket always has been and presumably always will be hostage to the vagaries of the weather

Maybe it can be said that the team began to click and rode their luck just as a surfer would ride a wave back to the beach And when you look at the performances of three of their batsmen Aamir Sohail Ramiz Raja and Javed Miandad—you get the feeling that perhaps they did deserve to be there especially because the alternative would have been Australia

If the Kiwis in spite of their determination to teach Imran Khan a lesson for his detrimental remarks on their last tour to Pakistan didn t quite manage to extract revenge for the past then they could perhaps have taken some solace in the fact that the other leaders of the World Cup—England—had an even worse hiccup in the last stages of the preliminary rounds

Graham Gooch was probably hoping that the derailment of England s World Cup bandwagon was a temporary one So upset was Gooch with the two successive losses, first to New Zealand and then unbelieveably to Zimbabwe that it actually gave wings to his fitness fight

England s World Cup cricketers left the city of Ballarat with six undefeated matches and looking for longer beds After their next game, against New Zealand, the beds they were hunting for could well have been in a hospital If it were possible to hear the aching of bones or the pulling of muscles then you could be assured that the England team were around somewhere There were so many aches and pains in the English camp that, heading towards the semi-finals, the team comprised not so much of the best but the least injured And their World Cup



Donald strikes! Will South Africa do so too?

campaign was threatening to implode after Zimbabwe added insult to the injuries that plagued the tournament favourites

And yet in spite of being in trouble with injuries the management behaved at press conferences as if they were high ranking officials from the ministry of misinformation Virtually every innocent question of injury was shrugged off

So decimated by injury was the English camp and so worried about a sudden loss of winning form that Graham Gooch strapped his tender hamstring and played against Zimbabwe in a match supposedly of little more than academic importance In the first place he had precious few teammates fit enough to substitute for him and in any case he was keen to get his side back into a winning mode on the eve of the semi finals But after England lost by nine runs to Zimbabwe—a match they were supposed to win handsomely—England suddenly

began to show dangerous signs of peaking too early. The mood could scarcely have improved with top medium pacer Derek Pringle injuring a rib cartilage, and all-rounder Dermott Reeve with a spur and inflammation on his hip joint. England strategy was to use Pringle with the new ball, his swing being an ideal foil for Chris Lewis' pace. But even Lewis was laid low with a strained side and played two matches as a batsman.


PATRICK EAGAR

The England injury-list read like a hospital register; Neil Fairbrother (stomach trouble and three days of fasting), DeFreitas (groin), Lewis (strained side), Gooch (hamstring), Lamb (recovering hamstring strain), Tufnell (knee). The problem of having so many on the injured list is that the side tends to adopt a hang-dog approach in the face of such troubles. A loss against the competition's whipping team could be severely debilitating with the semi-finals only days away. No wonder Gooch was calling for bigger squads in future World Cups after England had to rely on the services of Paul Pritchard who happened to be in Australia playing Sydney league cricket.

WHILE England's road to the final increasingly became a nightmare, the South African fairy tale went on and they danced their way into the semi-finals. At Adelaide, against India in a rain-shortened game, Hansje Cronje smote the winning boundary, raised both arms above his head and indulged in a little jig. Even Kepler Wessels, a grim professional if ever there was one, allowed himself a wide grin. And with that, cricket's long-lost brothers were into the World Cup semi-finals.

While Australia, Pakistan and the West Indies engaged in last ditch efforts to squeeze into the semi-finals and mulled over run rates and the like, Wessels and his men celebrated and then returned to practise at the nets as they awaited the identity of their opponents and the venue.

With the game against India starting at 1.15 p.m. and the overs being curtailed to 30, India gathered an imposing one-run per-ball total of 6 for 180. But South Africa's batting which has improved dramatically with experience, reached the target with five balls to spare and six wickets in hand, sending the Indians home four months to the day they landed in Perth and after what manager Abbas Ali Baig calculated as more than 100,000 kilometres of air travel.

The 36-year-old Peter Kirsten, unwanted in the South African team only three months ago, again produced an innings laced with guts, grit and good, old fashioned, long-handled hitting. But after

Luck, performance when it mattered, and the inspiring leadership of Imran (left) saw Pakistan scrape into the semis


PHOTOGRAPHS NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

CHART BY NILRATAN MAITY

	IND	AUS	NZL	SLN	PAK	ZIM	SA	ENG	WI	TOTAL
INDIA		0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	5
AUSTRALIA	2		0	2	0	2	0	0	2	8
NEW ZEALAND	2	2		2	0	2	2	2	2	14
SRI LANKA	1	0	0		0	2	2	0	0	5
PAKISTAN	0	2	2	2		2	0	1	0	9
ZIMBABWE	0	0	0	0	0		0	2	0	2
SOUTH AFRICA	2	2	0	0	2	2		0	2	10
ENGLAND	2	2	0	2	1	0	2		2	11
WEST INDIES	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	0		8

that was another victory that was yet to come One which was as impossible a dream just as a semi final berth was But a far more important victory

Semi final discussions appeared to be the least of the South African worries Only hours before the country's three million fair skin population began a mandate to continue the reform process the De Klerk government had set in motion under pressure and with the enthusiastic encouragement of 20 million or so people of dark skin

The world hoped that it would be another example of sportsmen leading the way for politicians If the triumph over India and the entry into the semi final was a day to celebrate, then the next two days were arguably the most important in the history of South Africa

South Africa s triumph—and it is nothing less than that—in climbing into the World Cup semi-finals after 22 years of international sporting isolation was turned into a continued unifying influence on the republic and in a way was another strong reason for the 'yes' votes outnumbering the 'no' votes And, with Australia not managing to scramble into the semi-finals, the South Africans, for all the racist sins of their 44-year-old national party government, became the sentimental favourites with Australian cricket fans Partly because of the past, partly because they had scored two great victories in a matter of days and partly because they were the underdogs when compared to New Zealand England and Pakistan

IT was an indication of the closeness and lopsidedness of the tournament that it was left to the very last match to decide the semi final line up How unknowingly the organisers had scheduled the Pakistan New Zealand clash a few hours before the West Indies Australia one The latter was to be the big one between the big two How untrue Australia made the West Indies pay for their inconsistency by robbing them of a semi final berth but by then it was too late for the Aussies Australian captain Border admitted his sides demise was difficult to swallow and that it was a huge disappointment While admitting that they didn t deserve to be there they didn t even consider the possibility of not making the play offs

For the West Indies missing out on a semi final berth was an even greater disappointment having come so close Captain Richardson had said before the game that they would not be able to return to the Caribbean if they failed to win the World Cup But now they will have to return and face the music—along with the eggs and rotten tomatoes Richardson maintained that it was only their 'inconsistency' that kept them out of the tournament semi finals for the second time in four years a tournament they had won twice in the first four years

For England anything less than a first World Cup win would be considered a disappointment Most people including Allan Border Richie Richardson Mohammed Azharuddin and David Houghton all the losing captains tipped England as eventual winners on the eve of the semi finals

In spite of their performance New Zealand unfortunately could not impress anyone but their own supporters that they were capable of not only shaking up the tournament but also lifting the Cup

For South Africa reaching the semi finals was a bonus in itself Anything more can only be a gift as good as the referendum vote back home

Pakistan will want to make the most of their fortunes and Imran Khan will want to prove that he is still a force to reckon with in his country s cricket, after many critics had written him off as a spent force halfway through the tournament

For the other teams who missed out, the semi-finals will go down as an anti climax And anti climaxes are always depressing hollow eyed affairs Especially when you have ample time to ponder what might have been ●

THE WORLD CUP PROBLEM

AUSSIE STYLE!

David McMahon pleaded that he was too busy to write this week, but he stopped Melbournian Bruce Beachtummy Foster for his impressions on the round robin stage of the 1992 World Cup (A glossary of explanations for the profound Australianisms used by Mr Beachtummy Foster can be found on these pages)

STREWTH mate it s enough to make you spew First it looked as though Australia was down and out and then all of a sudden there was a glimmer of hope when all seemed cut and dried If New Zealand had beaten Pakistan and if we had beaten the West Indies by seven wickets or by 45 runs we were through to the semi finals

And what happened? Well we beat the Windies by the required margin in fact we beat em by 57 runs but the bloody Kiwis had gone and lost their match against Pakistan

I work with a Kiwi and d you know what he was doing? He was chortling He was bloody hysterical I tell you He was rolling around in the aisles holding his sides and saying "That s our revenge for the underarm ball I ll explain that to you mate You see in the early 80s Australia and New Zealand were playing the last of the triangular series finals and the Kiwis needs six off the last ball to win the match take the goose s neck and claim victory in the tournament

But Greg Chappell the Australian captain told his brother Trevor Chappell the bowler to bowl an underarm ball He did the batsman was unable to hit a six and Australia won

Mind you I m not suggesting the Kiwis tanked this match against Pakistan but it all looks a bit sus to me mate On the one hand you have the Kiwis with an unbeaten record in this tournament on the other you have Pakistan a great side on paper but a team that has performed very patchily in this tournament Even before the match started the odds favoured victory for New Zealand But no before we know what is happening the mighty Kiwis are seven wickets down for 97 Martin Crowe who has scored 360 runs in this tournament at an average of 180 has gone

AP PTI



New Zealand have been the thorn in Australia's side this World Cup

before he scored more than I scored in last week's beach game against the Hillbilly Hobos

Come the semis the Kiwis will suddenly find their form to beat Imran Khan s lads And then they ll pat themselves on the back and say how quickly they found the inspiration to turn their fortunes around I might sound a tad cynical but strewth I reckon the Kiwis had a fairly pre conceived notion about how that game was going to turn out

The funny thing is Australia looked really good just before the tournament began They had beaten India in the triangular tournament, they had won the Test series, they had brushed aside the West Indies But before you could sing the opening line of Waltzing Matilda our form had gone down the gurgler and the wheels had fallen off There we were defending champions and favourites to retain the crown and we lost our first bloody game of the tournament to New Zealand

Actually mate we looked pretty good there for a while We got a couple of early wickets and the pressure was on Then Crowe, who had come under pressure to give up the captaincy just before the tournament began played a gem of an innings scored a hundred and set up the win The World Cup champions had been beaten in the first round and then there was old Bob Simpson saying we won't lose two matches in a row "



GLOSSARY:

STREWTH: An invocation, short for "God's truth".

SPEW: Vomit.

GOOSE'S NECK: Cheque (rhyming slag)

SUS. Suspicious.

TAD: A trifle

GURGLER: Drain (as in the gurgling sound of water disappearing)

WHEELS HAD FALLEN OFF: Collapsed

POMS: Pommies, or Englishmen. Not very popular in Australia.

KIWIS. New Zealanders. Not very popular anywhere.

CHRIST: The bloke who created, on the eighth day, the world's cricket pitches. Not to be confused with Thomas Lord, after whom Lord's cricket ground is named

Next up we played the South Africans I tell you what, we should a listened to those Indian blokes They played three one day internationals against South Africa and told us that they were a team to be reckoned with But I reckon we took them too lightly They beat us too, if you remember Australia s balance sheet didn t look to good two matches, two

I work with a Kiwi and d'you know what he was doing? He was chortling. He was bloody hysterical, I tell you. He was rolling around in the aisles, holding his sides, and saying "That's our revenge for the underarm ball"

defeats.

And then we played India and, Christ, we bloody nearly lost that one as well. But we squeaked home by one run off the last ball and if we had lost that one, I reckon the Indians would have believed in their own ability and gone on to make the semi-finals. Instead, they seemed content to "do well" rather than go out to win from then on. For us, though, it was a do-or-die contest, because we were on the tightrope.

Despite stellar knocks from Jones and Boon (right), the Aussies crashed out



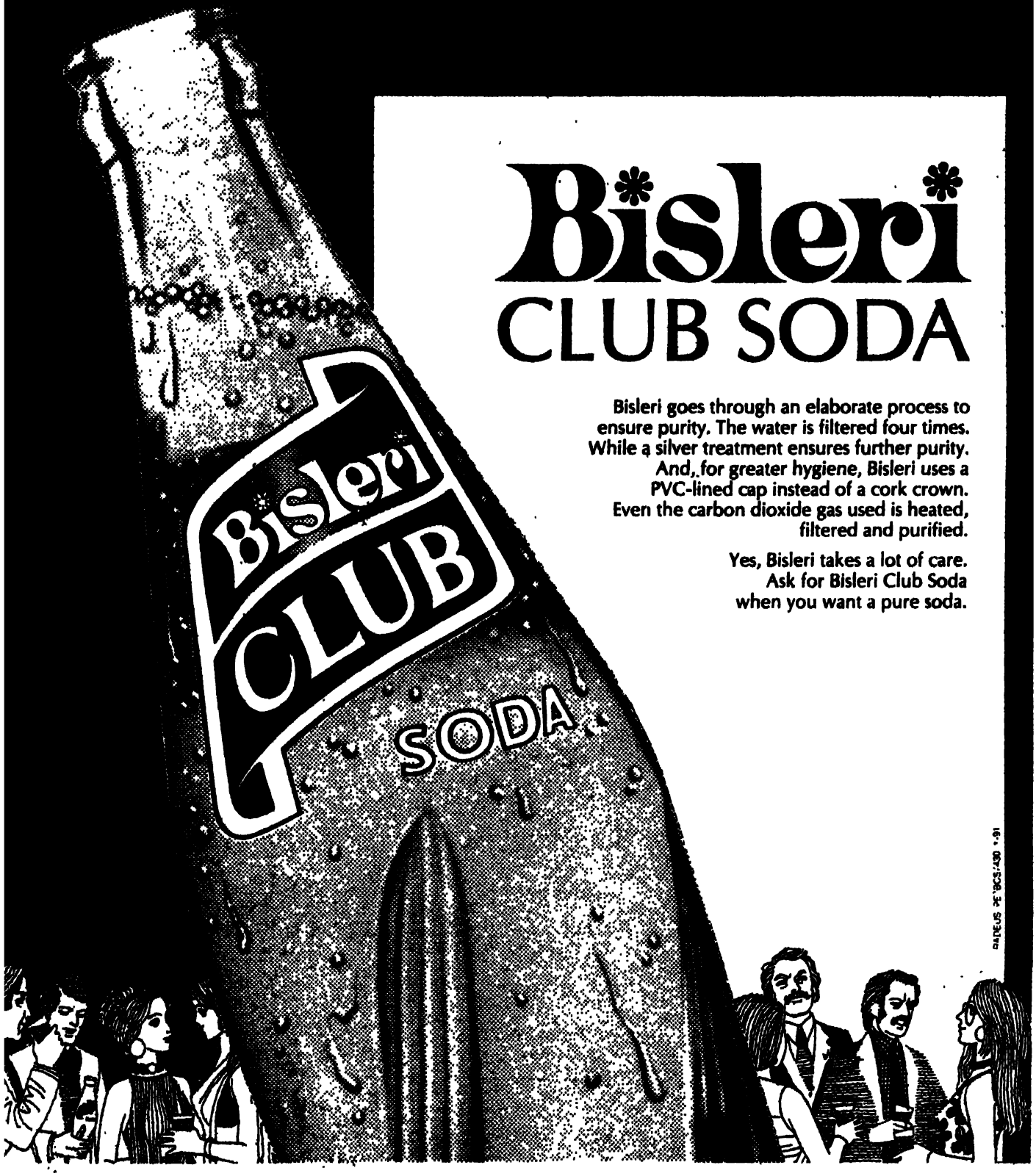


Mind you, I'm not suggesting the Kiwis tanked this match against Pakistan, but it all looks a bit 'sus' to me, mate

The funny thing is, the Kiwis just looked awesome throughout this tournament. Now, you should remember that they had been well and truly trounced by the Poms just prior to the World Cup. Now, even a blind bloke would be able to pick the fact that the Poms aren't the best cricketers in the world, but they beat the Kiwis and now suddenly the Kiwis look like giant-killers. You've got to hand it to them, they certainly found the motivation and the form, but can they go on to win this Cup? I bloody hope not, mate, because if they do, I'm going to live in Siberia. Although, knowing my luck, my next-door neighbour in Siberia will turn out to be a Kiwi.

Bruce Beachtummy-Foster acknowledges great help from David McMahon in the writing of this article.

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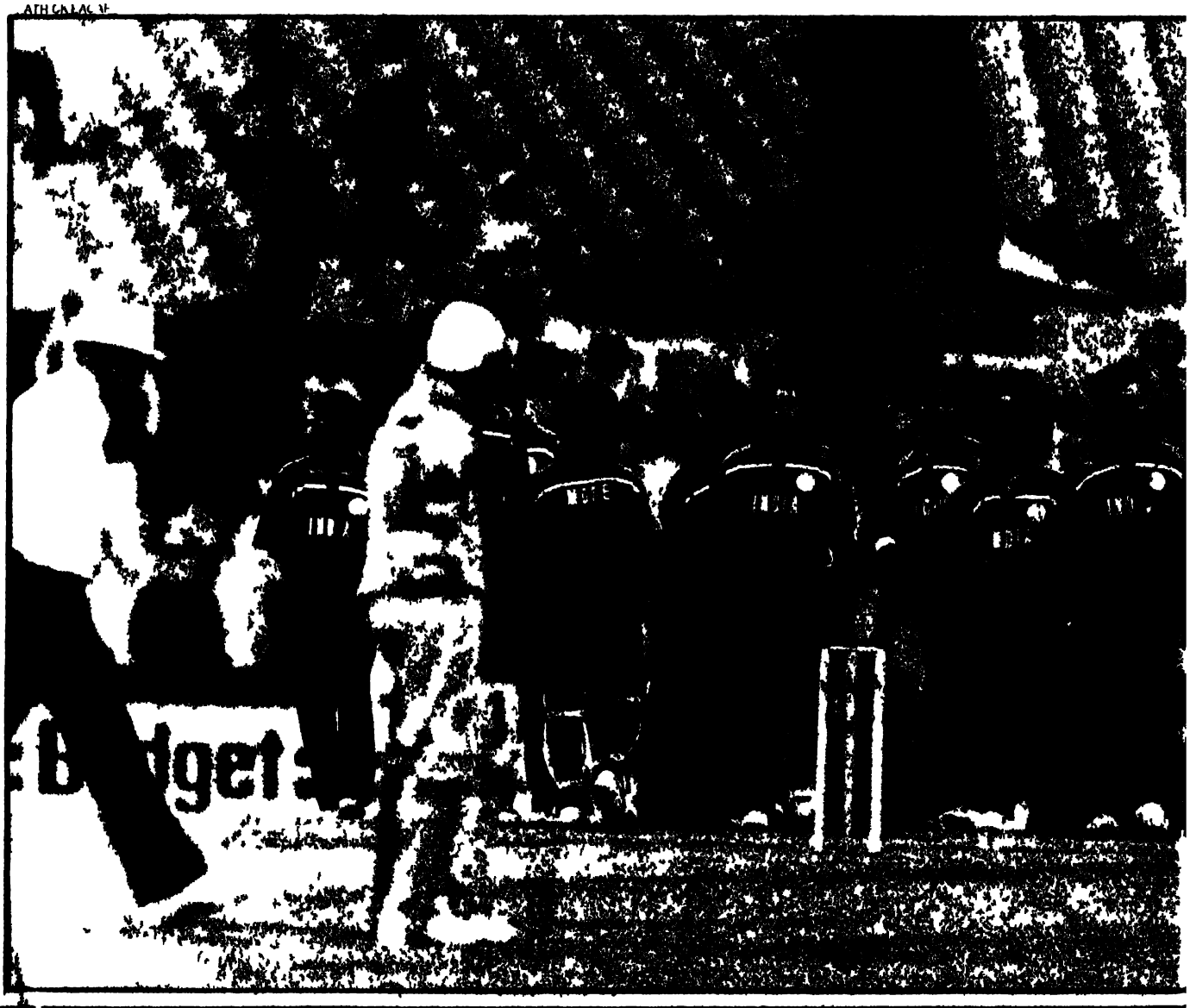
EDITORIAL

ONE would have thought that the law of averages would have started working against New Zealand by now, but apparently not yet. Even though they won all but one of their games, the real test will come when they play away from home, and away from slow wickets.

Yet one has to admire the innovative thinking that skipper Martin Crowe has introduced. Opening with an off-spinner, and in some matches changing the bowling around so rapidly that batsmen have found it difficult to pace their innings. Although this was not the case against India when Srikkanth decided to get after Deepak Patel from the first over. He mis-calculated but the intentions were worthy, even if it meant losing a quick wicket. This in fact, has been one of India's least worries. The batting conditions at Dunedin suited the Indians but on this small ground, Azharuddin would have preferred another 35 runs to the eventual total of 230.

The Dunedin ground is often blustery and icy cold (I

Even after so many one-day games, India still hasn't learnt to cope with tension as the look on their faces seems to suggest







BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

THE INDIAN TEAM NEEDS A PSYCHIATRIST

remember wearing 3 sweaters and they said that it was summer) and fielding so close to the Antarctic Circle can be a painful experience, for those who have been brought up in climes where the temperature remains hot and humid throughout the year.

If there is ever a side that has looked so immensely homesick, it is the Indian side

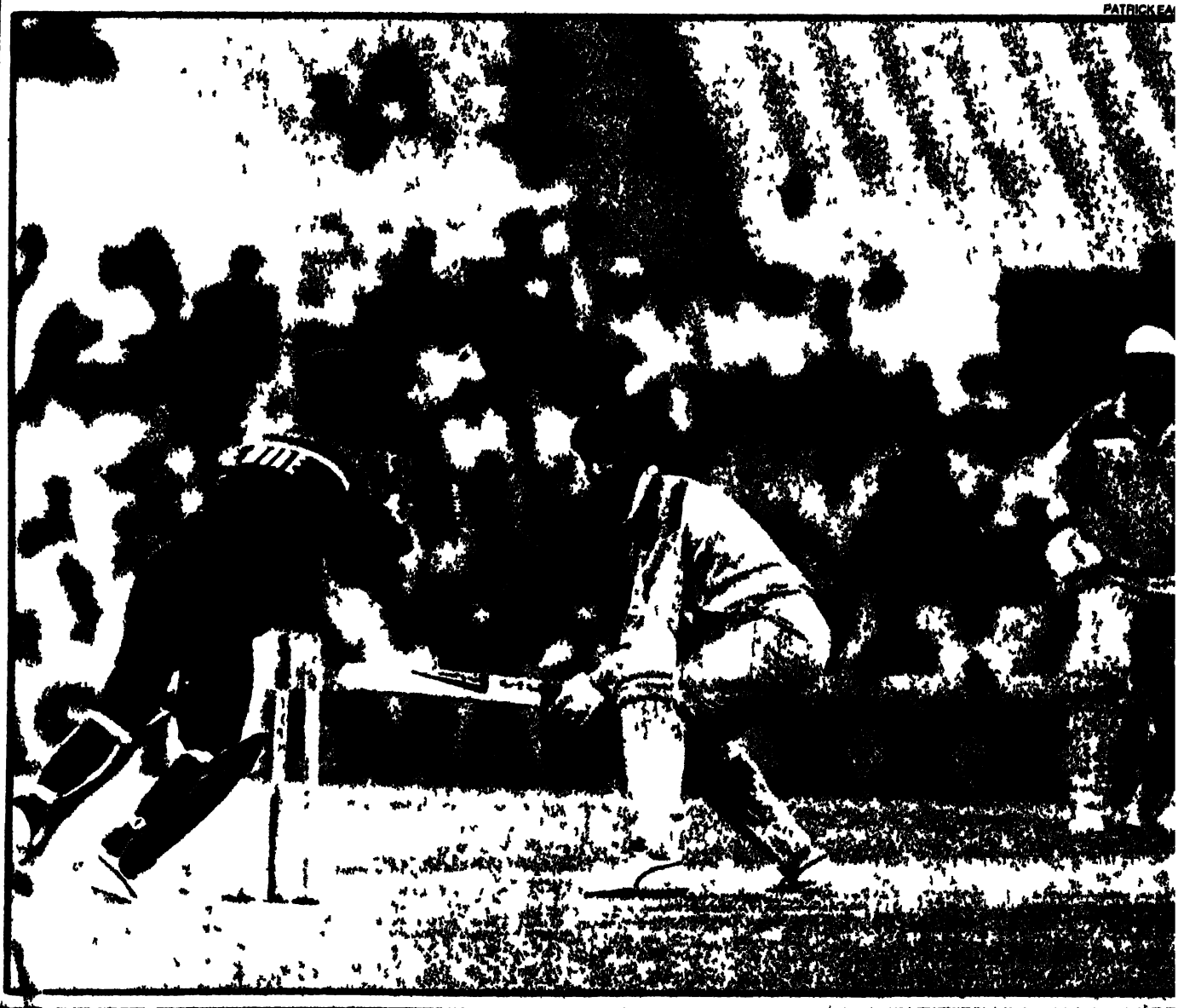
This is where New Zealand obviously won the game, for a strong cold breeze can put off even the most experienced bowler even if his origins be

across the Redcliffe Line And high catches, as Manjrekar found to his embarrassment swerve around most disconcertingly in the confusing air currents This is not to excuse India's performance for New Zealand also dropped a couple of catches which could have cost them the game and Tendulkar and Azharuddin did well to take full advantage of these lapses

But even after so many one day games when tension and excitement is hardly a rare experience the Indian players still cannot keep their cool, and under pressure throw aimlessly and run around getting in each other's away I could strongly recommend that next time India plays (I believe there is an attempt to organise some, one day matches in April, which will make a change from playing in Dunedin) a psychiatrist is attached permanently to the team I am not trying to be facetious, for whatever is wrong with the side is in the mind and neither Ranbir Singh nor Abbas Ali Baig is qualified to resolve such complicated issues

India vs Pakistan: In a match where tension reaches fever pitch, India was supposed to crumble Surprisingly, they beat their nerves and Pakistan

PATRICK EA



It was not a heartening sight to see the Indians looking as if all they wanted to do was to get back to their mothers, wives and home cooking If ever a side has looked home-sick it is this one, but that is not going to evoke a great deal of sympathy, and if a captain can actually feel so sorry for himself that he will avoid the responsibility of meeting the Press after the game then maybe he is just not tough enough to take on the job

As I am writing this, somebody has just informed me that India had lost to South Africa To be honest, I have not seen a single ball bowled in this context It all seemed a little pointless, and India, like its present captain will always be known as nice guys who are prepared to accommodate others, even if it means losing out The public will take out its anger on the players, and quite rightly so. They are the keepers of the nation's pride and have not done their job

The story of the Indian cricket team: Burnt at the stake!



In 1983, the country welcomed them with flowers and chief ministers with subsidised plots of land They had tea with the Prime Minister and, if I remember correct, were photographed with the President Now that they have lost—and lost shamefully—one would hate to see them welcomed with chappals and stones One would like it, for once, that nobody takes any notice of them And this can be more effective than rowdy behaviour

And how long does the B C C I remain blameless? Haphazard tours, gruelling itineraries, an executive committee in which there is not a recognisable cricketer, mis-managed accounts, AGMs being held in hill resorts and countless adjustments to satisfy different groups, all affect the game The players have no respect for the B.C C I the BCCI has no respect for the game Sad to say, nothing has changed, and nothing will, since no one is bothered about learning from past mistakes.●

AUSTRALIA IN THE

Oh Captain

FROM ANDY O'BRIEN, AUSTRALIA

THE polished quills are out The pontification has begun Critics have begun looking for a scapegoat for the shocking loss of the defending world champions, hot shot favourites and home team Australia

Someone must pay the price for failure Australia's astonishing flops have brought out the prophets of doom and they have focussed their attention—among other things—on the captaincy and the form of Allan Border

Border, the power source of Australian cricket in the '80s, player of more Tests than anybody is a very authentic man What you see is what you get His openness makes you virtually a shareholder in his fortunes To discuss Border's frailties in the vicinity of the Australian cricket team is like mentioning the war when in the mixed company of Jews and Germans

But here he is now being subjected to ridiculous questions and suggestions about his immediate future as leader for in spite of his outstanding record, the fragility of Australia's middle order batting has been largely due to Border s shaky form At No 4 he is believed to have become more of a stumbling block than a threat In five innings of the World Cup he managed a mere 30 runs He managed only one big score in the WSC triangular tournament Although his average in the Tests against India was 55, this was achieved through four not-outs in nine innings He scored two ducks He saved the third Test with a stumbling block half century and scored 91 in the fifth, his authenticity causing him to declare instead of pushing on to the Test century he has been chasing vainly for more than four years

Because of his openness Border readily speaks about his disappointment over his mediocre performance The criticism is justified, he said, I haven't been playing particularly well '

But despite the shuddering impact of his side's World Cup demise and the inevitable regrets of a failed campaign, Border is not making any hasty decisions about captaincy or retirement He will press ahead towards his goal of leading Australia on next



Someone must pay the price of failure. Australia's astonishing flops have brought out the prophets of doom...and they have focussed their attention among other things on the captaincy and form of Allan Border

WORLD CUP

My Captain!

As Australia are humiliated in their own backyard, Allan Border's lack of form and leadership suddenly comes under fire



There was an avalanche of cricket this summer Down Under. The FAI Cup one-day matches began in mid-October, followed by Sheffield Shield games, five Tests, a full quota of ten World Series matches—all this before the World Cup even began. Yes, it was clearly too much cricket. But the ACB persisted and persisted with a packed schedule that left its elite players drained and ripe for the picking by fresher sides at the important end of the season,World Cup.

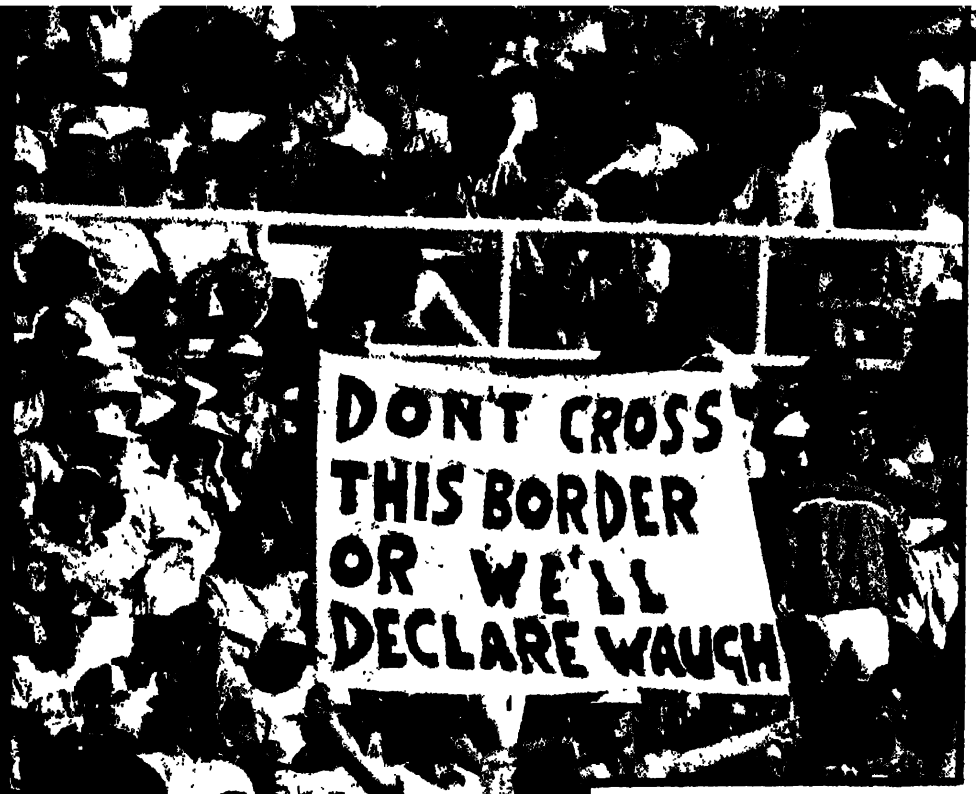
Television, of course, has lapped it all up, and the ACB should reap unprecedented financial rewards. The ACB claimed that the World Series circus was necessary to achieve the financial stability required to help cover the large outlays involved in year's Ashes tour. "I have always had England 1993, at the back of my mind, but I always said that I would take it as it comes. Maybe I might have a rethink during the winter but I can't see any reason why I wouldn't be going," he said when asked if he 'was past it'.

When Border steps off the merry-go-round this week and reintroduces himself to his family for a few months, he would have played 30 days of domestic and 40 days of international, cricket involving many thousands of kilometres of draining travel, on top of numerous other commitments.

In fact, the greatest criticism has been against the relentless cricketing schedule and the toll it took on the Australian cricketers. The packed schedule, born out of Australia's greedy, money-hungry attitude, it is felt, has cost Australian cricket the prize it really wanted—the World Cup.

Many observers had questioned the Australian Cricket Board's wisdom of playing the three-team World Series Cup in addition to the World Cup and a full Test series against India this summer.

Because of his openness, Border readily speaks about his disappointment over his mediocre performance. "The criticism is justified," he said. "I haven't been playing particularly well."



The Aussies couldn't back up their tough talk with tough play

JERO

I don't like to make excuses because the opposition just outplayed us and hey deserve credit for that" said Border. "But there has been a certain flatnes s about our preparation "

staging the World Cup. The board also has a strict television agreement which requires it to programme a minimum number of international cricket days each summer.

Yet certainly the long hot summer programme has done the game in Australia few onfield favours and now, ironically,because the Aussies are not in the final stages of the World Cup,the financial rewards will not be as much as expected.

Clearly, Australian cricket has overcooked its golden egg. Tackling the most arduous World Cup in the tournament s history,

at the end of another relentless summer took an inevitable toll on the players and the team.

Border has been loath to make excuses why Australia—rightly favourites before the tournament began—lost to both South Africa and New Zealand in their opening games. But after England suceeded where the visiting Queen Elizabeth failed,and forced Australia to bend the knee if not curtsey, and Pakistan also brought the Aussies to their knees, Border finally admitted that his players were not feeling their collective best.

The Cost(s) Of Failure

AMIDST the post mortems of what has gone wrong with the Australian team, the Aussies are also counting the 'other' costs of failure. The unexpected demise of the country's cricket team left their fans stunned, but they were not the only victims. The team's failure was bad for television ratings and revenues for the organisers. The failure of the side to make the semis was being looked at as a promotional disaster for the tournament, particularly the much publicised finals in Melbourne where a world record crowd was expected, to witness Australia play someone in the final.

The summer of '92 seemed to be a cricket promoters' dream.... at least that's the way the Australian Board saw it. The way they saw it, the world champion Australian team would wallop India in the Test series, walk away with the World Series Cup and defeat the cream of cricketing nations in the World Cup. The dream would manifest itself through huge cricket sales, high television ratings and millions of dollars in sponsorship and advertising.

But somewhere along the line a part of the dream died... when the performers in the multi-million dollar sports spectacular failed to follow the script. The ACB and Channel Nine who have exclusive rights over cricket in the country, may not be hit for a sale. But at the very least it has taken the edge off the sporting showpiece — and in the meantime made many

"I don't like to make excuses because the opposition just outplayed us and they deserve credit for that," said Border. "But there has been a certain flatness about our preparation. You can just tell everyone is a bit jaded. We did not go into the cup full of beans. We finished a couple of hard Tests and were then involved in some very tough Sheffield Shield games a few days before we went to New Zealand for the first game. We should have prepared better: It was a normal summer with the World Cup tacked on the end There was no respite."

"You tend to get a little flat," Border admitted. "But that's no excuse. We have played a lot of cricket and that can be difficult, but it can't be blamed for our performance. We simply didn't have all our players performing to the best of their ability."

"The fourteen man squad should have been named earlier and we should have gone into a camp and prepared properly for a big tournament. I think we felt the pinch. We didn't get it right over there. The preparation was getting pretty ordinary and in hindsight all of us should not have played that last Sheffield Shield game before the World Cup," said Border.

Yet, ironically, that game was considered the major trial to make it to the final World Cup squad.

Burnout surely was a reason, but was it the only one? Almost everybody who is anybody is being asked for opinions for the reasons behind the Aussie debacle.

Many believed that 'instability' in their team selection was the major problem; that Australia's inability to settle on a stable side fatally undermined their World Cup challenge.

"Winning sides are ones which have very few changes," says Imran Khan. "I have total sympathy for Allan Border, for I know what he is going through. Sometimes things don't really click so you try everything and they still don't work out. We changed our side through injury. Australia changed theirs

"My feeling throughout this summer," said Greg Chappell, "is that Australia played a conservative brand of cricket alien to the Australian nature"

in their treasury.

But television executives and cricketing authorities in Australia have closed ranks and are denying that the fate of the Australian team would affect earnings from the competition significantly.

The ACB, in their heart of hearts hoping that the team would be in the final, refuse to accept it will suffer any significant financial loss. Yes, true they had claimed that the tournament was assured before a ball was bowled of coming up on the right side of the balance sheet. "You have to remember the sponsorship and advertising part of it was locked in well before the first ball was bowled," was how a spokesman put it. He said that only about 7000 tickets were available the day Australia lost to Pakistan.

Channel Nine's director of sport Ian Frykberg said, "there is still a great deal of interest in the World Cup even though Australia cannot win." But that's not the feeling one got while talking to the general public in Australia. In fact, as a result of the turn of events, Channel Nine—having already taken some flack on their choice of match coverage—had to reschedule the matches they were to cover in the last part of the tournament. There is hope that if Australia don't make it people would still be keen to see how New Zealand and England do in the tournament. But that truly is very doubtful after what has happened between England and Australia in the last few weeks... and the kind of rivalry that has existed between the two countries.

Ironically it was the greed for money and TV ratings that led to the hectic schedule which may have contributed to the downfall of the Australian team. Maybe cricket boards around the world have learnt that they can't have their cake and eat it too. Even though the ACB claims they can defeat the proverb, they would agree that this time round they could miss out on the icing on the cake.

Border and Jones ponder their careers



[redacted] greatest [redacted] been [redacted] against the [redacted] cricketing [redacted] and the [redacted] on the [redacted] Australian [redacted] selectors. The [redacted] schedule, [redacted] born out of [redacted] greedy, [redacted]

because of poor form. I know how unsettling it can be to have a constantly changing side."

Border himself had appealed to the selectors halfway through the tournament that he wanted a 'settled side'. He also talked about hitting the panic button a bit too early and a bit too much; that there was an overreaction to their early losses. Border felt that panic set in, hasty changes were made, the team was changed and there was confusion about which approach to take next.

And yet, on the other hand there is a strong belief that the policy carried through much of the season was that a winning combination should not be changed, despite fluctuations of individual form. Many believe that it was this,which was at least partly responsible for the problems and they are calling for changes *now*. They believe that the side's failure against all expectations to make the Cup semis will—and must—prompt the national selectors to think about ushering in some young blood over the next few summers, though a demanding schedule in the near future also suggests that this is not the time for Australia to roll the dice.





When Boon, the man in form, faltered so did Australia

If there were indeed mistakes in selecting the team during the World Cup, then it is a natural corollary that this affected the tactics of the Australians. The confusion about who should play and who shouldn't,was highlighted by the extra time taken to formulate Australia's game-plan in the later games of the competition. "That suggests to me that we were not going real well, when we start talking about what our game-plan is, because we really basically know it



PATRICK EAGAR

The Aussies only threatened as the English came, saw and walked home smiling

off pat We should have just gone out and played," says Border

Yet the problem was that throughout the summer it was only one or two players who played the rest merely rested on the performances of these brilliant individuals in the Australian team

"Many of the Australian players were out of form going into the competition," says Ian Chappell, "but all this was a well-kept secret because of the outstanding form of a few Unfortunately the inform players like David Boon started to falter in the Cup and the others were shown up for what they were "

The former Australian captain,who now commentates on Channel Nine,has said throughout this summer that the Australian team has been "propped up by a few who are in great form—and that's been papering over the cracks Suddenly when the onus is on others, that's when you find out that they're in ordinary form Then it's too late," says Ian Chappell

Skipper Border too realised this defect "Take Boon's contribution out and it hasn't been a great season for our batsmen," he said, adding, "middle order batting is so important in one day cricket "

Border, like many of his top order teammates, also had a shocking series At times he had dropped down the order, either to protect himself or give his teammates the chance for exposure, but the top order had repeatedly failed to fire Several of the players are being held guilty of playing too many rash strokes and lacking the patience needed to work the ball

"We tried to mix and match the batting order but things never really gelled, ' said the skipper ' I was trying to get other blokes in some sort of form "

Unfortunately that didn t happen and the spirit of the team sank with every passing day But some experts would like to point out that it wasn't the spirit of the team which collapsed during the World Cup, the problem was instead that the team's attitude had been wrong right through the summer

Greg Chappell believes that a change of attitude rather than a change of personnel was the key to Australia breaking free of its World Cup slump "My feeling throughout this summer is that Australia played a conservative brand of cricket alien to the Australian nature '

Ian Chappell is more eloquent on the naturally adventurous ways of Australians The elder Chappell, while agreeing with his brother's comments on the negative attitude of the Australian players, came out harshly against Border saying that the captain too had a "negative attitude going into the tournament."

"If you keep on repeating that the World Cup will be hard to win and that you don't deserve favouritism, someone is going to believe it If you're captain and you want something to happen you've usually got to make it happen yourself," he said

"Many of the Australian players were out of form going into the competition," says Ian Chappell, "but all this was a well-kept secret because of the outstanding form of a few. Unfortunately the in-form players like David Boon started to falter in the Cup and the others were shown up for what they were"

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Chappell Sr then said, if he were Border and things weren't going right he would have a quiet word with his key players I'd pull aside these few guys and say, 'we're down a bit give us something special' I was lucky because I had a bloke called Lillee in my side—that s the sort of thing you have to get out of McDermott But you can talk all you like, nothing works better than doing it yourself, ' he said,

lift his team's performances

Then Chappell also came down hard on the value of having a coach like Bobby Simpson with such a strong influence on the team

"The players bat, bowl and field a coach's contribution in cricket is minimal About the biggest effect the coach can have at that level is on the player s mental approach By allowing the coach to perform some of his duties, Border has failed his team

confident best If he doesn't, this stumble in the World Cup will become a headlong tumble downhill."

While accepting that the criticism is justified, Border says he has no plans to step down as captain "Who's been suggesting that I should give it away?" he said "The press? They are the last people I am worrying about I haven't heard from anyone who matters I have no such plans at this stage I've got a



suggesting Border failed to stamp his authority on both the team and the game

Border himself agrees that his team played negative cricket' "For a positive team that was not right We were playing very nervous cricket and the expectation on the side was very high Maybe we also went into the tournament a little complacent "

In the end even his ' if we are to go down we'll go down winning" attitude failed to

Border and Azharuddin: captains under fire and with reason

It is the captain's job to lead from the front, especially when the team is struggling If Allan wants to stay as a successful captain of Australia, he has to grab the reins firmly, politely put Simpson in his place and get on with the job of leading his team back to their

break. I might just think things over then," he said with a smile

It was perhaps the first smile seen on Border's face for some time now. The pressure of the World Cup seemed to have aged him in a matter of three weeks There were times when he—just like his team—crumbled under the enormous weight of public expectations Yet, when the expectations were at the highest, the performances



PHOTOGRAPHS NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Australia had little to celebrate about in a tournament the world thought they would win

were at their lowest. In the midst of all the hopes the Australian players might have had through the tournament, there must have come a stage where it were better that the World Cup were over sooner for them.

There would have been fewer explanations to be given if had they not gone into the tournament as such a favoured team. Now Border was groping for words and reasons. "I don't know why. We had done our preparations for games exactly the same as we always do but we just couldn't produce the same cricket."

Yes, that is the mystery that will probably never be solved.

Former Australian wicketkeeper Rod Marsh is probably right when he points out that the answer lies in a number of reasons, all combining to bring about the downfall of Australia. "If there had been only one thing wrong they would have fixed it. Obviously there were many things that contributed to it, not the least of which was the bottom line—that the boys didn't play up to their own high standards"



The grim face of Australian cricket: Jones, McDermott and Hughes

Exactly twelve months ago after beating a full strength West Indies side on Viv Richard's home turf, even the most modest Border was quite vocal that his team were the undisputed champions of the limited overs game. And so they were.

Yet, what a difference a year makes. Yes 365 days is a long time in cricket! ●

"If Allan wants to stay as a successful captain of Australia, he has to grab the reins firmly, politely put (coach Bobby) Simpson in his place and get on with leading his team back to their confident best. If he doesn't this stumble in the World Cup will become a headlong tumble downhill" —Ian Chappell

SNIPPETS...

Gus Logie: Size is hardly the criteria. Courage definitely is

GUS LOGIE: LITTLE 'BIG' MAN

QUESTION: Who was the vice-captain of the West Indies team in the World Cup? Answer: Gus Logie. (surprised?) Logie, who has forged a reputation for courage with his deeds managed to bat through the entire tournament with a hand still recovering from a fracture. Logie was recovering from a broken right arm received in a car accident in Trinidad shortly before the West Indies came to Australia for the World Series at the end of last year. He discovered that a World Cup tournament, during which he is either playing matches or facing the unforgiving West Indian bowlers in the nets everyday, is not the ideal treatment for a broken arm. The bone should have knitted completely by now, but the constant jarring has prevented this final process.

Three years ago, Logie's nose was broken at an MCG Test when Merv Hughes smashed a shot so hard into his helmet at short leg, that it bent back the grill and rearranged his face. Logie came out to bat at No. 10 in the West Indies innings before undergoing surgery at the end of the match.

Twelve months ago, Logie checked out of a Jamaican hospital just in time to rescue the West Indies from a McDermott induced disaster in a Test at Sabina Park. Struck a nasty blow in the eye, he had seven stitches and a precautionary x-ray before he resumed his innings going on to score an unbeaten 77.

No wonder Viv Richards said of Logie, "That's a man I'll take with me to the front anyday. In some senses it makes big men weep, seeing a little guy being able to do all that." No wonder the Aussies were scared of the little man in that 'cut throat' World Cup clash at the MCG. And just like old times an injured Logie went in to bat in that crucial match.

NEIGHBOURS FROM A DARK CONTINENT

SOUTH AFRICAN WORLD CUP hero Peter Kirsten and England's batting hope Allan Lamb have been the best of mates, as well as the fiercest of rivals for more than two decades.

Kirsten's link with Lamb goes back to the '60s, when Kirsten's family moved from East London in South Africa to Cape Town and he enrolled at the exclusive South African College School, the oldest school in the country. Lamb, on the other hand, attended the Rival School, the second oldest in the country. Keeping Lamb company throughout school were South African cricket



Allan Lamb: His friendship with Peter Kirsten dates back to the '60s

star, Garth le Roux and many national rugby players. While Lamb, le Roux and Kirsten all moved through the ranks to the Western Province Currie Cup team, Kirsten also looked destined to make the national rugby side. But a knee injury forced Kirsten to give up rugby and take up cricket instead. All three—Lamb, Kirsten and le Roux—became immensely successful in the English County circuit but Kirsten was forced to settle for the unsatisfying series of rebel tours during the '80s.

Today things are definitely different. Kirsten has proved his capability to the selectors, who stunned the country when they left him out—along with veteran allrounder and captain, Clive Rice and effective opening bat Jimmy Cook—of the original World Cup squad. The sacking was on the grounds that Kirsten had seen better days, yet now Kirsten is being considered as one of the 'players of the tournament'.

WHEN EVANS MET MILLER...

IT seems that one of the major highlights of this tournament has been the coming together of old buddies and long-time rivals. Like when Godfrey Evans and Keith Miller met up.

Evans' and Miller's careers ran parallel in the 1940s and 50s. Evans, who has claimed 219 victims in a span of 91 Tests, is in Australia enjoying what he calls 'a working holiday' while advising famous English betting company Ladbrokes, and keeping them up-to-date with the tournament happenings.

Due to the English punters' bias, Ladbrokes had been forced to instal England as odds-on favourites even before the semi-final line up was known. Evans personally doesn't think that such a short 'quote' was justified but maybe his caution could be due to the fact that he came



One of the highlights of the World Cup has been the meeting of Godfrey Evans and (in picture) Keith Miller

close to losing his job with Ladbrokes in 1981

That was after the infamous Rod Marsh Dennis Lillee bet on England to win the Headingley Test of that series Ladbrokes, on Evans advice had offered 500 to one on an England win

We made a mistake then,' recalls Evans You couldn t back Australia I mean they were about 10 to one on, and you knew there was going to be a result We lost £50 000 and I thought I was going to get the sack But as it turned out we got so much publicity out of it that it turned out to be all right Rod and Dennis did not drive down themselves to put the bet out they got a driver to do it We didn t know for a while that they backed England but we soon realised that they did after seeing them buy the drinks for the rest of the tour

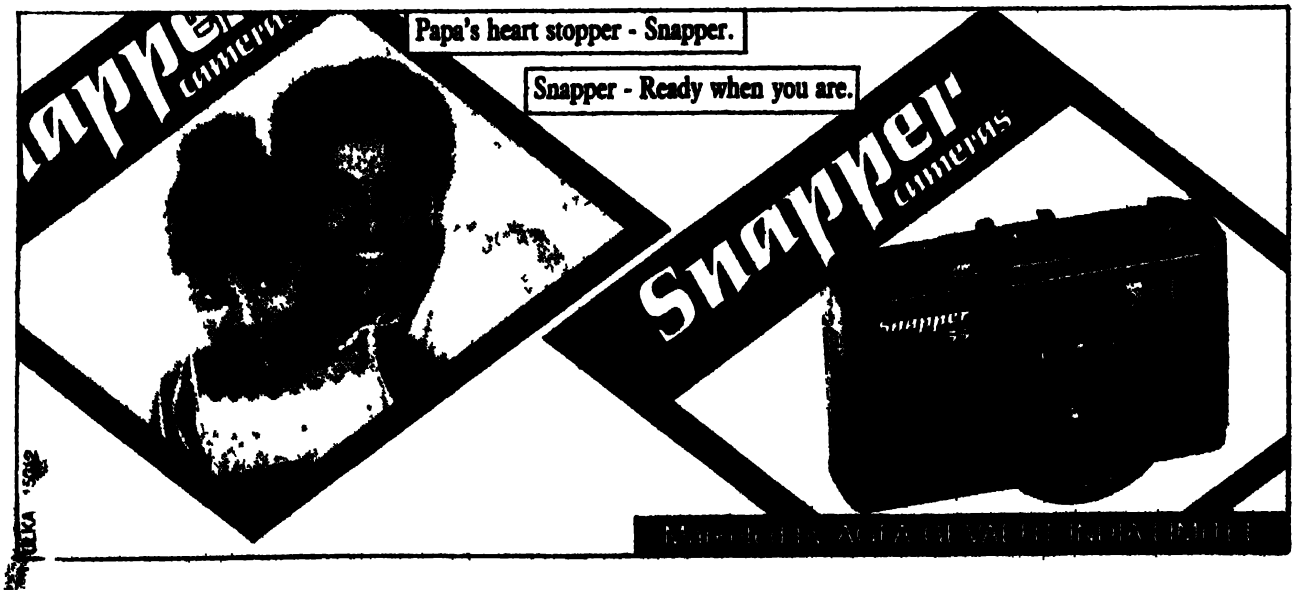
Evans now 72 and still boasting his trademark whiskers admits that time now passes me by I have magnificent memories, absolutely magnificent ones I have had a lovely life and I hope it s that way till the day I die And of his meeting with Keith Miller? The first thing that Evans did when he was in Oz earlier this month was to telephone his old pal Miller The greeting he got from him was the one he had got many times before "How are you, you old Pommie bastard?

THE COMEBACK MAN

IT is little wonder that the South African cricket media has tagged its former national captain Peter Kirsten as the magnificent after thought Kirsten who has captained South Africa in unofficial international games, halfway through the World Cup was the highest run scorer with 304 runs at an average of 101 3, ahead of Martin Crowe, who had a tally of 263 runs at an average of 263 Kirsten s prolific accumulation of runs and consistency is emphasised by a lowest score of 47 with his remaining innings reaping 49 not out, 90, 56 and 62 not out Apart from his batting he has also proven to be the most valuable member of the team with several all round performances pitching in with wickets with his gentle off spinners

Yet last December the 36-year old was not even considered part of South Africa s World Cup plans He was overlooked when a squad of 20 was pencilled in before Christmas There was an outcry in the republic and shattered Kirsten then decided that the only way to get back into the team was to make high scores in Currie Cup matches and domestic one day competitions

The afterthought has now justified his selection by becoming the central pillar of South Africa s bid for a place in the World Cup semis Ironically Kirsten also had to convince the South African selectors on a different score when they wanted to rest him in the game against Zimbabwe and England But they ve got to do a lot to keep me off the field I convinced them I could play And appropriately he delivered an afterthought of his own I told





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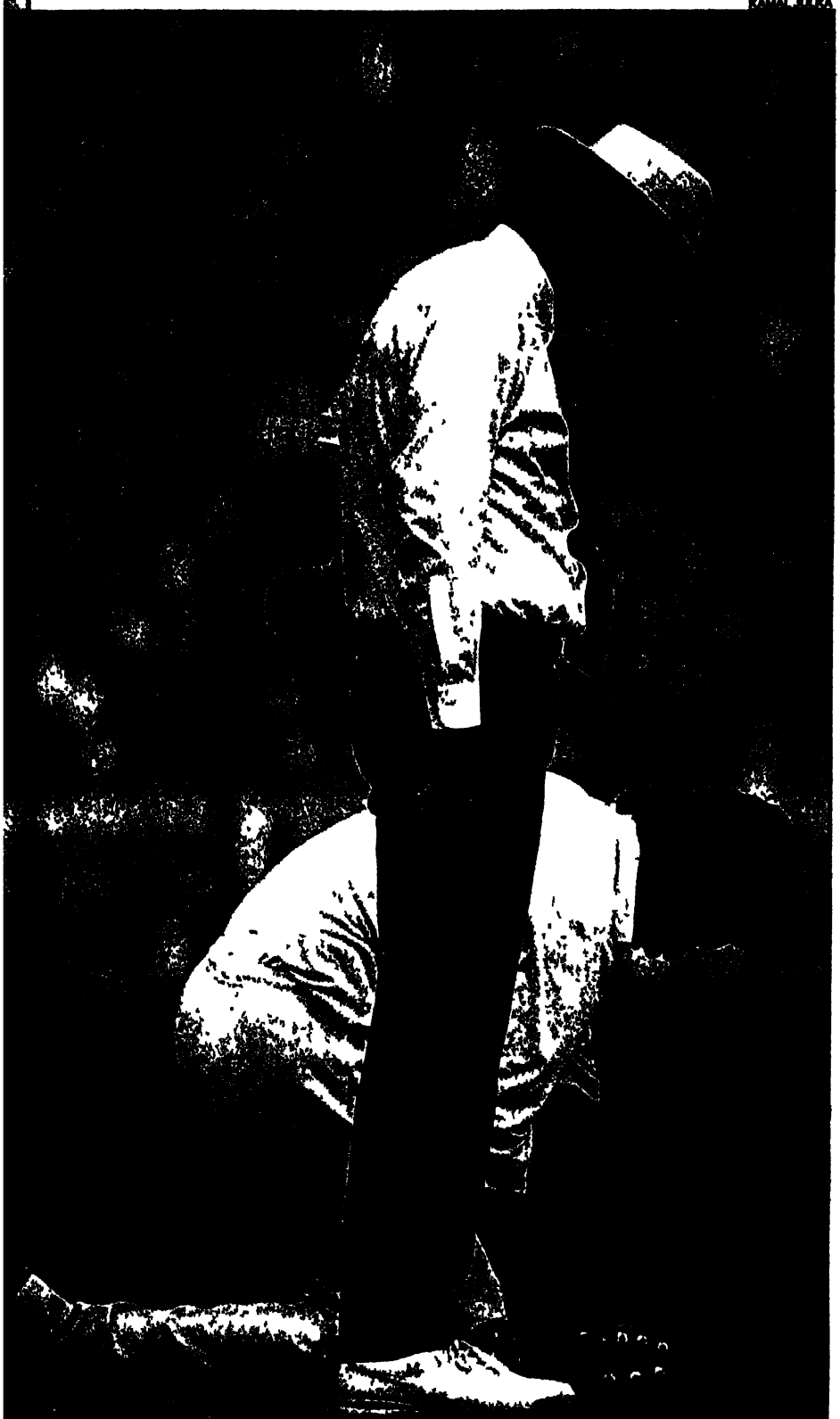
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The front-foot rule is a constant source of worry for umpire and bowler alike

THE World Cup is no more than a nine-horse race, even if one of the teams is more pony than stallion, and no extreme predictions will be found in this column: the taste of the printed page proved far too unpalatable in 1983, when criticism of India, eventual World Cup winners was duly exposed as unwarranted and the urgent suggestion that one should eat one's word was honourably met.

At the start of the final segment of the hectic 1991-92 season—the one month of truly global box-office appeal—some early impressions emerge of the new International Cricket Council code of conduct as it prevailed in the Tests and one-day series in New Zealand, Australia and Pakistan. Over rates seem to have been maintained (memo to ICC: congratulations, but do not forget to raise the requirements to something nearer 18 an hour), and no serious instances of player misbehaviour have caused the overseeing match referees, Messrs Burge, Smith, May and Carr, to impose penalties.

> Most of them (umpires) seem apprehensive at the prospect of a possible loss of authority, failing to see that, on the contrary, their grip on matters would be strengthened

Where murmurs have been heard is in the area of bouncer-restriction. Craig McDermott and some other fast bowlers have predictably labelled the one-bouncer-per-over-per-batsman rule as 'ridiculous'. They would, wouldn't they? The rule does lack conviction when poorly interpreted, as was the case when

IS IT HUMAN TO ERR?

Not when you have the option of reverting to slow-motion replays for close decisions, feels David Frith. When will the umpires realise this?

the umpire at square leg 'called' Prabhakar at Adelaide after a ball passed *just* over the batsman *as he ducked.* (It was widely assumed he was not adjudging the ball to have been thrown!)

The ICC definition of a 'fast, short-pitched ball' is one which 'passes, or would have passed, above the shoulder of the batsman standing upright at the crease'. Had the batsman not ducked, the ball might have struck him in the solar plexus.

The occasional aberration in judgment aside, the curving regulation has been not merely a success but possibly the finest piece of administration in modern times. Merv Hughes and McDermott are still bowling as many ribticklers as they dare, but the blatant 'throat ball' is no longer the monotonous, stultifying stock ball of the exterminators. Instead, it has rightly been forcibly restored to being a surprise element.

This leaves one glaring improvement in need of adoption. Never mind reverting to the back-foot no-ball law: bowlers, greedy for every millimetre, have plenty of ground upon which to plant the front foot, and have only themselves to blame for being no-balled. There are few more pathetic sights than aggrieved bowlers staring down at the popping-crease after being no-balled, craning neck insinuating that the umpire was in error. In fact, the most pressing need, which should be addressed without any further damaging procrastination, is the elimination of erroneous run-out decision, which are so often crucial, the difference between winning and losing, enjoyment and infuriating distraction.

Just before the umpire no-balled Prabhakar's long-hop in the Adelaide Test match he had missed a run-out while Marsh was still scoreless. While only Superman or Wonderwoman could have detected the gap between crease and outstretched bat as the bails were dislodged, the all-important fact is that a million or two television viewers on that Australia Day were shown the truth on the slow-motion replay. India had earned, but were denied, Marsh's wicket. Within seconds the fact of the 'dismissal' was universally available. For all we know, it could have been the 500th unnecessary and spoiling miscarriage of justice since Test matches were first televised with the playback facility.

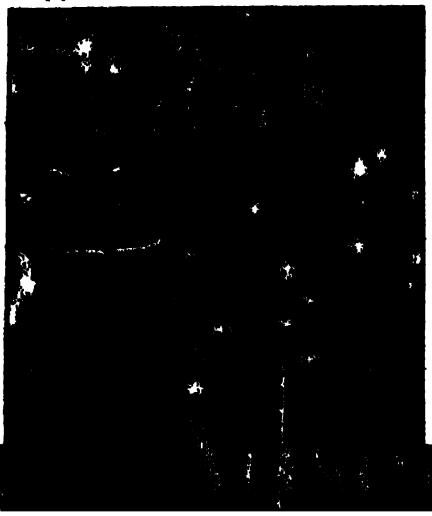
There is nothing more baffling in cricket than the continuing reluctance of umpires to move for the adoption of TV assistance for narrow run-out and stumping decisions. Most of them seem apprehensive at the prospect of a possible loss of authority, failing to see that, on the contrary, their grip on matters would be greatly strengthened. No longer would their errors be held to ridicule in respect of run-outs, stumpings and certain other contentious issues (but *not* lbws or bat-pad catches—though there could be a case for relieving the umpires of the task of no-balling); nor could players justifiably feel disgruntled, for the superior eye of the camera would be deciding their fates with pronounced accuracy, ensuring that justice was done and seen to be done.

Is Test cricket less significant and less enlightened an event than horse-racing? For many years our brethren of the turf have been making sure of the accuracy of their finishes (as well as the propriety of conduct around the bend and down the straight) by employing photographic scrutiny.

The current generation of umpires will probably never summon the wisdom or even the self-effacement to request this aid, so the ICC should examine closely the prospect of adopting the practice in the wake of Sir Colin's momentous charter which came into effect last October. The match referee, a technician at his side if necessary, could be the magic eye, unless it is an umpire himself.

Perhaps, to convince the doubters, it would be no bad thing if the World Cup final at Melbourne were to be decided by their 'glorious human fallibility'—a run-out given not out—as millions around the world stare aghast at the reality on their screen and know, in all Heavenly justice, how it should have been.

Could this South African run out appeal have been better judged?



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

The writer is the Editor of Wisden Cricket Monthly

WORLD OF TENNIS

HEIGHT IS MIGHT!



Diminutive Michael Chang, 5' 9" tall (left) is dwarfed by 6' 4" David Wheaton at the Grand Slam Cup award ceremony

Are tennis players taller now than ever before? More importantly, is height, and here we're talking 6' and plus, a major factor in tennis today? Well, Slobodan Zivojinovic at 6'6" is a little over the top, because being too tall makes it difficult to bend and stretch for volleys. On the other hand, though Michael Chang at 5'9" is in the Top 10, he is the shortest of them all there is no argument that his lack of inches reduces his power factor: especially on the serve. Nevertheless, to give you an idea about the height of tennis players, we present two lists of the Top 10 in 1973 (the year the ATP ranking began) and of the Top 10 now (as of March 9, 1992).

1973	
1) Ilie Nastase	6'0"
2) John Newcombe	6'0"
3) Jimmy Connors	5'10"
4) Tom Okker	5'10"
5) Stan Smith	6'4"
6) Ken Rosewall	5'7"
7) Manuel Orantes	5'10"
8) Rod Laver	5'8"
9) Jan Kodes	5'10"
10) Arthur Ashe	6'1"

1992	
1) Jim Courier	6'1"
2) Stefan Edberg	6'2"
3) Boris Becker	6'3"
4) Pete Sampras	6'0"
5) Michael Stich	6'4"
6) Guy Forget	6'3"
7) Goran Ivanisevic	6'4"
8) Ivan Lendl	6'2"
9) Michael Chang	5'8"
10) Petr Korda	6'3"

NO. 1: CAN COURIER HOLD ON?

STEFAN EDBERG is a quiet unassuming fellow but it ends there. How much he enjoys being No. 1 we don't know, but one thing's for sure he's not happy he's not. And he's almost set to regain the top spot, now held by American Jim Courier.

If Courier thought being No. 1 was an easy business, he'd better think again. As of March 9, 1992, Courier led the rankings all right, with 3585 points, but that was just 33 points ahead of Edberg at 3552. The bad news for Courier was that he failed to defend his points at Indian Wells (377) in early March, a tournament he won last year; and worse, being the defending champion at Key Biscayne (the tournament is in progress right now) he has to defend a further 361 points there. Should he lose in the early rounds and Edberg do well, the No. 1 spot could change hands yet again.

And there's good news for Becker fans too. With 2738 points, he's not too far behind, and considering his form is ominous (he's already won two tournaments this year) the German could be making a quiet charge too. So stay tuned, we'll keep you posted.



Courier's No. 1, but Edberg's getting set to take over

ATP'S BEST OF THE REST

[illegible] by Stefan Edberg, [illegible] his second straight year, winning six titles including the U.S. Open. Interestingly, he joins John McEnroe, Ivan Lendl and Jimmy Connors as the only players to finish No. 1 in consecutive years. Who knows, Edberg might make it three in a row.

The *Doubles Team of the Year*, again a sure bet, was Anders Jarryd and John Fitzgerald. The Swedish-Australian duo, both likeable and combative, were amazingly dominant this year winning the French Open, Wimbledon, the U.S. Open and the ATP World Doubles Championships. What happened at the Australian Open dudes?

Fitzgerald also won the *Sportsmanship Award*, while Jim Courier was named the *Most Improved Player*.

But the loudest cheers of the night were reserved for the *Comeback Player of the Year*,



ATP's Comeback Player of the Year for 1991: Jimbo, who else?

and no one gets any prizes for guessing who it was: hell, if they hadn't given to James Scott Connors there might've been a riot.

Point is, Jimbo, are you going to do it again?

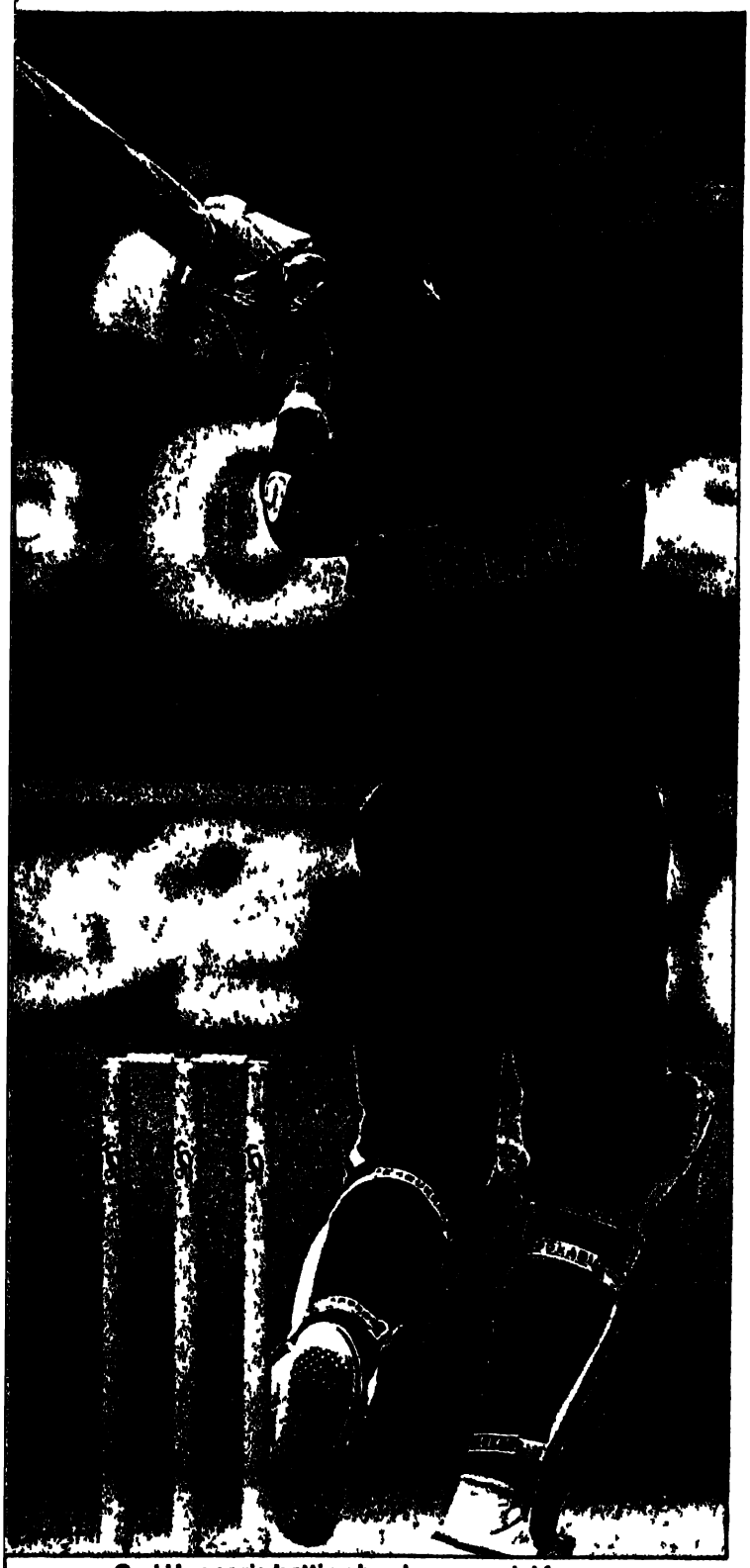
END OF THE LINE



● TIM MAYOTTE The 31 year old American known on the circuit as Gentleman Tim for his manners and sportsmanship linked up with Billie Jean King a few years ago to revitalise his career But, unable to find his old serve and volley form decided to quit The winner of 12 tour titles and ranked as high as No 7 (October 31 1988) Mayotte has been appointed to the ATP Tour Of Directors by Vijay Amritraj

● JAY BERGER The relentless baseliner only 25 years old quit the tour after repeated surgery on his left knee failed to help Like Mayotte he had an all time best ranking of No 7 (April 16, 1990) Berger now plans to coach a college team and do some broadcasting

For tough player and cool guy Mayotte, it's all over



Carl Hooper's batting has been crucial for the injury-ridden West Indies

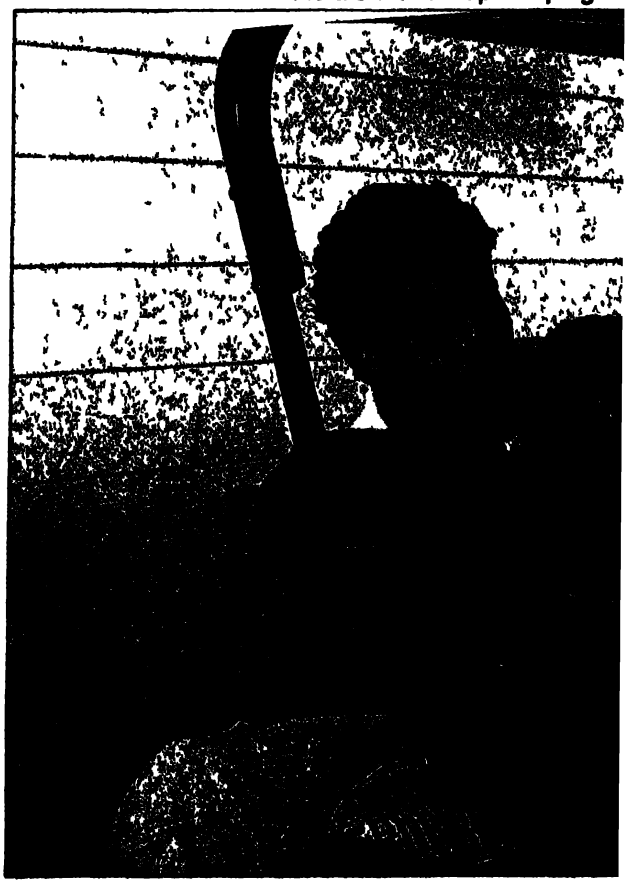


Cricket fans in Australia and New Zealand will never forget the sheer excitement of a Tendulkar innings



b

Skipper Azhar must have expected hi
India's World Cup campaign.



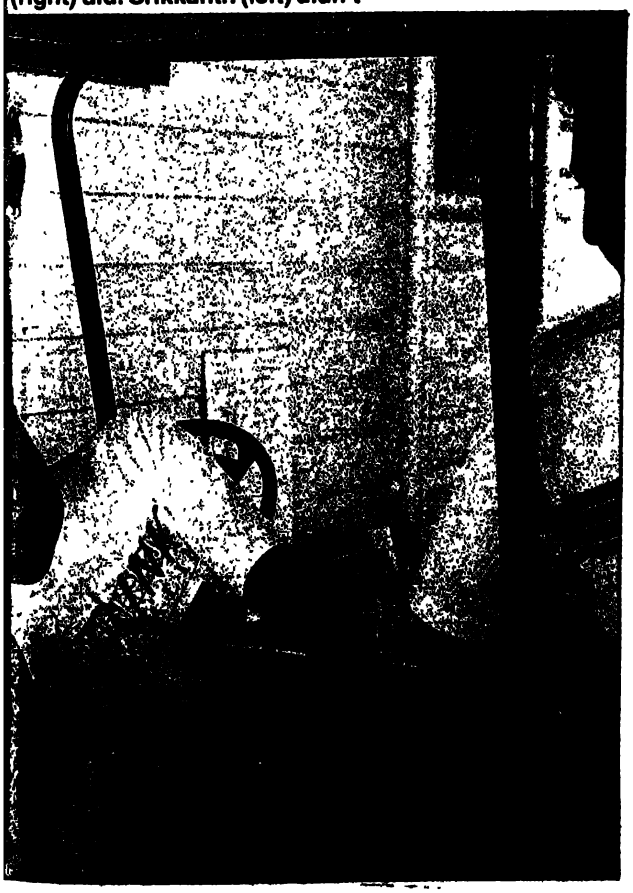
ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY KODAK

World Cup moments...



mbabwe's Andy Flower did an immaculate job
the stumps, but it wasn't enough to spark his team

most experienced players to spearhead
(right) did. Srikkanth (left) didn't

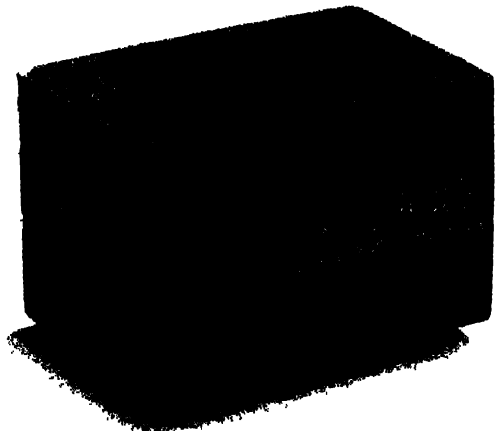




Miles away from home, the Indian and Sri Lankan players mingle together as if political differences did not exist



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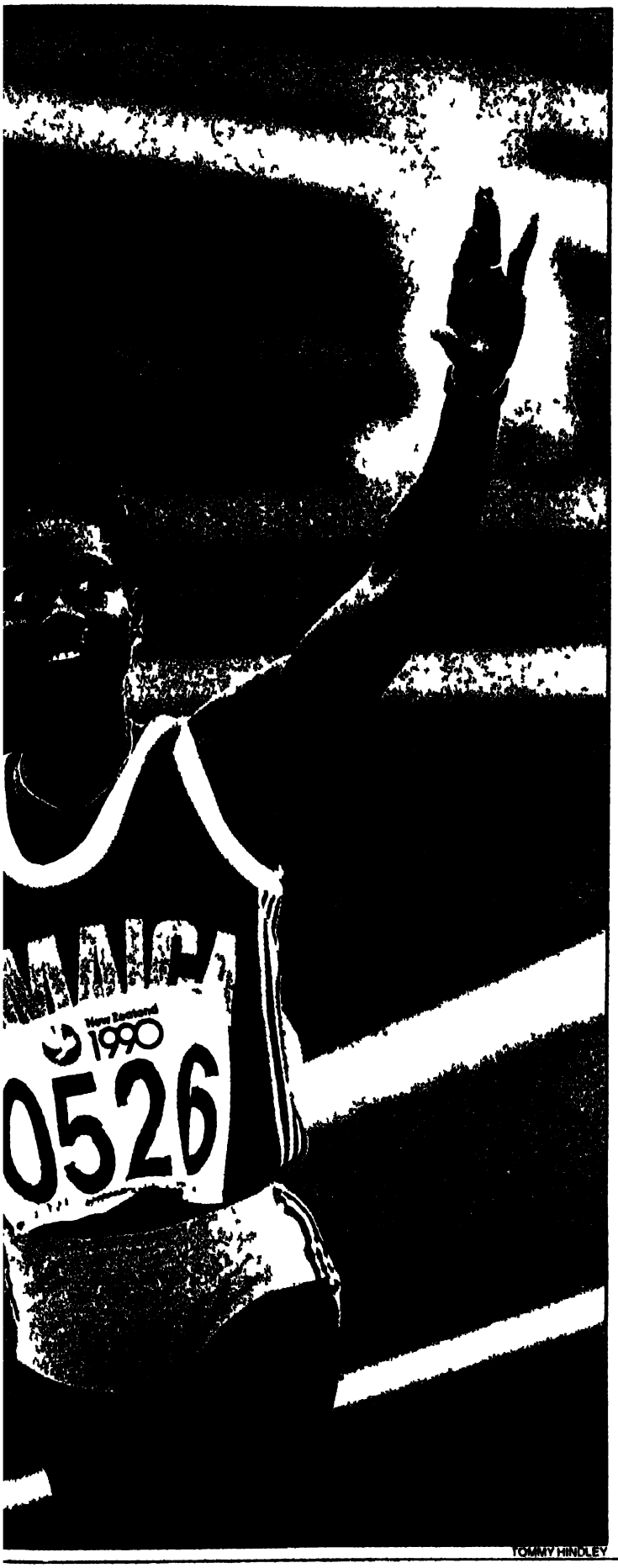


COLORSPORT

Blast off! Ottey's face (extreme right) wears the mask of determination as she takes off for one of her 100m heats in Tokyo

BLACK MAGIC WOMAN

In spite of not winning an Olympic gold medal, Merlene Ottey has been one of the most consistent sprinters in the history of women's athletics. She now pines for the ultimate accolade: a gold medal in Barcelona



TOMMY HINDLEY

PICTURE the year to be 1980 A young Jamaican sprinter by the name of Merlene Ottey has just stopped in London for the Parcelforce Games *en route* to the Olympics in Moscow—where, incidentally she was to win a bronze in the 200m The Jamaican contingent in London was temporarily housed at a hostel in the grounds of the National Sports Centre and

I can still remember that loudspeaker at 8 a m . telling us that it was the last call for breakfast," Merlene Ottey reminisced Times certainly have changed 'Today I can put a Do not disturb' sign up in my hotel and order room service, she confesses

The fastest woman in the world today (by virtue of her consistent performances and with due apologies to Miss Katrin Krabbe) has come a long way since those days Indeed, it has been four years since a bronchitis ridden, hamstrung figure of a woman had to withdraw from the 100m final at the Olympic Games in Seoul in 1988

World class sprinters are virtually history by the time they cross the 30-year-old occupational deadline. So how come Merlene Ottey's flourishing? Is it her zest and verve that keeps her going, or is it...drugs?

The ignominy that followed *that* particular event in Seoul, played itself out in Ottey's mind for the few days that followed Suddenly at the age of 28, she was seriously considering retirement This, however, was not to be a fourth place finish in the 200m final encouraged her to try again She believed that things would change soon

The Merlene Ottey success story started when she was 16 years old Back home on the backstreets of her home village in Hanover, 12 miles from Montego Bay, Ottey developed a keen interest in athletics running barefoot by necessity and keeping one step ahead of the boys

Like most other teenagers her age, she said her daily novenas to Don Quarrie, who had just won the Olympic gold for Jamaica in 1976 Ottey was 19 when she first wore spikes and she didn't have to follow any coaching manual her mother acted as a fitting substitute At that point of time, Ottey s sole ambition was to get an education in America and the only way she was going to get it was by way of an athletics scholarship She finally got one, and went to university in Nebraska

In 1984, Ottey moved to California—in which period she was to win a bronze medal in the 100m at the L A Olympics—but the climate there didn t

Merlene Ottey: One of the most unobtrusive,but certainly the most consistent,female sprinters today in the global athletics circuit

particularly suit her and she developed bronchitis.

She battled the ailment in all possible ways Air purifiers in her home helped. But she still had to pick her times in which to train and would often be 'gasping and wheezing'. Christmas, 1987 was spent in the environs of a hospital after a particularly bad attack "I had to get out of that environment," she said. "I've never been one to quit. If something is holding me back I get away from it." She did

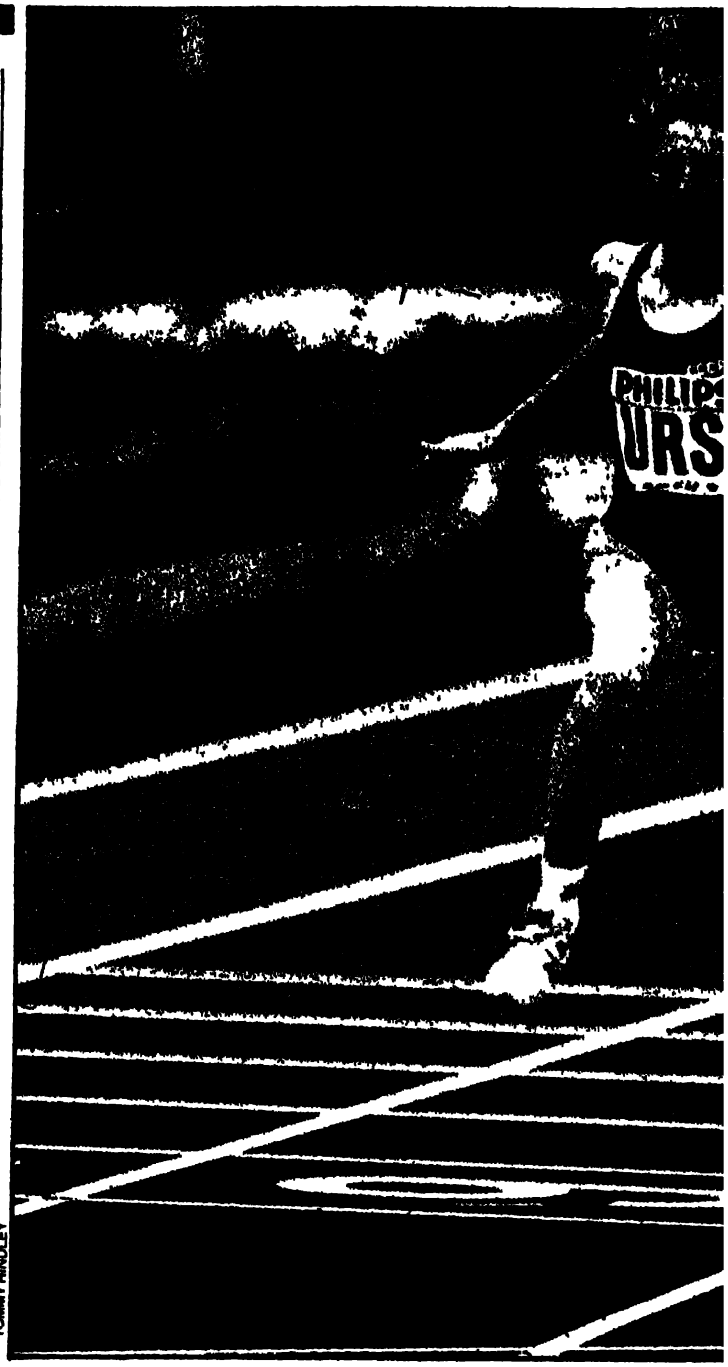
Ottey moved to Europe in early 1989. She had just been divorced from American hurdler Nat Page, so her personal life wasn't exactly brimming with happiness But then happiness is like a hovering butterfly, for which if you wait, will settle soon upon your shoulders. In short, Ottey found love and she found it in Italian sprinter, Stefano Tilli. This new alliance prompted a move to Rome and was to change her life, attitude and mediocre standing in her sport to its current pre-eminence.

In 1990, Ottey was voted International Athlete of the Year and from thence on, she really began to fly. How come the sudden elevation from anonymity to superstardom? Ottey can't pin-point a specific reason. Like a good Christian, she thanks God first, the love of a good Italian and the awakening of her 'fast-twitch fibres'. The latter is not a breakfast cereal, but the muscle composition that all sprinters are born with. Details of the Merlene Ottey training programme are closely guarded but she herself claims that she was running too far during training. "I used to do a lot of three mile runs and this kills off the fast twitch muscles. Now the emphasis is on speed and quality weight training, which wakes up the muscles."

It is just that—and Tilli's influence—that have been the main factors behind Ottey's sudden renaissance as a world-class sprinter in her 32nd year. World class sprinters are virtually history by the time they cross the 30-year-old occupational deadline. So how come Merlene Ottey's flourishing? Is it her zest and verve that keeps her going, or is it...drugs?

August 1, 1992 is the day when a constantly striving athlete from Jamaica is going to try and attain the ultimate accolade. And if perchance, Merlene Ottey wins an Olympic gold, she will be the oldest sprinter to achieve the feat

Ottey's dramatic improvement in form, similar to that of Florence Griffith Joyner's in 1988, has prompted a school of sceptics to presume that she has used steroids to act as a facade for her age, and also to strip away those vital seconds that have made her a winner in 52 consecutive races. Ottey does not shy away from the accusation, insisting that she is

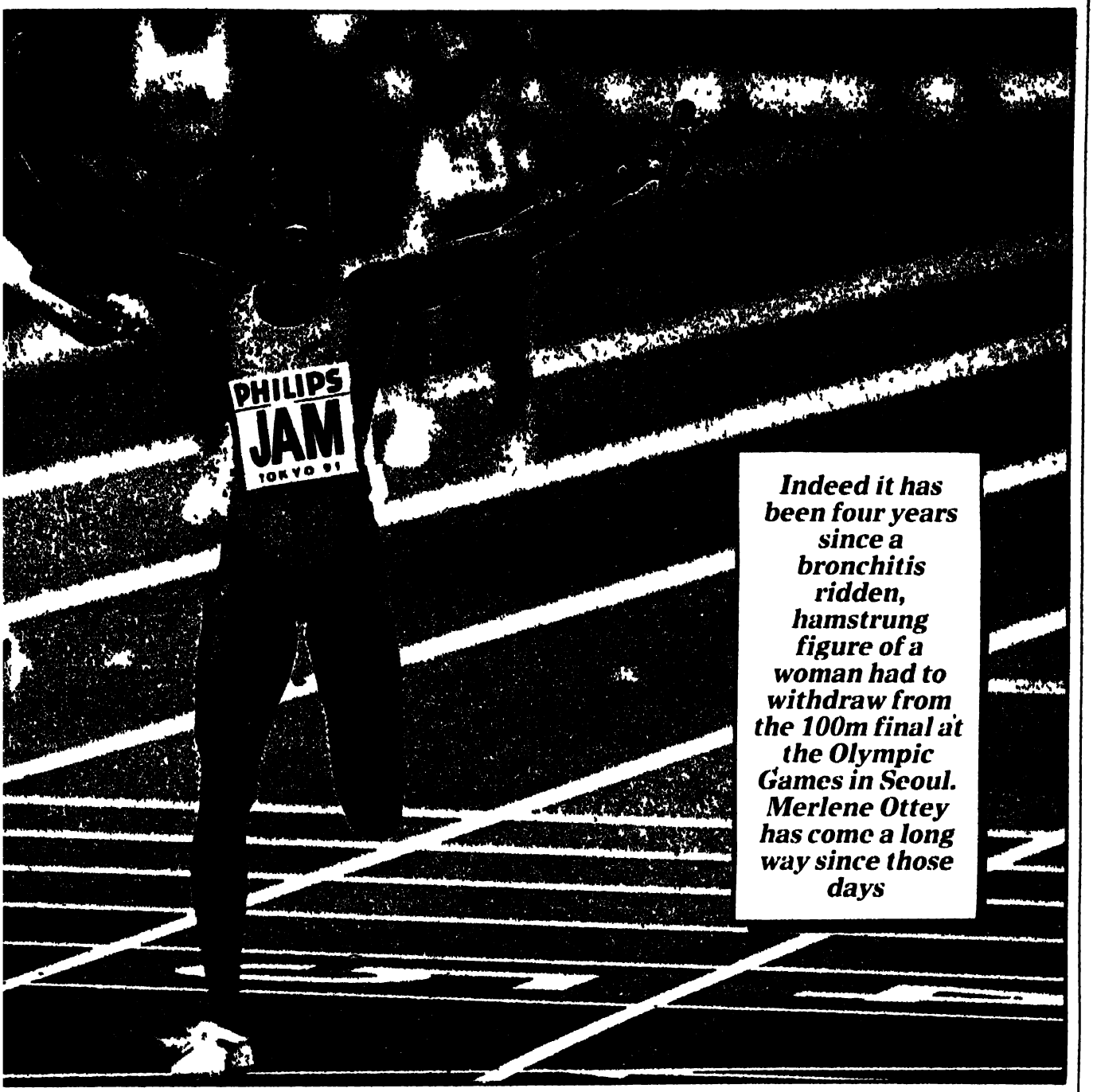


TOMMY HINDLEY

clean, and her flawless complexion—acne is a known side-effect of steroids—suggests that there is truth in her denials. "Once you run fast, you are right there, under suspicion," she concedes. "But my timings are consistent and I am always competing," says the woman whose 100m win-loss record could well become a quiz question statistic

Indeed, this amazing consistency of hers seems to suggest another question: Is there going to be a full-fledged attempt at breaking Flo Jo's 100m world record of 10.49 secs? She does admit grudgingly that the record may be beyond her, but she sincerely believes that the 200m record of 21.34 is breakable. Ottey's current best is 21.66 secs.

Many believe that Merlene Ottey is destined to be



Indeed it has been four years since a bronchitis ridden, hamstrung figure of a woman had to withdraw from the 100m final at the Olympic Games in Seoul. Merlene Ottey has come a long way since those days

Ottey exults after winning her only gold medal at the World Championships in Tokyo in the 4x100m relay

an athletics Hall of Famer. The believers may have concrete reasons for this, but Ottey knows that only one thing is going to elevate her stature from among the ordinary mortals· An Olympic gold! Too many times have her attempts been thwarted. The tag of most consistent sprinter, is but a label. Ottey suffered a blow to her aspirations when she had to settle for two bronze medals behind arch-rival Katrin Krabbe at the World Championships in Tokyo. What is worse, is that Krabbe may be there in Barcelona, as her appeal to the courts, following her post-steroid taking suspension may be in limbo. "People are always talking about my bronze medals," she admitted,her eyes reflecting a look of disgust

August 1, 1992 could be a significant day for Ottey. It is the day of the 100m women's final at the Barcelona Olympics. It is the day when a constantly striving athlete from Jamaica is going to try and attain the ultimate accolade. And if perchance, Merlene Ottey wins an Olympic gold, she will be the oldest sprinter to achieve the feat If she doesn't, well...

. .Jamaica is still going to love her Here's why Fourteen years ago, at the age of 18, Ottey spent her first night in jail. Kingston, Jamaica, was under curfew, and she was a long way from home with nowhere to stay. Ottey spent the night in a cell.

Now, 14 years on, Merlene Ottey has been given the keys to the whole city.

ASIA FEATURES

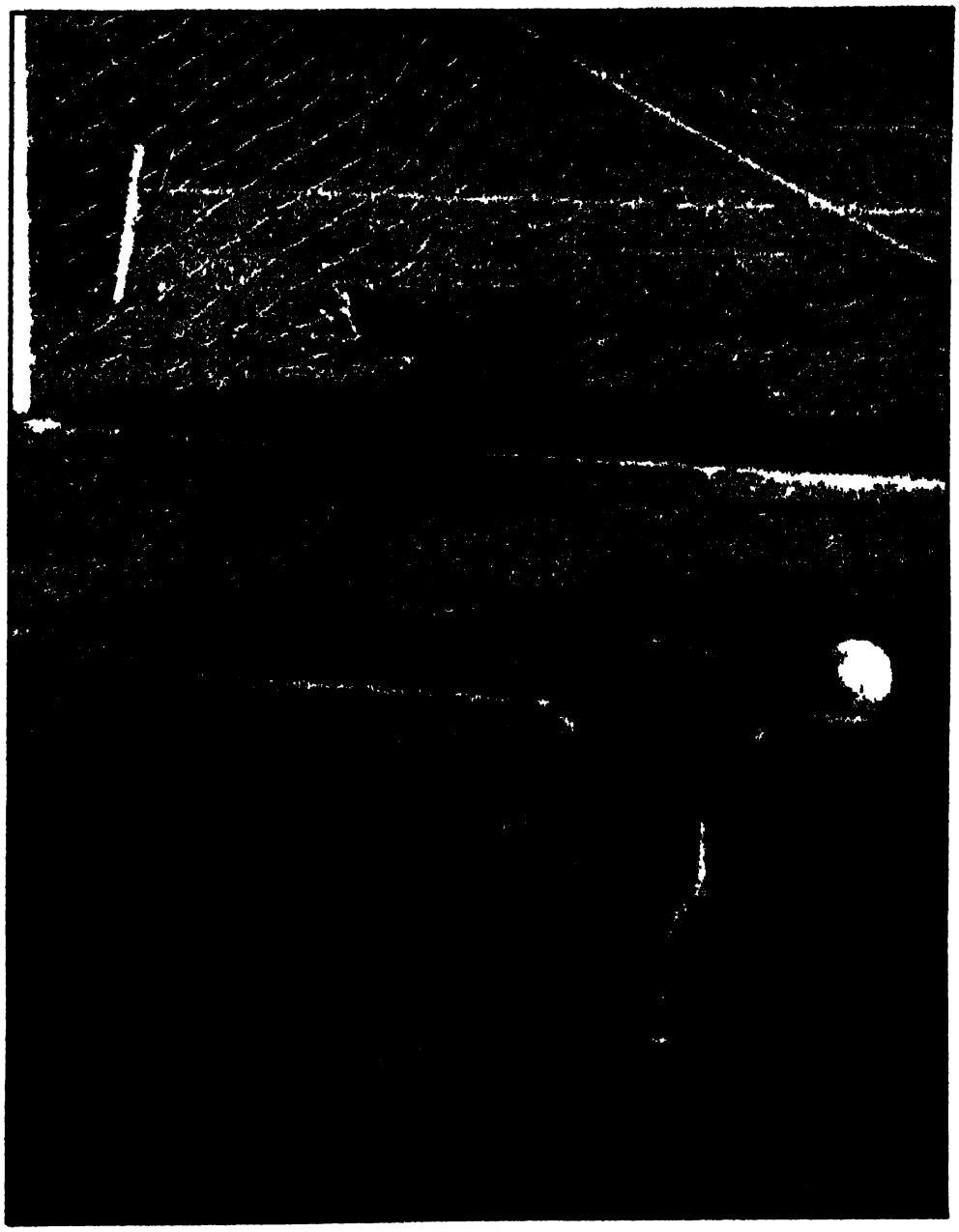
THE LONG WAIT

Kerala had to stay in the queue for 19 long years to win the national championship



ONCE Bengal were tossed into the Arabian Sea by Kerala (in the semi final) the south Indians knew they were on the verge of a historical breakthrough If they beat Goa and won the Lifebuoy sponsored





Santosh Trophy at Coimbatore, they would be regaining national glory after 19 years That certainly is a pretty long time especially when Kerala consider themselves as giants in the domestic soccer circuit

If anything Kerala went into the final with confidence After all, Goa

The Kerala team with the Santosh Trophy which they inscribed after 19 years

were considered a timid side and the high of coming out best in the penalty shootout against Bengal (perhaps the toughest match in this 48th edition of the Santosh Trophy) in the semi final far out — weighed whatever adrenalin charge Goa must have received when they beat Tamil Nadu via the tie breaker in the other semi-final

Yet the Kerala coach T A Zaffar looked more tense than anyone else

Goa misses a good chance when the ball goes past the far post

He had his reasons He doesn t believe in premature celebration He knew only too well that if Kerala didn t win the trophy this time they would continue to languish in the wilderness for many more years Having taken the drubbing for too long this was the most opportune moment for the State to erase the



Kerala goalkeeper Sivadasan grasps the ball in time in the final against Goa at Coimbatore's Nehru Stadium

last four finals from their memory.

Zaffar always respects the opposition, whoever they may be. Against Goa, his initial strategy was to keep a strict surveillance on the main strike force of Roy Barreto and Bruno Coutinho and positioning V P Sathyan in his deep defence The ploy worked wonderfully, although Goa did perform beyond all expectations before going down eventually.

If prior to the final, coach Zaffar was full of anxiety, there was another Kerala supporter who was equally jittery He was none other than former captain 'Fact' Mani—called that because he used to work in a factory—who scored a hattrick against Railways to give Kerala the national championship at Ernakulam in 1973

Ever since then, the Kerala soccer story has been full of woes, until the Kerala Police seriously took up the job of revamping the game in the State. If Mani, from Cannanore, could give Kerala the Santosh Trophy in 1973, could Sathyan, who hails from the same place, repeat

the feat at Coimbatore. And he did it in style.

In the Goa camp, there prevailed an uneasy calm. How were they going to perform? They depended mainly on Barreto and Coutinho upfront while veteran Brahmanand Sancoalkar protected the goal. Adding to this unease was manager Rafael Pereira and coach Bishwas Gaonkar—both of whom had their wives expecting back home. But both are strong-willed and professional enough not to allow their personal feelings to mix with business.

But the biggest jolt came just as the team was limbering up for the final battle. Manager Rafael Pereira received the bad news from Goa that Brahmanand's elder brother had expired. Since Goa was playing the final and Brahmanand was essentially indispensable, his parents had asked the manager not to divulge the sad news at that moment. "This was too much of a shock for us. Although Brahma's relatives have made us promise not to give the news... well," said a choked Pereira.



But the biggest jolt came just as the team was limbering up for the final battle. Manager Pereira received the bad news from Goa that Brahmanand's elder brother had expired. Since Goa was playing the final and Brahmanand was essentially indispensable, his parents had asked the manager not to divulge the sad news at that moment

The sombre mood in the Goa camp—even though none of the players knew about their goalkeeper's loss—deepened once Brahmanand conceded the most unexpected long-range grounder off Rajeev. Goa's confidence gradually began to erode, the final blow coming when Edvin Moraes fouled up from close. But for that, the tale of the final might have been different.

"You see that Moraes' blunder actually changed the whole complexion of the match. However, I'm really satisfied with their performance, especially after getting very little time to practice before coming to Coimbatore," said coach Bishwas Goankar.

CAN there really be any excuse for Bengal's elimination at Coimbatore? Bengal may have had the potential but did the team give it their all? And their lackadaisical attitude and lack of a positive outlook hardly helped. Then again, what is the use of having a technical director (in addition to a coach) when he is unable to give that "extra bit" to steer his team out of a crisis?

Take for instance, former Olympian Nikhil Nandi, the Bengal technical director (TD) who offered negligible advice to players' how to contain Railways (who play a similar pattern of



V N. NARENDRANATH

Coach Zaffar chaired by his Kerala players after defeating Bengal in the semis

soccer in the Calcutta league) who led till the 88th minute. In fact, Bengal had to to literally struggle to obtain the equaliser till a minute before full time.

It is quite obvious that the players get unnecessarily tense before a match, which affects their game badly. And the match against Railways was no exception. Nandi and coach Prasun Banerjee had to thank Pabitra Kar who (besides having played second fiddle for Mohun Bagan last season) certainly raised his price for the ensuing local transfers after scoring twice in two consecutive matches—Railways and Karnataka in the quarter-final league).

Bengal had always boasted of certain stars in the line-up. But what can one say about the so-called glamorous international midfielder Satyajit Chatterjee who shattered Bengal's dream of entering the Santosh Trophy final when his penalty shot went wide in a needle semi-final encounter against Kerala?Would Satyajit still fall into the megabuck bracket?

In Guwahati during the nationals, a singular defensive lapse from Monoranjan Bhattacharya saw Kerala equalise and force a penalty shootout in which Bengal eventually managed to scrape through and win the trophy. Three years later, practically the same Kerala line-up was present at Coimbatore, but this time Kerala called the shots. The funny thing is, having already missed a penalty, why was Satyajit Chatterjee permitted to take a second chance in the penalty shootout? Who do we blame? Nandi or Prasun Banerjee? As usual there will be no answer and no accountability.

If there was one good performance that can be singled out in this crucial semi-final tie, it was from the cool and composed Sudip Chatterjee, who toiled ceaselessly in the midfield and then boldly took the first shot in the tiebreaker to give his side the lead. One keeps thinking that if Krishanu Dey had stayed on the field, it might have been a different story. But he asked to be relieved by "feigning injury". This indifferent attitude by a senior player leaves much to be desired. He obviously wasn't thinking of Bengal, but only about himself...and the interclub transfers.

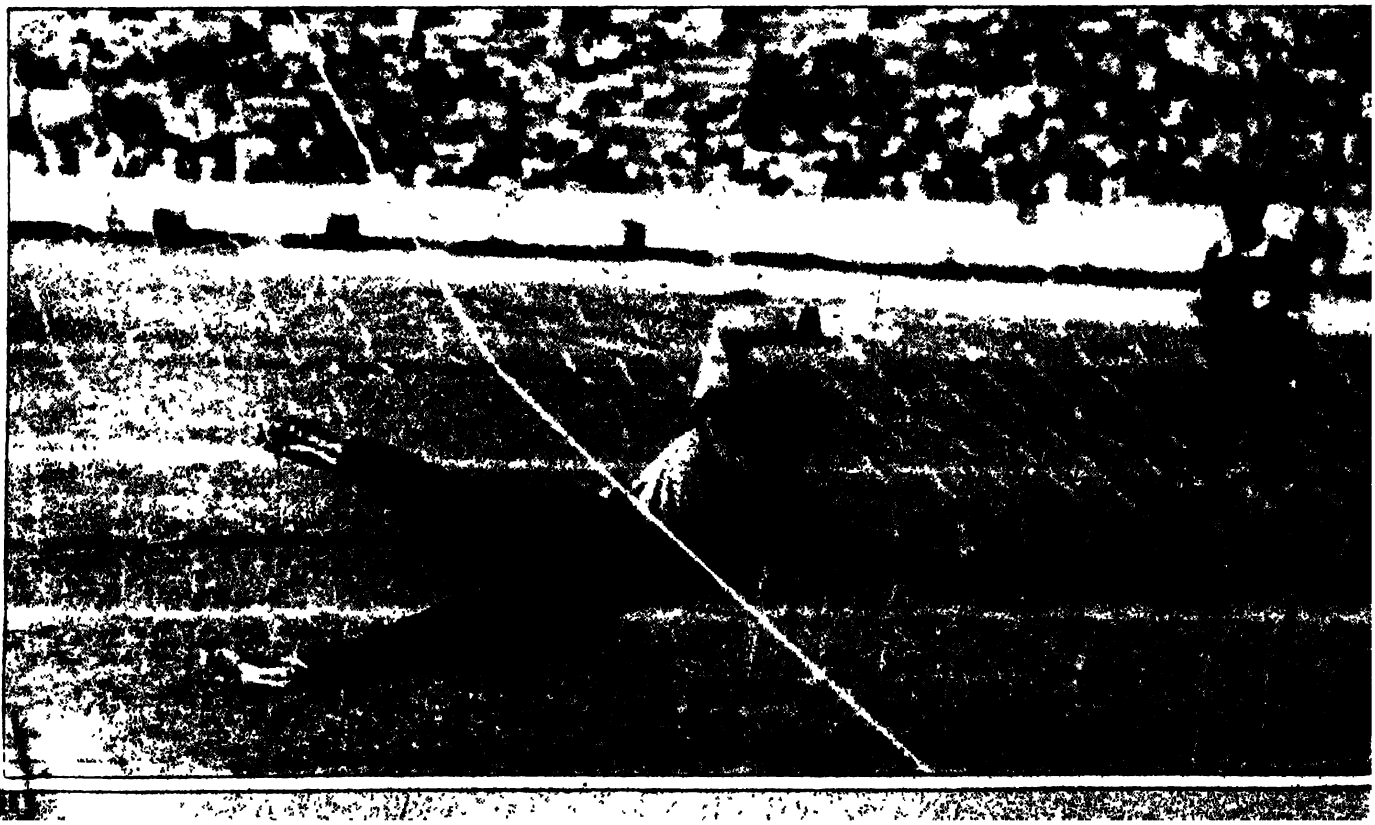
With this kind of strange professional attitude, how can Bengal ever think of regaining lost glory? These stars have once again proved that their loyalty "unquestionably" belongs to the clubs.

Yet another example was captain Tarun Dey (who recently said that he will never play for the state and country in future. That is, if he ever gets a chance). If the captain himself does not show the desire, how can he expect his team to perform? In fact, Tarun Dey proved himself to be a chicken-hearted skipper when he declined to take a penalty shot. Moreover, a couple of lapses by him in defence nearly allowed Kerala to pump in two early goals, but for the wily keeping of Debashis Mukerjee.

Tarun Dey's reluctance to take the last penalty put Prasun

Bengal were eliminated in the semi-final by Kerala. Here a Sivadasan penalty shot beats Debashis Mukherjee

V N NARENDRAN



in a fix: who would take it instead? The choice was between Mohun Bagan's two Kerala players (who have sought for inter-state transfers) Saraf Ali and Vijayan. Saraf being the more shrewd player somehow managed to be excused, perhaps because he didn't want to antagonise the Kerala crowd which had jeered and used provocative language against him and Vijayan earlier and still continued to do so on that fateful day. This had affected both the Kerala players to a large extent. So eventually Vijayan was hauled up to perform the last rites.

A deathly silence prevailed in the stadium. The Bengal players were tense...somewhere, there was this uncanny feeling that Vijayan was going to foul up. There was one good reason for that. He hadn't played well and made a mess of things upfront during those full 120 minutes. And then he failed to put the ball past Sivadasan and Bengal the "paper tigers" of the nationals were out.

But what can one say about the so-called glamorous international midfielder Satyajit Chatterjee who shattered Bengal's dream of entering the Santosh Trophy final when his penalty shot went wide in a needle semi-final encounter against Kerala? Would Satyajit still fall into the megabuck bracket?



While the beating and the cacophony continued unabated in the Nehru Stadium, one clean-shaved Keralite was fuming. He definitely was happy that Kerala won, but amazed at the attitude of the Bengal players.

"I may hail from Kerala, but during the days when I played for Bengal and had won the Santosh Trophy six times out of nine years, we had always shown dedication and loyalty. You know why? Because I earned my bread there," said a disillusioned former Bengal and Olympian T.A. Rahman.

"Now they earn enormous amounts of money and are too professional. The standards have gone down too. Look at Krishanu. When Bengal needed him most he left the field feigning injury. It's deplorable," said the irate Rahman, adding, "How could Vijayan be allowed to take the final shot in the tie-breaker?"

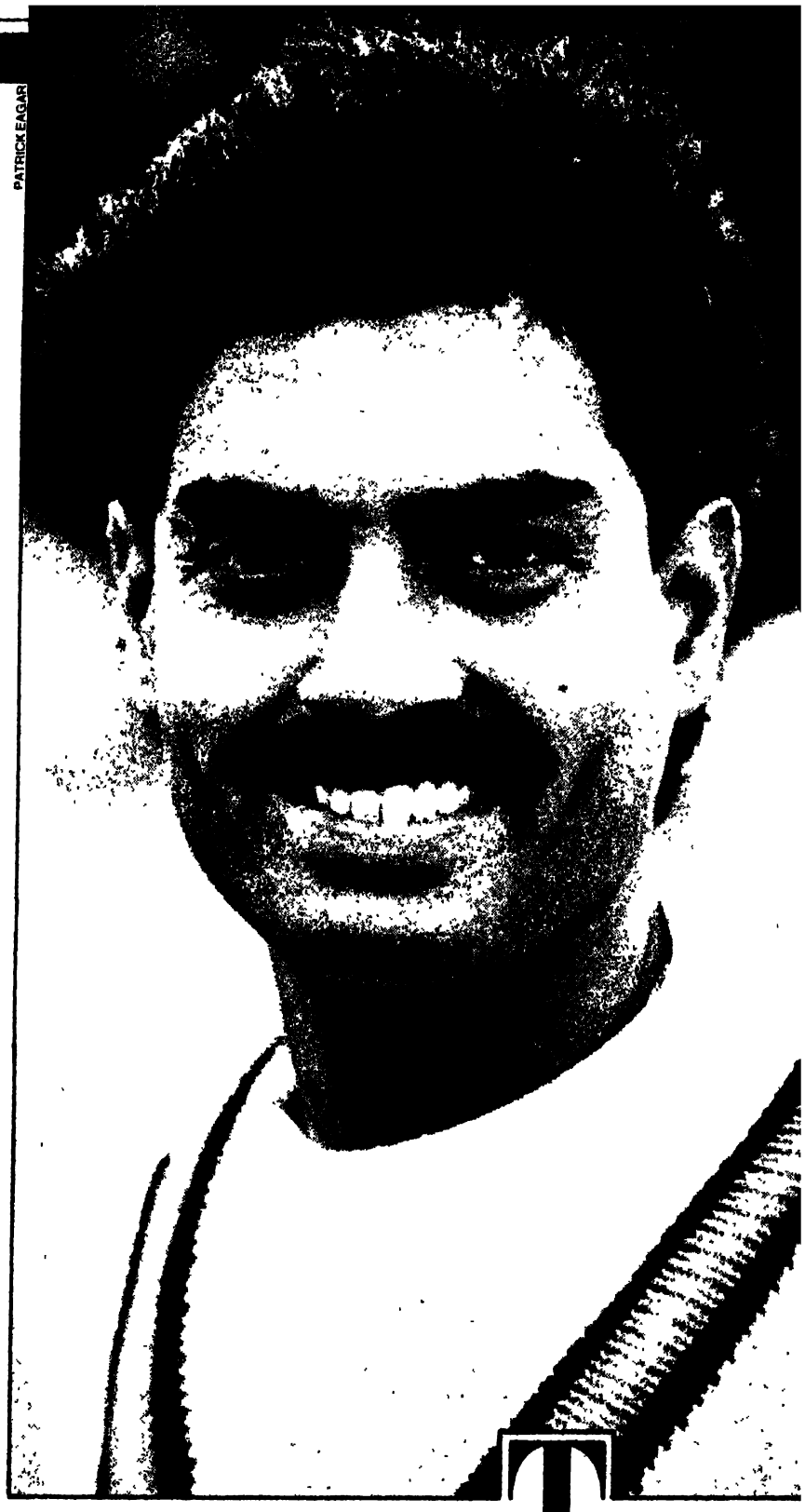
The IFA must take strict measures not to send 'disloyal' players to the nationals. At Quilon the star-studded Bengal team had provided enough scandal,yet this keeps happening. The IFA will have to stress on young talent from now onwards and prepare them to meet the challenge on and off the field. Perhaps it's time the IFA forgets about the glamour names. Is Prodyut Dutta listening?

Subhash Sarcar, Coimbatore

COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS J PAUL VINCENT

Brahmanand fails to stop a long range grounder. Kerala defeated Goa in the final





PATRICK EAGAR

DILIP VENGSARKAR

THE LAST RETREAT

THE present is really no time to judge Dilip Vengsarkar. Cast yourself into the distance, forget that you are in 1992, stretch time to say 2042 AD and

BY MUDAR PATHERYA

pretend to ease into the carpet slippers of the unbiased historian. How then would you log 'Vengsarkar, Dilip Ballwant of Bombay, West Zone and India?' Will you have to reach for the 20th century Wisdens and say, 'let's look up his numbers' or react as the man who has just seen his first Rembrandt, and say 'Y' know, grandson, I saw him play.'

A bit of both? We will reserve for him the same niche as we have for the Manjrekars (Vijay) and Bordes; we will trace his lineage to the 'solid school'; we will say that his influence would have been sharper had it not been for the fact that he lived his business life in the shadow of a certain Gavaskar.

Interesting, when you consider that Vengsarkar retires with a 100-odd Test runs less than Don Bradman; that in the most prosperous phase of his career (1983/84 to 1987/88), he gave even Gavaskar a run for his batting average.

But hang on, one is drifting. What images will flicker in our memory when someone mentions Vengsarkar 50 years from now? My mind is likely to go back to Port of Spain, 1989, the fourth afternoon when Malcolm Marshall did the tin-openers's job on the Indian batting. We lost five or six wickets for next to nothing, and only Vengsarkar survived. He scored an unbeaten 62 (I think) as batsman after batsman joined the heap. There was so much of well, what's the word I am looking for...girt? No. Solidity? No. Character? That's the word I want. There was so much of character in that brief innings when the pitch had cracked—I slipped a Barbadian dollar coin into a crevice on the short of a good length spot an hour after India was beaten and it disappeared—and Marshall's throat balls were replaced by Ambrose's, Walsh's and whoever's, there were prowling fielders who wouldn't miss a thing, and you ended up with a feeling as hopeless as the boy with the sea on one end and the burning deck on the other. Since India lost by a ridiculous margin, the innings was buried under the debris and we spent the next few hours with the post-mortem report and dissecting a patient long dead. A pity.

There's another innings that flashes across the mind—a different kind with a different result. Against New Zealand in the semi finals of the World Championship in 1985, he pulled off an amazing 62-odd not out with so much ease that temporarily even Kapil Dev was as much a spectator as I was. India, looking like packing up, cruised to win the game—and eventually the tournament.

His high point was 1986, a season belonging as exclusively to him as we are likely to remember that 1971 was Gavaskar's. He took two Test hundreds off England in England including his 116 at



The 1989 tour to the Caribbean Islands was the last time Vengsarkar captained the team



Of Don Bradman it was said that if his opponents had any sense they should have traded a century for each innings he played. In 1986, you could have said the same for Vengsarkar—and got away with it



His high point was 1986, a season belonging as exclusively to him as we are likely to remember that 1971 was Gavaskar's. He took two hundreds off England in England, including his 116 at Leeds which he rates as his best,and was on the batting side almost singularly responsible for India's 2—0 victory

Leeds which he rates as his best (the ball was doing all sorts of 'things') and was, on the batting side, almost singularly responsible for India's 2-0 series victory. Deloittes, not surprisingly, put Vengsarkar at the head of its list of the most successful batsmen for that year. Vengsarkar scored 360 runs in 3 Tests in 1986 including 2 centuries.

Of Don Bradman it was said that if his opponents had any sense they should have traded a century for each innings he played. In 1986, you could have said the same for Vengsarkar—and got away with it.

But had he remained only a batsman for India, Vengsarkar's career profile would have been simple to sketch. Somewhere along the line, the captaincy became a trophy he desperately craved. He felt cheated at having been deprived of the captain's slot for the 1980-81 tour of Australia, which should have made his accession so much easier. As it turned out, Gavaskar was replaced as captain by the 23-year-old Kapil Dev, which must have come as a setback to those in the side who had put in far more years, Vengsarkar included.

When the captaincy finally came five-and-a-half years later, Vengsarkar replaced Kapil Dev. Nobody is likely to remember his tenure specially; just as the sad part is that nobody is likely to remember that he led India in three Test series, two against the West Indies and one against New Zealand. His first Test as captain at New Delhi we almost won: India under Vengsarkar beat New Zealand and while the tour of the West Indies in 1989 was an absolute disaster, there have been other countries in recent years who have fared worse.

The circumstances of Vengsarkar being relieved of captaincy, it is said, has as much to do with India's loss of the series in the West Indies as to an interview that he gave after it. The captain torpedoed his colleagues for running away from the fast bowling; he blamed Azhar (though not by name) for flinching and being scared of the ball; he singled out a spinner (Hirwani) for deliberately shirking Test match duty by complaining that he wasn't fit on the eve of a Test; he defended his decision to play spin bowler Venkatramana on the grounds that his extra pace bowler who had not played a Test in the series, decided to duck the fourth Test.

It was this hard-hitting interview, the loss of the series and the fact that he had cast in his lot with those cricketers (rebels) demanding a better pay, that eventually cost Vengsarkar his captaincy. Critics were not surprised; they were amazed that a batsman, who could withdraw from India's high pressure semi final against England at Bombay in 1987 because

Vengsarkar And Th

REMEMBER the old Indian bogey against the moving ball? How an outswinger had to be pitched on the off stump and our batsmen would go flashing an edge behind? If this weakness is only a memory now, we have Dilip Vengsarkar to thank: in part.

Reason: when Gavaskar plundered 774 runs off the West Indies in 1971 and Sardesai got 600 plus, it was against fast bowlers like Holder, Shillingford, Sobers and Uton Dowe—hardly ammunition.

In England, 1974, we scraped five scores of less than 250 out of six innings, including 42 all out, against Arnold, Old and Hendrick. This was the time when our failure to play the moving ball was most pronounced.

A couple of years later in New Zealand our string of scores were 414, 71 for 2, 270, 255, 220 and 81 all out against Richard and Dayle Hadlee and Collinge. Against the West Indies, that season our famous Port-of-Spain victory was largely due to the fact that Clive Lloyd used spinners Padmore (47 overs) and Jumadeen (41 overs) for long and Holding for only 21 overs. Our really creditable performance in years against fast bowling was in the following Test at Sabina Park when we scored 306 for six in the first

of a mysteriously upset stomach (off all reasons), should have been appointed captain in the first place. When India went for the 1988 Asia Cup to Dhaka, vernacular reporters accused him of orchestrating an anti-Shastri movement within the team (Vengsarkar dismissed this as story telling); following the Cuttack Test against Sri Lanka, Vengsarkar's being overlooked for the MOM award drew so much annoyance that he refused to collect his Man of the Series award; he refused to stop reporting the series against the West Indies in 1987, while still the captain, and was eventually banned by the



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Swing Scare

innings. In the second innings we managed a mere 97 and yielded the Test and series. We will omit the 1977-78 series in Australia from this survey because Jeff Thomson was the only genuine fast bowler around.

We now come to England 1979. India scored 297 (116.1 overs) and 253 (95.4 overs) in the first Test against Willis, Botham and Hendrick. In the second Test at Lord's, India was bowled out for 96 in 40.3 overs (last four wickets fell for no runs). England hit 419. Chasing 323 to avoid [illegible] India were 40 [illegible] and Vengsarkar [illegible] together in the second innings. Remember, the ball was moving around, we were already 0-1 in the series, and a huge defeat looked imminent. Surprisingly, we did not buckle under. Vengsarkar (103) and Vishwanath (113) added 210 and India, 318 for four, pushed the match to a draw.

In our years of running away from fast/swing bowling, that appears to have inspired the turning point. In the third Test at Leeds, India was 160 for six at one stage in reply to England's 270 when Vengsarkar (65 not out) and Ghavri (20 not out) added 63 and [illegible] was forced into another draw. At The Oval, India chased 438 in 498 minutes and ended the game nine runs short with two wickets in hand. Gavaskar scored 221, Vengsarkar 52.

That series appears to have been the watershed in our hesitation to tackle the moving ball. There have been instances in later years when we have packed up against fast/swing bowling, oh yes, but no longer were we allergic. We could now venture out into the storm without the guarantee of catching a cold. We have a Vengsarkar [and Vishwanath] innings to credit for the psychological inoculation.

[illegible] Pathreya

Elegance is one trait that has always been synonymous with Vengsarkar's batting

BCCI for a while; he reacted strongly in a club match in Bombay and called the umpire a cheat which didn't do anything for his image even though what he said may not have been wrong; he was irritated at his 'Colonel' nickname and disliked being referred as one; was returned from the Emirates in the early Eighties after an altercation at the airport Immigration desk—minor footnotes in the biography of a prolific runmaker.

As I was saying, 50 years from now when we are searching around Gavaskar's shadow for any likeness to the edifice itself, our DBV will figure topmost. A bit of a pity for a man with nearly 7000 Test runs to his name. ●

RIDING UP A STORM

Rajashekar, soft spoken and unassuming, is the new riding sensation



THE Royal Calcutta Turf Club needs to take a leaf out of the Hyderabad Race Club's book to produce better riders. In earlier days Calcutta produced some of the finest jockeys in the country but in the last five years or so we have not seen any youngster showing the sort of promise or the talent for that matter to ultimately move into that top bracket.

Rajashekar the young rider from Hyderabad came like a breath of fresh air to Calcutta racing and is sure to go far in the All India Jockeys Rankings. A soft spoken unassuming youngster with impeccable manners Rajashekar had the crowd in Calcutta up on their feet cheering him on when he booted home a double on two successive race days.

This was the same lad who had taken Bangalore by storm when he

Rajashekar the most promising jockey astride Kalamaris

by CYRUS J. MADAN

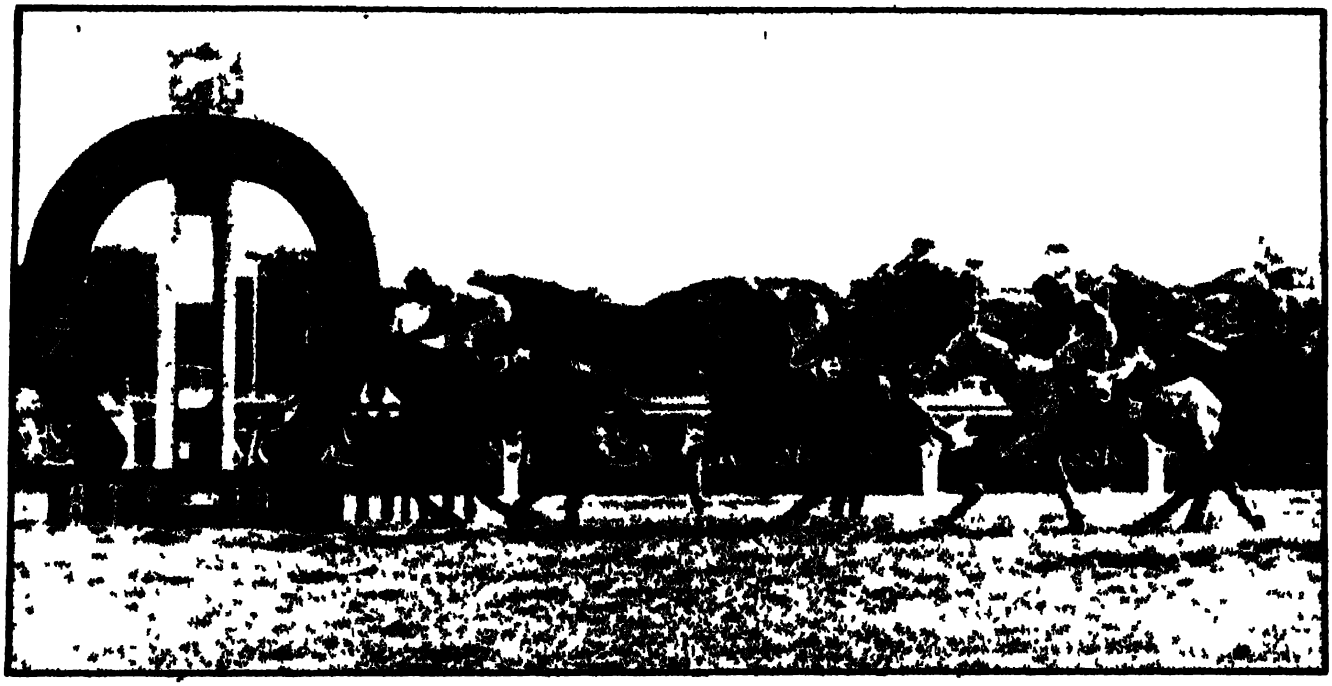
rode Kalamaris to a superb victory in the Sprinters Classic. Hence he is not a newcomer to the winner's circle, but for Calcutta's sagging riding talent he was just the booster the doctor recommended.

The race he rode on El Furiouso in the Grand Annual for instance on Sunday, March 15, was

Rajashekar's greatest victory to date, the Sprinters Classic

time out and then finishing fifth in the Magic Million. Hardly had the dust from this fracas settled when another hit the headlines at the declaration stage. Due to a misunderstanding Rajashekar was declared to ride two horses in the Grand Annual. Eventually thanks to owner Mr L C Gupta who opted to withdraw his colt Passion Player, Rajashekar was allowed to ride El Furiouso, and what a remarkable ride he gave the colt.

Eyes was ridden by Engineer in place of Aslam Kader who hurt himself riding in the race earlier and he was declared medically unfit. She seemed to have every chance but failed to quicken. At one stage it looked like the Vijay Singh trained All Star was going to come out on top. He burst through the middle and was moving best of the lot when El Furiouso swooped down to eventually edge him out by a neck A length and quarter away, in third place was Wild Desire, and



adequate testimony to my assessment of the youngster.

The Grand Annual Handicap sponsored for the second time in succession by Ross Murarka (of India) Pvt. Ltd., had excitement written all over it from the very beginning It began when the handicaps were published and quite a few professionals raised a hue and cry to the fact that the Handicapper had placed Wild Desire (a maiden) at a mark that was higher than the handicap allotted to a filly named Arashi. Arashi has raced four times this season winning on debut and never being off the board in her subsequent three starts. Her past venture was in the Champagne Stakes where she ran fourth. Wild Desire on the other hand had raced only twice, narrowly losing first

A field of 11 lined up to face the starter for the Grand Annual Handicap From the betting point of view the race was wide open and on that score the Handicapper must have been having a quiet laugh up his sleeve The race itself was a thriller With less than 300 metres to run there were five of them in a line. But it was Rajashekar's superb handling and remarkable judgement on El Furiouso which won the day. He got the best run thanks to not having panicked and he slipped through on the inside taking the shortest way home while almost everyone else took the turn five to six horses wide. The main defaulters in this department were the riders of Wild Desire and Schwarzenegger.

The favourite for the race Misty

he in turn had three parts of a length to spare to Misty Eyes, who was fourth

El Furiouso who is trained by John Stephens was a maiden before going into the Grand Annual. By Sovereign Silver out of Generation Gap it was obvious that he needed ground to produce his best and John Stephens had looked after him and prepared him superbly for this race On his previous form to say that he had a chance was difficult because in his last start he had failed to deliver on a soft track against a colt named Quick Recovery, and that was not saying much. But El Furiouso had obviously come a long way since then and he becomes one of the few maidens to win the Grand Annual Handicap

PHOTOGRAPHS P DESIKAN (RAJAN)

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Name the first African born cricketer who represented Pakistan in Tests as well as one-dayers?
2. General Zia ul Haq's first instructor in the Army was a famous English batsman Name him
3. This Indian batsman achieved something no other cricketer has ever achieved He batted at all numbers from one to 11 in Test cricket Name him?
4. His favourite diversion during a Caribbean tour was to throw people into the swimming pool or bombing poolside loungers with water filled paperbags from his hotel room on the seventh floor Phil Edmonds even complained that 'we have a complete mad man out here' Name him
5. In 1981, a great West Indian player became the first person to score a century against all the 16 first class counties in England Name him
6. Name the Indian cricketer who was dismissed for a duck 24 times in his 80 innings, which is a world record?
7. Name the Pakistani cricketer whose nickname is 'Rambo'?
8. Whose autobiography is termed 'The Last Ten Years'?
9. During the 1972 Munich Olympics, a street in the Olympic Park was named after an Indian hockey player Name him.
10. Who was given the nickname 'Tann Cyclone'?
11. Who wrote, of whom, 'I believe he would make a hundred in the blackout"! and what does it mean?
12. Name the batsman who holds the record of achieving the milestone of 30,000 runs in first-class cricket in the least number of matches?
13. The fastest 50 in first-class cricket recorded by an individual took just 8 minutes Who is credited with this outstanding record?
14. What is common between: a) Ilie Nastase (b) J Brichant and c) T Koch.
15. Which player won three Wimbledon titles in his first attempt but never played there again?
16. Which England all rounder was born in Nairobi, Kenya?

ANSWERS:

1 Qasim Omar, who was born in Kenya
2 Denis Compton
3 Vinoo Mankad
4 Ian Botham
5 Vivian Richards
6 B S Chandrasekhar
7 Rameez Raja
8 Daley Thompson
9. Roop Singh
10. Jesse Owens
11 Sir Pelham Warner on Don Bradman He wrote this during the second World War and Black Out' here means total darkness
12 Denis Compton from 373 matches
13 Clive Inman for Leicestershire versus Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge in August 1965
14. They have played more than 100 Davis Cup matches for their country
15 Bobby Riggs in 1939 won the singles, doubles and mixed titles
16. Derek Pringle

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
DEEPAK E.B.

SANTI HOSPITAL

KODAKARA

TRICHUR (DIST)

KERALA.

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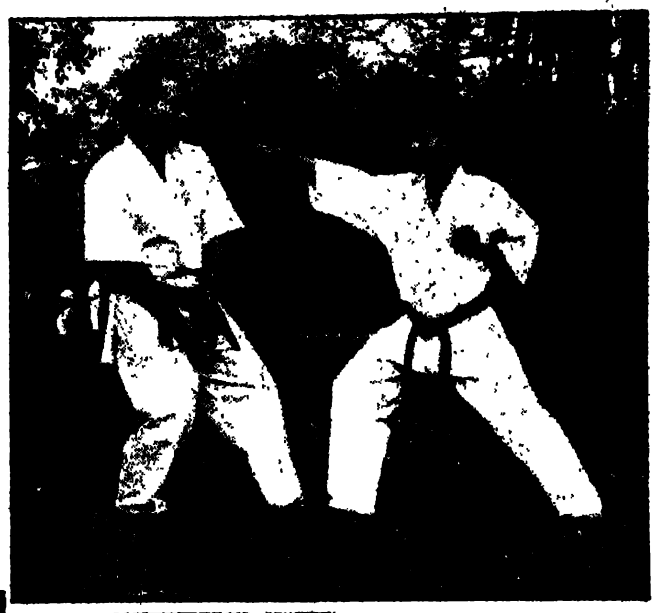
All answers sent in by the contributor

KARATE

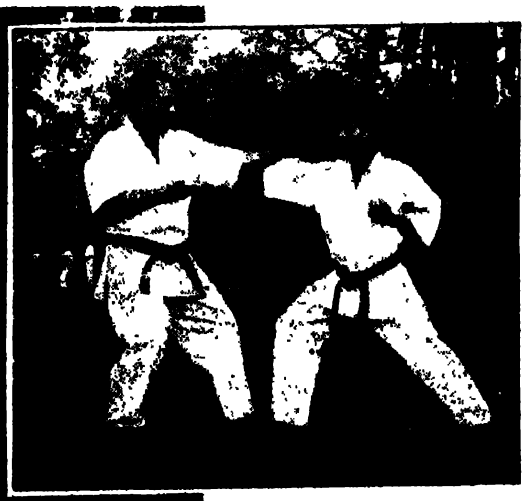
THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING our self-defence techniques from *kokutsu-dachi* lean back and block a punch to the head region with a *mawashi-uki*. In the same motion, grab his punching arm with your left hand and pull him in towards you even as you deliver a *shuto-ganmen-uchi* or a chop to the temple.

By Shivaji Ganguly,
Kyokushankaikan Karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA









Go into kokutsu-dachi and block the punch with a mawashi-uki block (insets). Then pull him towards you and deliver a chop to the temple.

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about

SPORTING TRIVIA

PROVE THEM WRONG JAHANGIR

A 10 year record breaking sequence unlikely to be equalled has ended with an injury that will prevent Jahangir Khan from defending his 10 British Open title at Wembley next month.

Whether this could mark the end of a remarkable career is a cause of some concern within the sport. However the most successful player in its history was said to be finished just over a year ago when he was absent from the circuit for five months because of illness. But Jahangir proved the cynics wrong then by coming back to win a 10th British Open title.

Jahangir has since seen several specialists regarding his back injury and all of them have told him that pieces of vertebrae were rubbing together. The former world champion has been in such discomfort that he has taken to sleeping on the floor and even gentle exercise is impossible.

If Jahangir says he will come back few would be foolish enough to discount the possibility. However he will be well into his 29th year by the time he returns to the circuit which would make him the oldest man on the circuit!

OLYMPIC UPDATE

THE threat to the Barcelona Olympics in June posed by Eta the Basque separatist organisation is still potent and the police are mounting huge security operations to ensure the games are not disrupted.

And while on the subject of the Olympics, the small Spanish town of Banyoles picked to host the rowing is capitalising on a controversy over a mummified black man displayed in the local museum supposed to be a Kalahan Bushman.

The mummified man so offended the sensibility of a Haiti born Spanish doctor that he has urged African countries to boycott the Olympics if the exhibit is not removed.



NEBIOLO IS SAMARANCH'S MAN

PRIMO NEBIOLO, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), became the first of Juan Antonio Samaranch's nominated members to the International Olympic Committee.

Nebiolo immediately set about attempting to assist in the resolution of political controversies.

Sergei Bubka, the pole vaulter, is cashing in on a tournament to be held at the Red Square

concerning the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Samaranch's choice of Nebiolo as the first of his discretionary nominations—granted as a change in the charter during the Winter Games—came as no surprise.

But the main focus of interest is centred around who he is going to nominate next.



Back injury forces Jahangir Khan to withdraw from the British Open

END PIECE

SERGEI BUBKA, the world pole vault champion from Ukraine, intends to stage an international competition in Red Square, Moscow, on June 20. Bubka made this announcement in his hometown of Donetsk.

What he forgot to mention was that he stands to gain a lot of money if this event comes through.

CRICKET UPDATE

● *Northamptonshire will become the first official touring team to play in South Africa when their pre-season tour starts in Natal on March 24. Northants, captained by South African-born Allan Lamb, will play four matches in all.*

● Northants' Rhodesian-born all-rounder Kevin Curran has been told by the TCCB that he must wait until Oct 1994 before becoming England-qualified for registration purposes. Curran, 32, played for Zimbabwe in the 1983 and 1987 World Cups.

● *The TCCB has ruled that counties will not be able to replace their Australian overseas players if they leave to join their country's tour of Sri Lanka early in August. Durham captain David Graveney, whose county is likely to lose the services of Dean Jones at a crucial stage of the season, said the decision was 'very disappointing'.*

● Tony Lewis gave the address at the memorial service for John Arlott at the Church of St John the Baptist in Alresford, Hampshire on Jan 20. Arlott's son Tim read two poems written by his father, and the congregation sang *God Whose Farm is All Creation*, a hymn written by the former broadcaster. Meanwhile John Arlott's birthplace, Cemetery Lodge in Basingstoke, has been restored after standing empty for more than three years. New owner Ena Giles spent over £30,000 in renovating the building, which had been vandalised while unoccupied.

● *The cricket collection of the late Sir George 'Gubby' Allen, who died in Nov 1989, is to be sold by auctioneers Dreweatt Neate at Donnington Priory, Newbury, Berkshire in March. Included in the sale are numerous letters, photograph albums, and Sir George's notes while chairman of the England selectors—and his last cap, a 1968 T-Series Bentley.*



Northants, captained by South Africa-born Allan Lamb, in four South Africa

Banner Mania

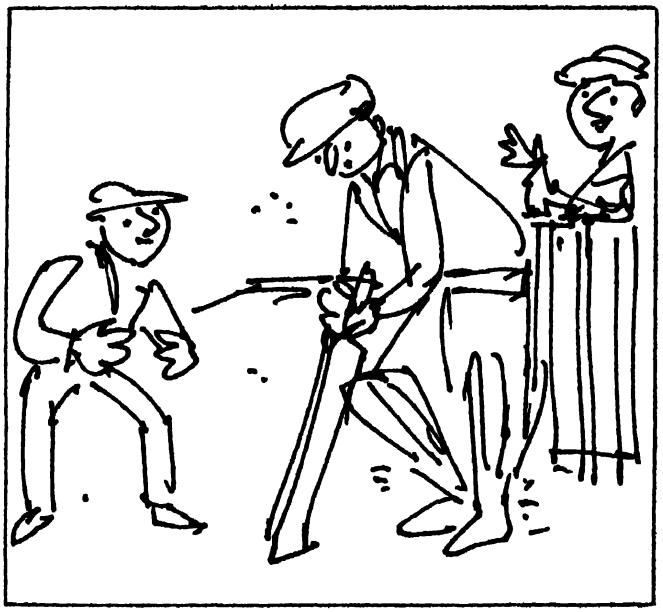
Direct Message

FANZINES and supporters' associations are out, banners are in If you're looking to pass on a message to anyone, about anything, and living anywhere, the banner is perfect It's got more depth and the message is immediate

Like take for example some messages that originated in the Antipodes (Australia) and were beamed all over the world. One banner read: Germany 1990, Soviet Union, 1991, Australia 1992 Collapsing Borders." There even seemed to be a personal message from the Queen, 'Australia Down Under and Out. The Empire Strikes Back "

A banner anyone?





Indecent Exposure

Through Correspondence

WE bring you a little bit of gossip too. Gubby Allen, who was a member of Douglas Jardine's infamous 'Bodyline' team to Australia has finally expressed his immense dislike for his skipper, Allen expressed his feelings to this effect in a couple of letters to his father.

Allen's letter read thus: "I forgot to tell you some of the funny but unkind things the Crew shouted at Douglas at Adelaide. He (Jardine) was flicking flies off his face while batting and one of them shouted: 'Don't chase them away, they're your only friends in Adelaide'."

Even though Allen's revelations are slightly posthumous, they do seem to have an element of truth in them.

Free For All

With An Occasional Fee

HERE'S a classic example of lateral thinking. Foggia football club, fed up with free loaders announced that it would have a special gate for all those who 'believed that they were entitled to free admission'; hoping to identify and deal with them.

The plan didn't work Paying customers went through the freebie gate brandishing their tickets.



Martina's crowning glory

YOU really impressed your readers in the issue dated 4-10 March. The photographs and the slick write-ups that accompanied the coverage of Winter Olympics, and the superb pictures of Monica Seles left us craving for more.

But for sheer class the one page write up on Martina Navratilova by Rohit Brijnath was as good as the gritty lady herself. The article touched a chord somewhere down, deep inside and I am sure that many other readers must be feeling the same way.

Navratilova is one player who has continued to impress the world and though she was ridiculed time and time again, she always stuck by her convictions and her character.

Her life is a direct testimony to the fact that if you have resilience, mental toughness and character then you'll surely go a long way in life. Keep up the good work Martina, the world is waiting for you with open arms.

VISTASP SAM HODIWALA,
Kalyan.



Keep up the good work Martina

Reforms needed

GONE are the days when Ravi Shastri used to delight the crowds with his superb batting. These days all he seems to be doing in the middle is to block the ball. The Shastri of today is a strokeless player who consumes overs in an innings,seldom remembering the fact that he should be a fast scorer, if India is to be in a commanding position.

It is high time the Indian cricket 'think-tank' replaces Shastri as the opener for the Indian squad. With the South African tour coming up later this year it would be good for Indian cricket if the failures of the Australian tour are analysed and solutions come up with before it is too late.

Let's hope that it is not too late for the re-emergence of Indian cricket.

ARSHAD,
Assam.

Thought provoking

THE issue dated 26 Feb-3 Mar was an absolute delight to the readers. The interview with Ian Chappell in the issue was a masterpiece. One has to agree to the fact that it is still not too late to revitalise the Test scenario in international cricket. There ought to be some changes soon in this sphere otherwise Test cricket is surely on the way out, and once that happens, cricket will lose a lot of its charm.

The Mike Tyson and Katrin Krabbe controversies are pointers in the right direction. It proves that nobody can take the world for granted once they reach the pinnacle of their respective sport.

Let's hope that these cases serve as a warning to the aspiring athletes and sportsmen that they should win by fair means only.

MANISH LIMAYE,
Bangalore.

Good going there

THE English and the Kiwis have in this World Cup certainly upset many apple carts and they were able to do so because of their grit, determination and perseverence. The New Zealanders played a tremendous game against the favourites Australia to bring about one of the biggest upsets of the tournament. As the hotshot teams fell by the wayside, these teams, who before the tournament began were not thought of highly, just continued their winning ways and topped the table.

The other teams could do well to take a lesson or two from the books of these teams,and apply them to their own selves. Only then can they hope to do better in the future.

SRNIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry.

The Health Column

Weight training coupled with regular aerobic exercise helps keep the blood pressure in control



It's normally for the visible benefits that people get into fitness. A body that has more muscle and less fat, greater strength, greater endurance, better health and of course increased sex appeal: these are the goals that people have in mind when they hit the gym. But there are a lot of accrued benefits that follow a healthy fitness programme. Like, for example, exercise is a very good antidote to high-blood-pressure or hypertension. Even though battling hypertension is certainly not on an average fitness enthusiast's list when they hit the weights.

Aerobic exercise has, for long been regarded an ideal way to bring down high systolic and diastolic figures that are common in people suffering from high-blood-pressure. Yet again, there is lot of debate on whether a carefully planned exercise programme—done under medical supervision, of course—will actually lower blood pressure. Even now a lot of physicians wouldn't prescribe weight training to reduce blood pressure. This is because heavy lifting is known to send the blood pressure soaring, far higher than other strenous activities. For a trained weightlifter that is no problem, but asking a guy with high blood pressure to suddenly start pumping iron is like asking him to go into bungee jumping; the effect is more or less the same.

Recent studies, however, have proved that a medically monitored weight training and aerobic programme is beneficial to people who suffer from this malady. The key word here is medical supervision keeping in mind that the exercises should be light to moderate, and never too heavy.

Hypertension is a malady that afflicts nearly everyone. But while it can surface in early childhood, the highest occurrance is among middle-aged people, diabetics, heavy-drinkers, people with gout and kidney disease. High blood pressure plays a key role in three-quarters of the first heart attacks and strokes. It can also lead to vision loss and kidney failure. Worse still, the majority of people who suffer from this disorder do not even know about it till it's too late.

Stress and blood

MUSCLING DOWN BLOOD PRESSURE

surge of adrenalin in stressful situations can boost your blood pressure temporarily. Generally the effect is brief. But when the stress is sustained, changes occur in the body that produce sustained high blood pressure.

Since stress surrounds us most of the time today, how can we negate the effects of it? Exercise—as we have told you time and time again—is the best cure. Although the exact reasons are not known, it could be due to the production of endorphins, chemicals found in the brain. Another reason definitely is the improved physical effects of exercising. Since it tones the body and helps maintain a good figure, as opposed to obesity, keeps people on an even keel. And, of course, once you are into exercising, the intake of alcohol and nicotine is cut down, and this brings down the blood presure too.

According to a recent study conducted in the USA, it has been estimated that a majority of hypertensives can manage their pressure through diet and exercise. A sensible balanced diet containing calcium and pottasium from natural sources can bring down the blood presure. And this research determined that one does not have to lift ponderous weights to benefit from it. Simple circuit training (aerobic weight workouts) does the job.

Although the blood pressure is slightly raised when one is training, the combination of high blood pressure and lower heart rate benefits the patients by improving the supply of blood to the heart. The training programme should emphasise on exercises that are light and swift at the same time.

Research shows that trained body builders who use heavy weights have a lower heart rate and blood pressure than inexperienced body builders. This is because their systems have adapted to the high amounts of stress that are being placed on them. This is precisely the reason why fit people emerge healthy from their ponderous training regimens.

The same response applies to the people with high-blood-pressure who start hitting weights. Their system takes some time, but eventually does adapt... and this is when the blood pressure comes under control. But this applies mostly to people who have a mild form of this disorder. For people with very high blood pressure, exercise in due course can lower the dosage of drugs and in time they can eliminate the intake of drugs totally.

But a word of caution: Do not stop going to your doctor the day you start going to the gym. The whole programme requires careful monitoring by a medical expert specially for people who suffer from dangerously high blood pressure or heart disease.

Now, don't use that as an excuse for not hitting the gym. You need the exercise. ●

CALCUTTA

Inter-Varsity Aquatics

KERALA UNIVERSITY emerged the undisputed champions in the men s and women s swimming sections of the all India Inter Varsity Aquatic championships which were held at the Subhas Sarobar With 49 points in the men s division and a whopping 84 points in the women s Kerala wrapped up the team championship titles

The hosts Calcutta won the waterpolo competition beating Kerala 20 11 and Madhura Biswas provided some more cheer by winning the women s individual diving title Devendra Swaroop Sukla of Amravati won the men s individual diving title

Kerala s domination in the swimming pool was complete Their B Kumar who was the best individual with 27 points proved more than a handful for his opponents He won three gold medals in the meet the long distance freestyles and the medley being his strong points

In the distaff side it was Kerala s S R Sreeja who also landed the individual women s title with 15 points She was also among the multiple gold winners in the tournament

(Centre) Calcutta Police Commissioner, Mr B.K Saha, with participants of the CSJC Table Tennis tournament



RASHBEHAR DAS

Grindlays Open Golf

CALCUTTA S top pro Basad Ali is busy earning money and why not? His consistency has been the reason for his soaring bank balance

Basad Ali s latest booty was from the fifth Grindlays Open golf which offering one lakh rupees on prize money was played at the Tollygunge Golf Club The course was in perfect condition and both the amateurs and professionals had no complaints over the four days of the tournament There were some very good sub par cards conspicuous among them being M Dighe and Vijay Kumar who fired 69 on the opening day The best score of 68 was brought in by Firoz Ali which enabled him to lead the field

But at the half way mark Firoz Ali s three stroke lead(138) wasn t good enough to stop Basad Ali and in the third round he had shot ahead to take a two shot lead over Firoz while Asghar Ali trailed by three strokes On the final day Basad made no mistakes and came



Basad Ali, winner of the Grindlays Bank golf

home with a sub par score of 70 for a total aggregate of 281 Firoz and Asghar were content with their places of second and third respectively

CSJC Table Tennis

SAKYASEN MITRA of *Aajkaal* finished best in the Club International sponsored Calcutta Sports Journalists Club Table Tennis championship In a rather one sided final Mitra defeated S Sabanayankan of *The Telegraph* 21 16 21 11 21-16

In the Losers Plate meant for those crashing out in the opening rounds *Aajkaal s* Saroj Chakraborty defeated *Ganashakti s* Munal Chatterjee 21 19, 21 12 to win the title

The table tennis championship attracted about 35 entries from various newspapers The meet saw quite a few upsets the major one being *The Statesman s* Shyam Sundar Ghosh crashing to Sandip Dutta of *Aajkaal*

The final was witnessed by the city's police chief Mr B K Saha, among others

Soumitra Bose

This week in the history of sport

THE first gold medal of the first modern Olympic games was presented on **Mar 25, 1896,** to American athlete James Connolly for the triple jump

THE Henley Royal Regatta annually held at Henley-on Thames England was inaugurated on **Mar 26, 1839.**

TWO Olympians, American hammer-thrower Hal Conolly and Czech discus thrower Olga Fikitova, who had met during the Melbourne Olympics in 1956 were married in Czechoslovakia on **Mar 27, 1957.**

ON **Mar 28, 1955** New Zealand made the lowest score in Test cricket, 26 all out against England at Auckland Bert Sutcliff with 11 was the top scorer

HOLDERS India were edged out of the World Cup hockey when they were held to a 1-1 draw by a makeshift English team in the group A match at Buenos Aires on **Mar 29 1978.**

THE longest championship match in squash lasted for 2 hours and 45 min. on **Mar 30, 1983,** in which Jahangir Khan of Pakistan defeated Gamal Awad of Egypt, in the final of the Patrick International Festival at Chichester, England

THE longest run ever held, the 5898-km transcontinental race from New York City to Los Angeles, started on **Mar 31, 1929,** and was won by Finnish born Johny Salo after 79 days

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

RECORD SET: By Said Aouita in the 3000m (indoor) with a timing of 7 mins. 36 66 at the Athina 92 International Indoor Meet.

TO TOUR: An Indian hockey team to Europe in May-June as a pre-Olympic warm up exercise. They will play nine Tests in four countries, besides taking part in the four-nation tournament in Madrid

AWARDED: The highest French sports award to Jahangir Khan of Pakistan, for his 'incomparable achievements in international squash' The champion, now plagued with a back problem, will miss the British Open, the Welsh Classic, Spanish and German Opens

WON: By Garri Kasparov the Linares International Chess tournament for the second time in three years He defeated Ljubouiv Ljubojevic of Yugoslavia in the last match of the tournament Viswanathan Anand of India finished fifth

WON: By Master Pravin Thipsay the national chess title for the fifth time He drew his last match against T. Ravi of Tamil Nadu to win the title.

WON: By Liu Jun, the All-England Championships. He defeated Zhao Jianhua, also of China, in the final. This final created a controversy of sorts as many people felt that the Chinese players played as a team in the final This victory of Jun's would probably win him a berth in the Chinese badminton squad for the Barcelona Olympics.

SIGNED: By Martina Navratilova and Judy Nelson a secret agreement that ends their 'palimony' suit.

UNLIKELY: That a joint team from Korea will participate in the Olympics. The IOC has given them just nine days to come up with a solution and the North Koreans are not particularly keen that they participate as an unified team.

PROBABLE: That Bangladesh will host the South Asian Federation Games next year The SAF Games for the year was scheduled to be held in Nepal but the venue was later changed, as Nepal pulled out because of financial restraints.



Here's a bull fight with a difference. Matador Rafeal Camino watches unperturbed as his opponent does a somersault after his horns got stuck in the sand

(RIGHT): Beware of Team Ferrari. New driver Ivan Capelli (left), who replaced Alain Prost, shares a joke with Niki Lauda, the three time Formula One World Champion, who has joined his old team as an advisor. This duo means business



(BELOW): Robbie Weiss. Who's he? A nobody for many, that is, till he embarrassed No. 2 seed Stefan Edberg at Key Biscayne, becoming the lowest ranked player ever to beat Edberg, and also in the process stalling the Swede's efforts to regain his No. 1 ranking



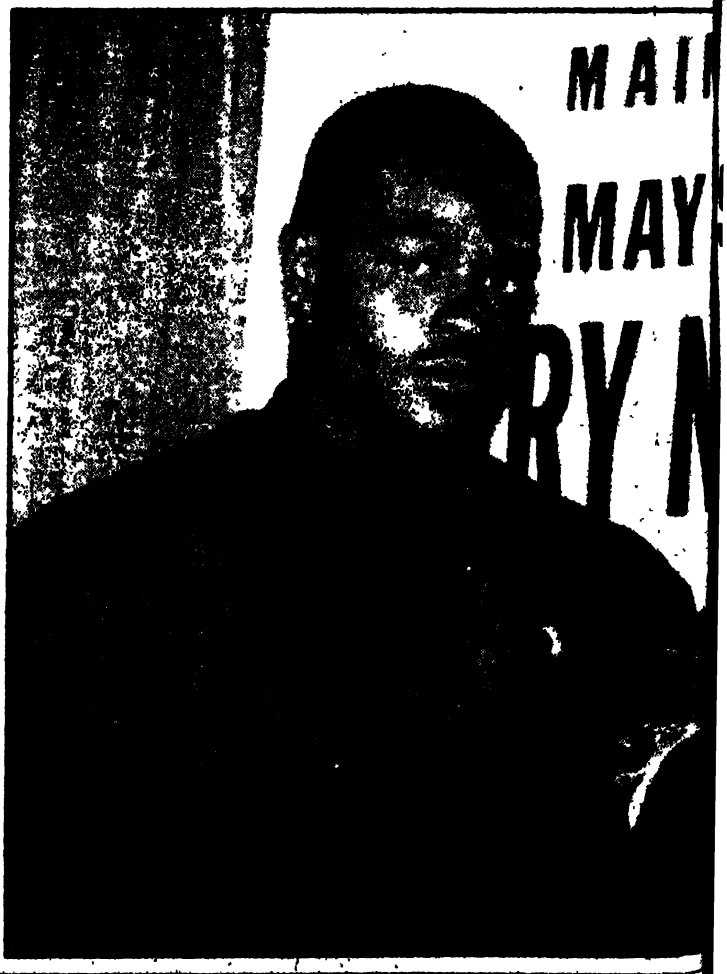
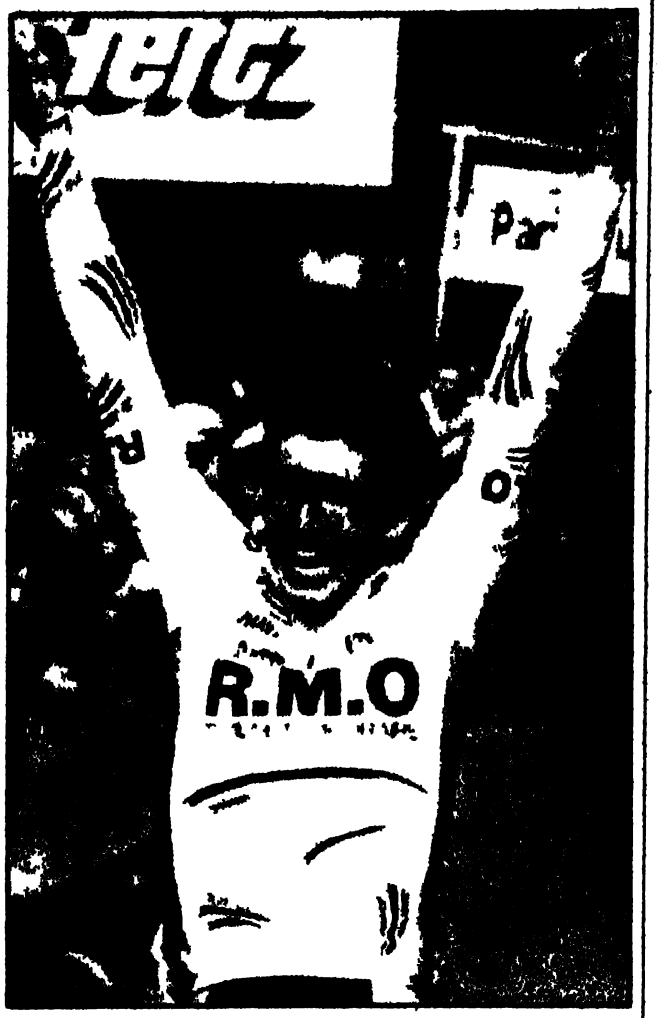


PHOTO FEATURE

News In Pictures



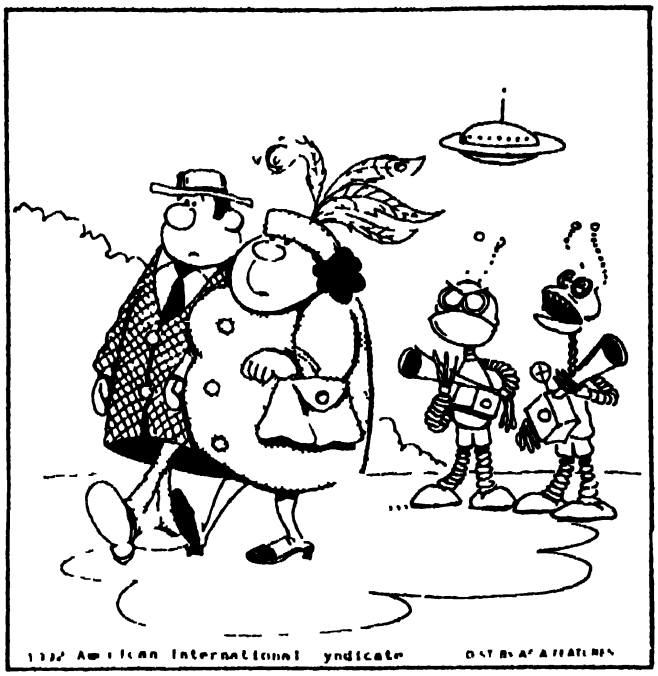
(TOP): If it's spring and it's France, it must be cycling. Although the Tour de France begins only in early July, it is from now that the cyclists begin their arduous training to reach peak performance during the summer. Frenchman Stephane Heviot, winner of the 7th stage of the Paris-Nice classic raises his arms in triumph, hoping no doubt he can retain his form for the next few months



PHOTOGRAPHS BY AP PTI

(LEFT): Terry Norris is the man who retired Sugar Ray Leonard, is considered the world's most gifted boxer and is the WBC super-welterweight champion. Meldrick Taylor (right) is a 1984 Olympic gold medallist and the WBA welterweight champion. And on May 9 they will do battle to find out who's the best

Be a Sport



"LET'S GET THE ONE WITHOUT THE FEATHERS, WE WON'T HAVE TO PLUCK HIM."



"NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE...YOU'VE BENT HIS SKATEBOARD!"

SPORTOON



"TRY TO MAKE SOME HOLES IN ONE - I'D LIKE TO LEAVE A LITTLE EARLY!"



"MUST YOU ALWAYS PUT THINGS OFF UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE?"

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Whose autobiography is *Playing it Straight?*
2. In the Eighties Pakistan were restricted to a double-figure total against India in a one-day international? What was the score?
3. What is the 'blind spot' in cricket?
4. Who is a 'Blue' in English cricket?
5. Who was India's first captain in a one-day international?
6. What is "Australian pursuits' in cycling?
7. What is a "Take-down bow"?
8. What does "boggy" mean in golf?
9. What is sandcross?
10. What is the difference between rowing ahd sculling?
11. An Australian batsman was dismissed for 99 at Trent Bridge in 1934, in his maiden Test innings, caught at the wicket off the bowling of another player making his Test debut. Who were the two?

ANSWERS

1. Ken Barrington.
2. 87 for 10 (32.5 overs) on 22 3.1985, Rothman's Cup at Sharjah
3. The small area of the pitch whereon when the ball lands the batsman is in momentary doubt whether to play forward or back, being often thereby undone.
4. One who plays for either Oxford or Cambridge in the University Match.
5. A.L. Wadekar.
6. These are contested by four (maybe six or eight or bigger circuits) riders starting at equal intervals round the track. They are placed according to the distance covered.
7. A modern design of composite bow constructed so that the limbs are easily detached from the riser.
8. One over par.
9. A motor sport.
10. In rowing, each person uses only one oar while in sculling he uses two.
11. Arthur Chipperfield (batsman), bowler (Ken Farnes).

CHESS

THE psychological impact of an *unexpected move cannot be* overemphasised. In this miniature Alexey Dreev not only overlooked white's 11th he admits he was so shaken he made an incredible blunder soon after.

White: Murey Vs Black: Dreev, Moscow, '91.

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Nge7 4 Nc3 g6 5 d4 ed4 6 Nd5 Bg7 7 Bg5 h6 8 Bf6 Bf6 9 Nf6 Kf8 10 Nd4 Kg7 (see diagram). Dreev, who is not only a world-class player, but also an expert on the Cozio Defence to the Ruy Lopez says he missed white's next in his home analysis. He suggests 10-Nf5 as a possible improvement.

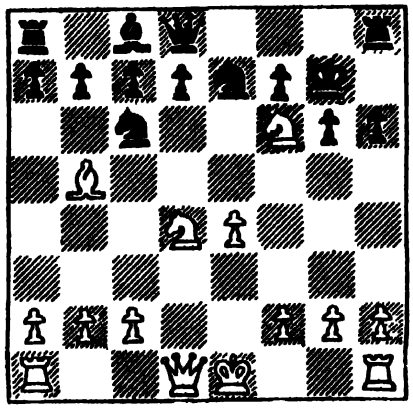
11 Qd2 !! Ng8. The idea is 11-Kf6 12 Qc3! Nd4 13 Qd4 Ke6 14 Bc4 d5 15 ed5 Kd7 16 0-0-0 with a winning white attack.

12 Nd5 Nf6 13 Nc3 Nh5. Even the sensible looking 13-Re8 is met by 14 0-0-0 Ne4 15 Ne4 Re4 16 Nc6 bc6 17 Bc6!

14 g4 Qg5?? Black had to find 14 Nf4 when he has some chances of surviving. By now he was apparently suffering from brain-damage.

15 Qg5 hg5 16 Bc6 dc6 17 gh5. (1 0) A piece is a piece.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

THE French are among the finest card-players in the world. Even many of their lesser-known players are capable of producing brilliant plays. Today's hero was Pierre Adad playing against super-stars Paul Chemla and Michel Perron in the *French national division:-*

Dealer East — Both vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ 843
♥ A974
♦ Q1072
♣ 82

WEST
♠ K92
♥ J52
♦ AKJ6
♣ K53

EAST
♠ 1065
♥ 10
♦ 98543
♣ 9764

SOUTH
♠ AQJ7
♥ KQ863
♦
♣ AQJ10

SOUTH Chemla	NORTH Perron
1 ♥	2 ♥
2 NT*	4 ♥
6 ♥	Pass

* relay artificial try for game or slam

West, our hero, who had been silenced by the North-South gunfire, started proceedings with a normal ace of diamonds. Chemla, South, ruffed and laid down the king of hearts. When the ten appeared from East, Chemla, desperately short of entries to dummy, risked a finesse of the nine on the second round of trumps, which held A club to the queen lost to West's king. What should West return now?

A spade return would make matters easy for South as a spade ruff (after a pitch on clubs) would set up the suit Nor does it help to return a passive club or trump for declarer can draw the outstanding trump, pitch dummy's spades on clubs and take a ruffing finesse in spades with the last trump as the entry to hand to cash the set-up spades. Adad, West, found the only return to beat the slam—the king of diamonds into declarer's known void with the queen staring in dummy! This gave declarer an easy eleventh trick but left him with no chance for a twelfth. He could not cash the fourth club without drawing trumps while after drawing trumps, cashing clubs and taking a ruffing finesse in spades, he would have no reentry to hand as the second diamond ruff had prematurely removed the vital trump entry to declarer's hand.

Sankar Ghose

PIQUET SWITCHES OFF

After almost 13 years in the fast lane, three-time world champion Nelson Piquet calls it a day

REMORSE, relief and a sense of history were among the emotions crowding Nelson Piquet's head after he announced his retirement from the rumble-tumble world of Formula One racing recently. Remorse, because he would miss the people he had so dearly endeared himself to. Relief, because he would not have to prove himself over and over again. And finally the sense of history because at the end of last F-1 season, he had been in the game for too long: nearly 13 years.

And with Piquet's retirement ended another chapter of F-1 racing. Many of the people he raced with, way back in 1978, have faded into the mists of time. Mario Andretti, Carlos Reutemann, Niki Lauda, Gilles Villeneuve, Alan Jones and Jody Scheckter have become names in the record books.

A long time ago, Piquet was a young man with more zest than anybody else in the circuit. But for the last two years or so, he had become an aging superstar, fighting a losing battle against mother nature. But, regardless of results and despite his fiery Latino temperament, Piquet was seen as the last of the gentleman drivers, a species fast becoming extinct now. A triple World Champion, he provided a balance between the kill-all attitude of contemporary F-1 racing and the bygone days of graceful competing.

Said Piquet, "I have grown too old for the sport, it has become a whorehouse where



Piquet (inset) perfected his F-1 driving skills during his early years with Brabham



purpose not only sell your body but sell your soul. Look at what happened to Alain—the world's best driver thrown out by Ferrari and now without a drive. The circus was too politicised for my liking and I did not want to end up like Alain. It is the men in the shadows who cause havoc. I wanted to go out in style, winning the championship maybe, but a few races definitely. I managed to do that and I am totally satisfied by my performance. I can rest easy now."

Age may have simmered down his temper, but his driving is still as immaculate as ever. "My age has nothing to do with my driving skills," says Piquet. "I wanted to show it to those who wrote me off as a driver that you cannot take away a man's talent." Piquet, who claims he is not interested in the politics of Formula One, says his interest is in driving racing cars—as fast as possible. "People do not believe me, but I have been driving hard all my life because I like it. With the money I have in the bank, the situation I have in my life and my business running so good, I have no reason to be in F-1 but for the fun of it."

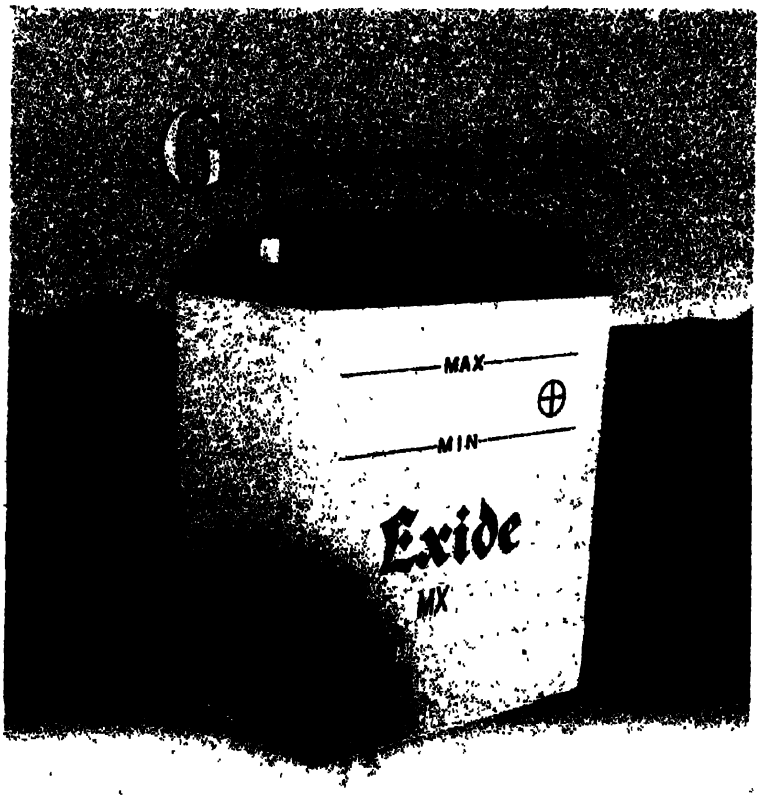
Like his fellow countryman, Emerson

"I may hate him as an individual...but as a driver he was the top of the line, personal differences apart" —Nigel Mansell

[illegible] pitted against [illegible] Williams [illegible] Nelson Piquet [illegible] Brazil [illegible] Formula One [illegible] "It is not political and it is [illegible] motorsport has a dream come true. People are chosen out [illegible] and one can [illegible] enjoy racing there," says Nelson. He will participate in this year's Indianapolis 500 in a Buick-powered Lola entered by Team Menard. "In order to get pleasure, I have to drive around in a good way, not mess around," he says.

That's hell of a change of image—and attitude—for a man who was labelled as the original bad boy by the motoring press. "Maybe I became the villain when I was racing against Nigel at Williams," he says. "Perhaps people don't appreciate my sense of humour and sometimes it hurts them. They are hurt because they are not as open as me. A lot of people say things inside—I am able to say what I think."

In his 13 years on the tarmac, he has gone to the top thrice: in 1981, 1983 and 1987. A veteran of 200 races, 24 pole positions and 23 wins, he was one of the most experienced drivers on the grid. Yet it took a dramatic change of attitude to help Piquet taste success in the 1990-91 season. Over the whole of the season Piquet



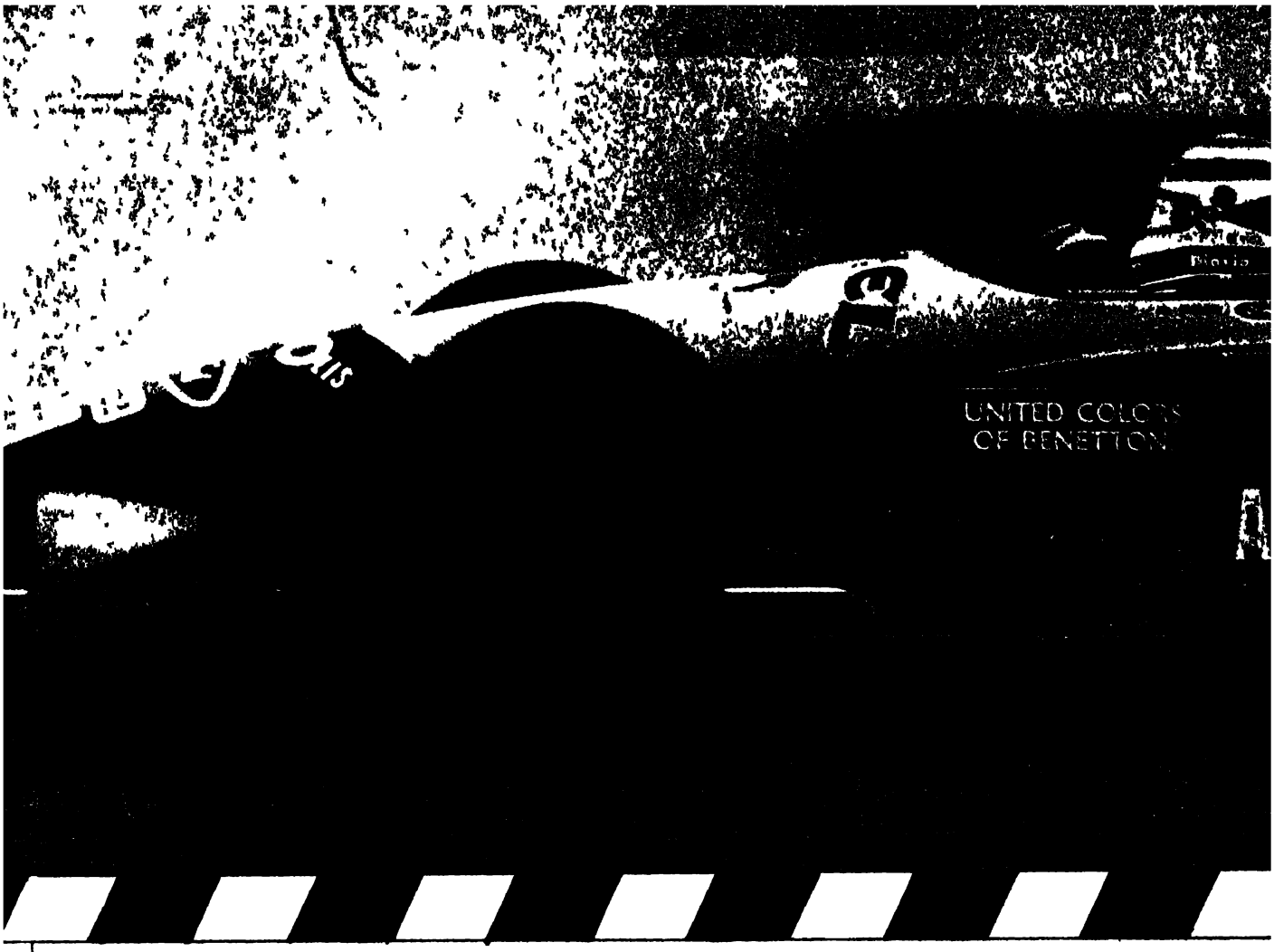
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had been slowly consolidating his confidence, trying to bring back the magic which went out with his 1987 Imola crash. His ex-teammate and archrival (of sorts) Nigel Mansell said, "It was vintage Piquet. I may hate him as an individual, but as a driver he is as good as new. It's nice to see him roaring." Mansell even admitted that he would miss the man, saying: "It will be difficult to think that Nelson won't be around racing with us. As a driver he was the top of the line, personal differences apart."

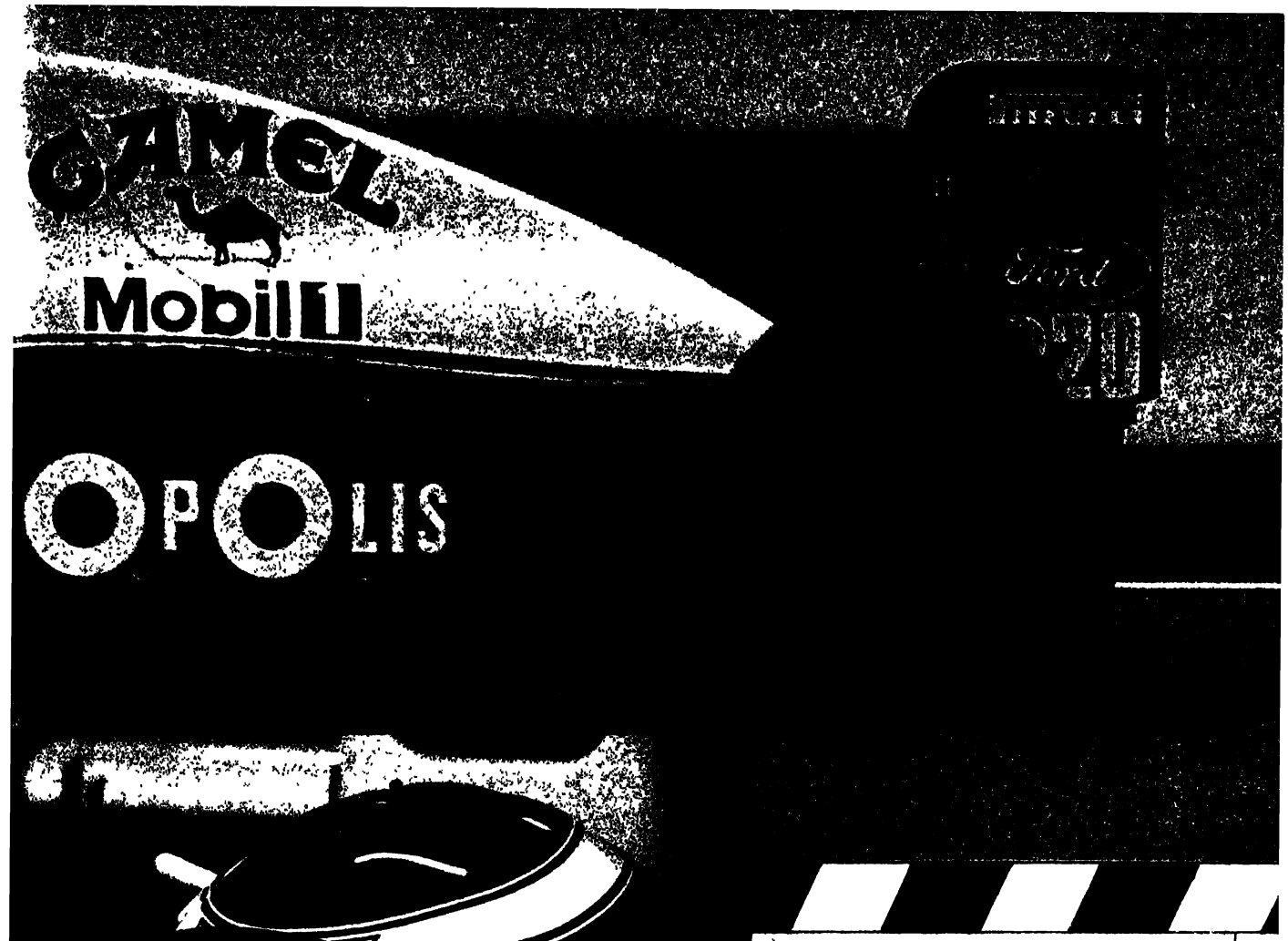
PIQUET started his F-1 career with the Brabham team in 1978 with whom he spent seven summers. His efforts earned him 13 wins and two titles. To many it may seem a worthy achievement but not for Piquet who shifted to the Williams team in 1986, for what was then a stupendous salary of $5 million. His move to Williams, then powered by Honda engines, saw him win seven more Grands Prix and the 1987 Championship as well. However, experienced watchers of the sport feel that Piquet's 1987 championship was not justified. His three wins to teammate Nigel Mansell's five showed that he was not up to it. His six consecutive second place finishes got him the championship. For Piquet it was the start of the downhill run.

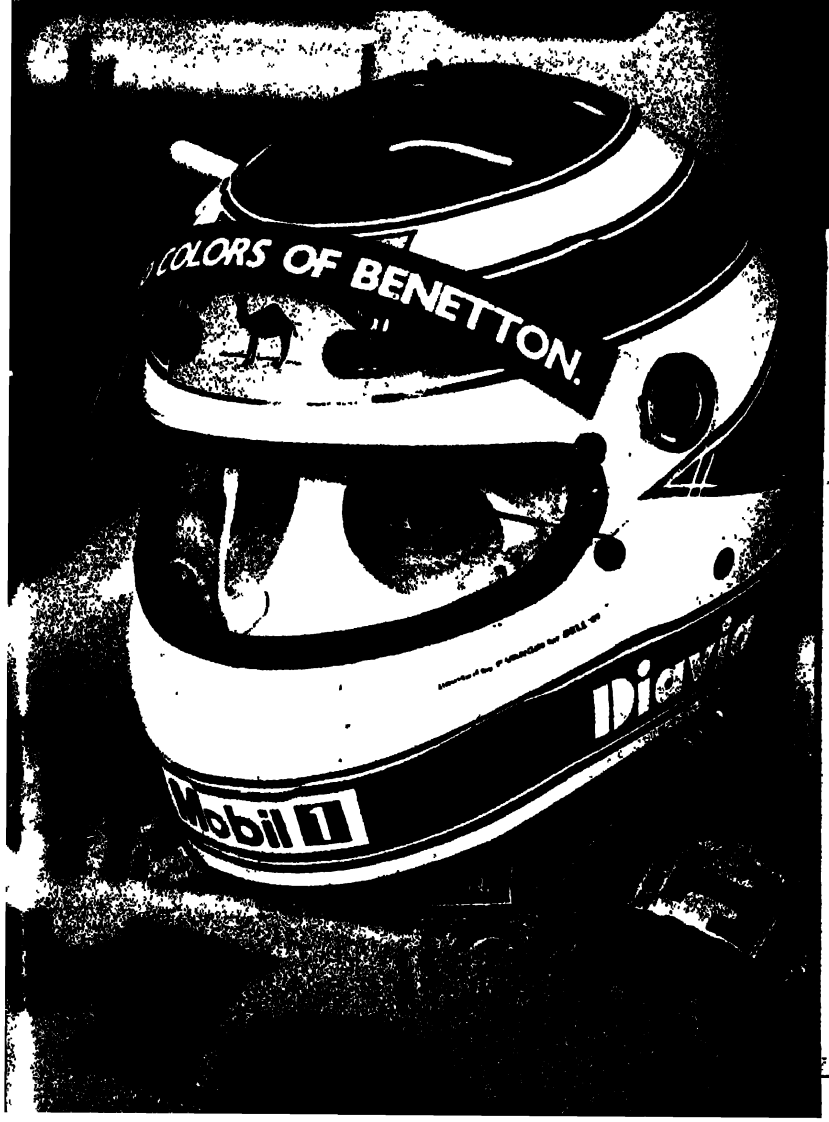
> "When I made my F-1 debut, the seniors were much more helpful towards newcomers... unlike today when 'me, myself and I' is the anthem"
> —Piquet

Since then he has had trouble keeping up with the front runners. It was a frustating time for a man who shares the record of three championships with Alain Prost, Niki Lauda, Jackie Stewart, Jack Brabham and Ayrton Senna, the only man on the current grid to have more victories than him.

As Piquet explains: "I am getting on in years. I have to exercise harder to stay in shape. It is illogical for me to even try to have one last fling with the top spot." Although 39 is not old, Piquet's concern about his age is justified in a sport where even 30-year-olds consider themselves jaded. Perhaps, he knows the tension men like Carlos Reutemann and Mario Andretti felt when, as a young man, Piquet gave them a hard time. "I made my debut at a time when the F-1 circuit was jam-packed with top class drivers," recalls Piquet, "And after doing so well in the lesser formulae, I thought of myself as king shit. One race later, I landed on my back side".

But working with the top rankers helped Piquet. He never been satisfied to be the man in the shadow. He wanted his own identity





him learn the tricks of the trade real fast. "When I made my F-1 debut, the seniors were much more helpful towards the newcomers and thought more about the sport in general", says Piquet. "Unlike today when 'me, myself and I' is the anthem."

Learning from the generosity of his seniors, he too has been helping the debutants generously. And today he has a new protege, French F3 driver Oliver Beretta. "After I saw his driving and dedication, I decided to help. It is easier for him now. I put my name on his business and people are impressed," explains Piquet.

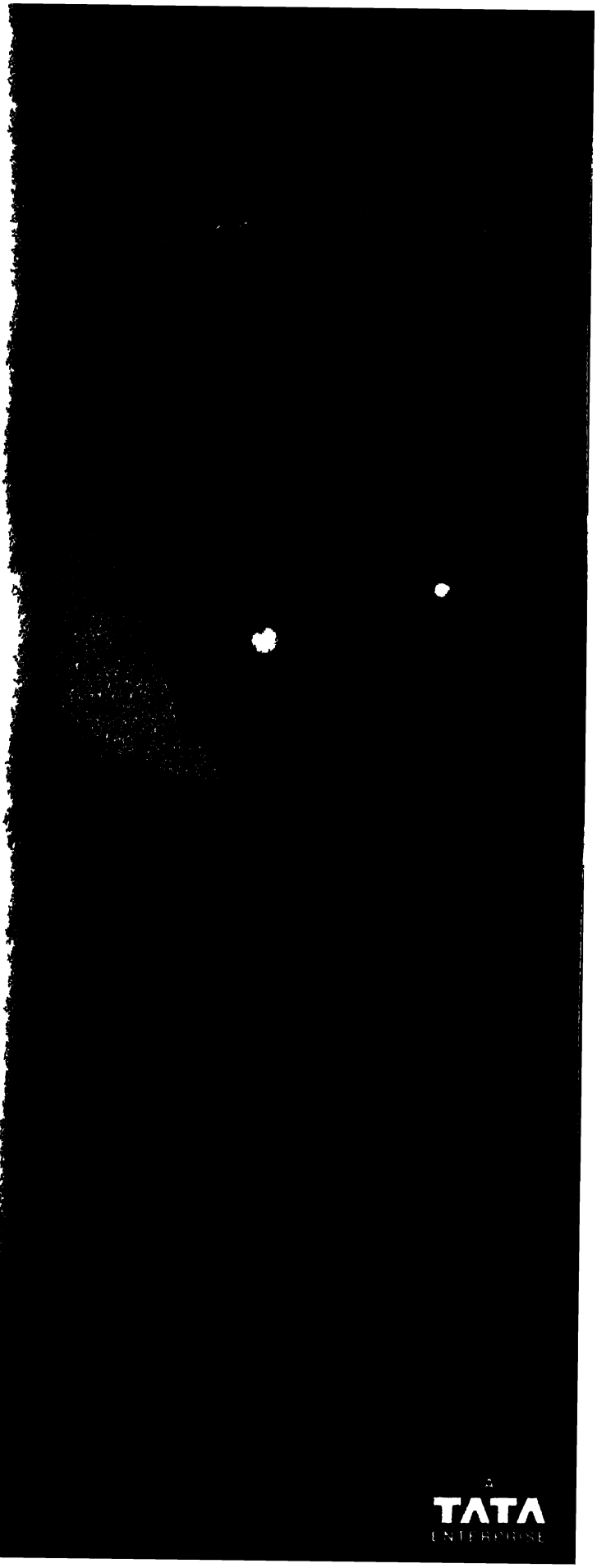
Now with retirement looming ahead, what does Piquet intend doing? "I will race in America", says he, "But I won't just go around lazing in the sun. I have the job of the boat. I have a small crew, I do everything myself." In fact he is looking forward to days without the pressure of racing every day. As he puts it: "Even in the bad times, I had a very good life, because I always had to think about the good part of life and not the bad parts." Now, he feels, the good part has arrived.

Jason Havelock
NEWSMEN FEATURES

T E L

THE FEARLESSNESS TO QUESTION

Telco. Where every day 35,000 people power their way a little closer to perfection A force that has taken on the momentum of a movement A movement fed by the fearlessness to question. A courage our engineers have shown by questioning technical data received from our collaborators, resulting in improvements for the collaborators as well. A courage that will see Telco single-handedly change the face of the Indian automotive industry with future models. The fearlessness to question. At the heart of a movement that will rouse



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A TATA ENTERPRISE

Artnews
0

FOR a journalist who has done a fair bit of travelling, a tour to another country doesn t come as much as a culture shock But then as they say, travel is a great teacher It s funny you know as a student in middle school, I had studied about the geography of Australia I could even name at least a dozen places in Australia Yet ask any average Australian to name more than three Indian cities and he ll be clean bowled Maybe our education system like our cricket team ain t that bad after all Perhaps just a few adjustments ought to be made in both cases

Yet through my travels over the last three months in this large island continent I have made note of some of the stranger aspects of Australian life all truly Australian in character

Regionalism is a strong sentiment in this country though unlike back home it stops short of fractionalism Each state from Western Australia to New South Wales in the East has its own character

You will find that though Australian Rules Football is *the* thing in Melbourne (Victoria), it s not much of a hit in other parts of the country In Sydney (New South Wales) the big draw is the rugby league In Adelaide (South Australia) basketball is the craze

And all this mind you in a country who are the world champions in rugby union, cricket and hockey These sports rate way down the list Suffice to say that a colleague when in Adelaide, decided to suss out the chances of meeting Sir Don Bradman and that too at home The taxi driver who took him there didn t know where Don Bradman lived but when given the address was able to locate it on the map

When asked who Don Bradman was, his reply, Yeah he s the guy who's captain of Australia I've watched him on TV several times He had a beard but has shaved it off Being of Greek origin one could excuse him Some Aussie lads who lived two houses away from the cricketing great knew where 2 Holden Street was Yes, just beside their house! But don t ask them who stayed there, they had no clue Just another neighbour

Strange? No, not so strange You want to hear strange, then hear these oddities I've picked up during the tour Down Under

If you weren't aware of some of these things, you might find yourself in a few messy situations down here If someone spoke of a barbie', they weren't referring to the doll little girls play with, but rather they were inviting you to a barbecue At a shopping centre, if you were looking for vegetables, look no further than the counter marked 'vegis' If someone offered you a tinnie you ought to be ready to consume a *can* of beer before you took up the offer, and 'stubies' are not short fat men but small half bottles of the liquid that keeps many a good Aussie going and going and going

It seems everything in *strine* (that's Australian for the Aussie language) is a short form So if you heard any of the commentators on Channel Nine 'go' (say) ' and bear'ya that ball copped the stump cam,' he meant that the ball might have damaged the camera in the middle stump The Aussies love to cut things down for convenience

Why, even if you worked in an office where dress codes are adhered to strictly, no problem if on a hot day you felt more comfortable in shorts Something known as 'dress shorts' are available and are very common So don't be shocked if you see a guy wearing shorts, a dress shirt and a tie Of course this comes in handy because most fitness conscious Aussies use their lunch breaks to pop across from the office for a bit of exercise a run or a swim or a workout at a gym

Need one add that, most of the blokes prefer to go for a piss', (pardon me, I didn't mean to be offensive) but that's 'strine' for 'going for a drink,' or, 'a booze' And be careful if someone suggested after a 'night on the piss' that they were going to 'a meat market' There aren't any butcher shops open at that time of the night But there are joints of ill-repute where you could, if you so desired, go shopping, for other kinds of flesh

And if you are not into window shopping of that nature, then how about a quiet dinner? I would recommend a special Aussie style seven-course dinner It's made up of a 'six-pack' (a carton of six Fosters' beers) and one meat pie of the eating variety. But don't go to this sea-side restaurant on Sydney's famous Bondi beach They don't list Fosters beer, on their wine list

And that's like an Indian cricket team without Sachin Tendulkar.

Unimaginable

Andy O'Brien

Australia is perhaps the strangest cricketing nation...so much so that Sir Don Bradman's immediate neighbours don't know much about him



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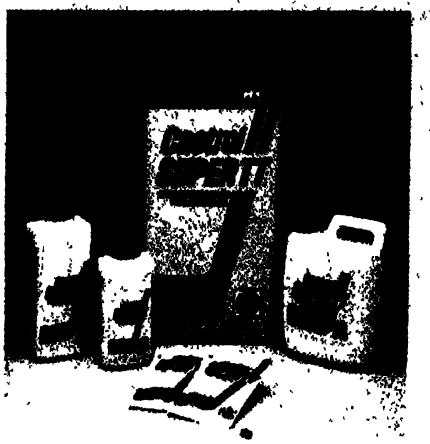
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Imran Khan and his team rule the world of cricket



World Champion Wayne Rainey at work

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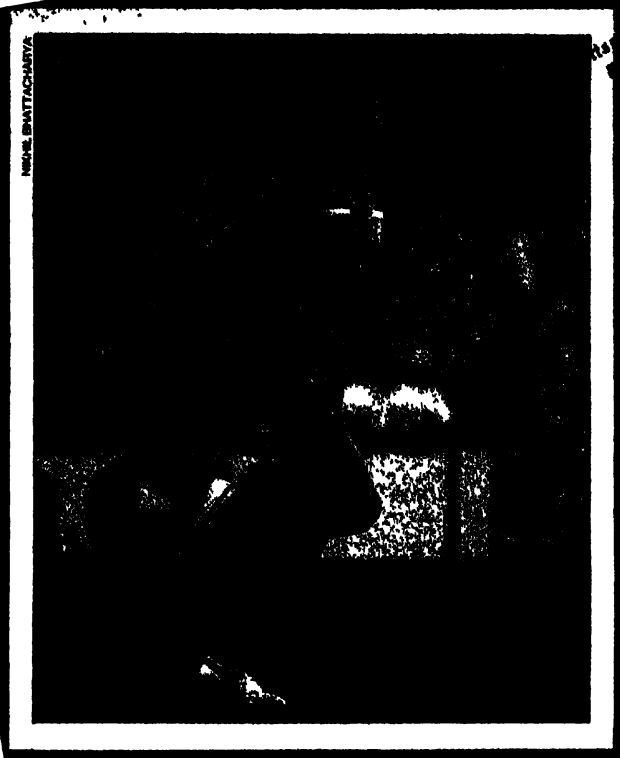


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NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Sportsworld

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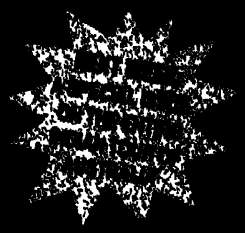
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NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

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WORLD CUP

SPECIAL

Marketing Is The Key

The purists may be apalled, but the 1992 World Cup has shown that unless Test cricket also is marketed properly, it will not be able to co-exist with one-day cricket

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



The cameras, the clothes, the hype—one-day cricket is a tough act to beat

BY ANDY O'BRIEN

THE slogan used to promote the fifth World Cup was 'Who will rule the world?' Sitting at the MCG for the final of the tournament, in front of nearly 100,000 people on that cool autumn evening, witnessing the finals of a most successful tournament, one thought that the answer to that question might well be 'one-day cricket'.

Melbourne – especially its weather – has for long had a lot to answer for, so why not blame it for the demise of Test cricket. Here was the MCG on March 25, 1992, paying the ultimate homage to a storm that Melbourne's rain blew in, in the first place.

Blame, of course, is a subjective term, that would be greeted with disdain by a majority of modern cricket fans, who revel in the one-day domination of the game. But the shrinking majority, who believe it has been at the expense of the traditional form of the game, would, in seeking an explanation for this modern phenomenon, be quite within their rights to go back to a week long rain-storm in the Christmas of 1970. The storm was so intense, that the third Test between England and Australia was abandoned without a ball being bowled. To appease a Melbourne public starved of sport and sun for 10 days, the officials decided to play a limited-overs game, the first such match of its kind in cricket history. Although it took Kerry Packer to show them the ways six years later, administrators realised that they were on to something. And here as we sit at the very same MCG over 21 years later, there is no denying that just as Melbourne is stuck with her flippant weather, so is cricket with limited-overs.

The World Cup was a huge event and, the fact that the tournament was a financial success before a ball had been bowled, indicates, it is an event that might change the game irrevocably.

And yet, it is up to the administrators of the game to continue the development of this form, while at the same time attempting to bring the original form of the game to the same level of marketability.

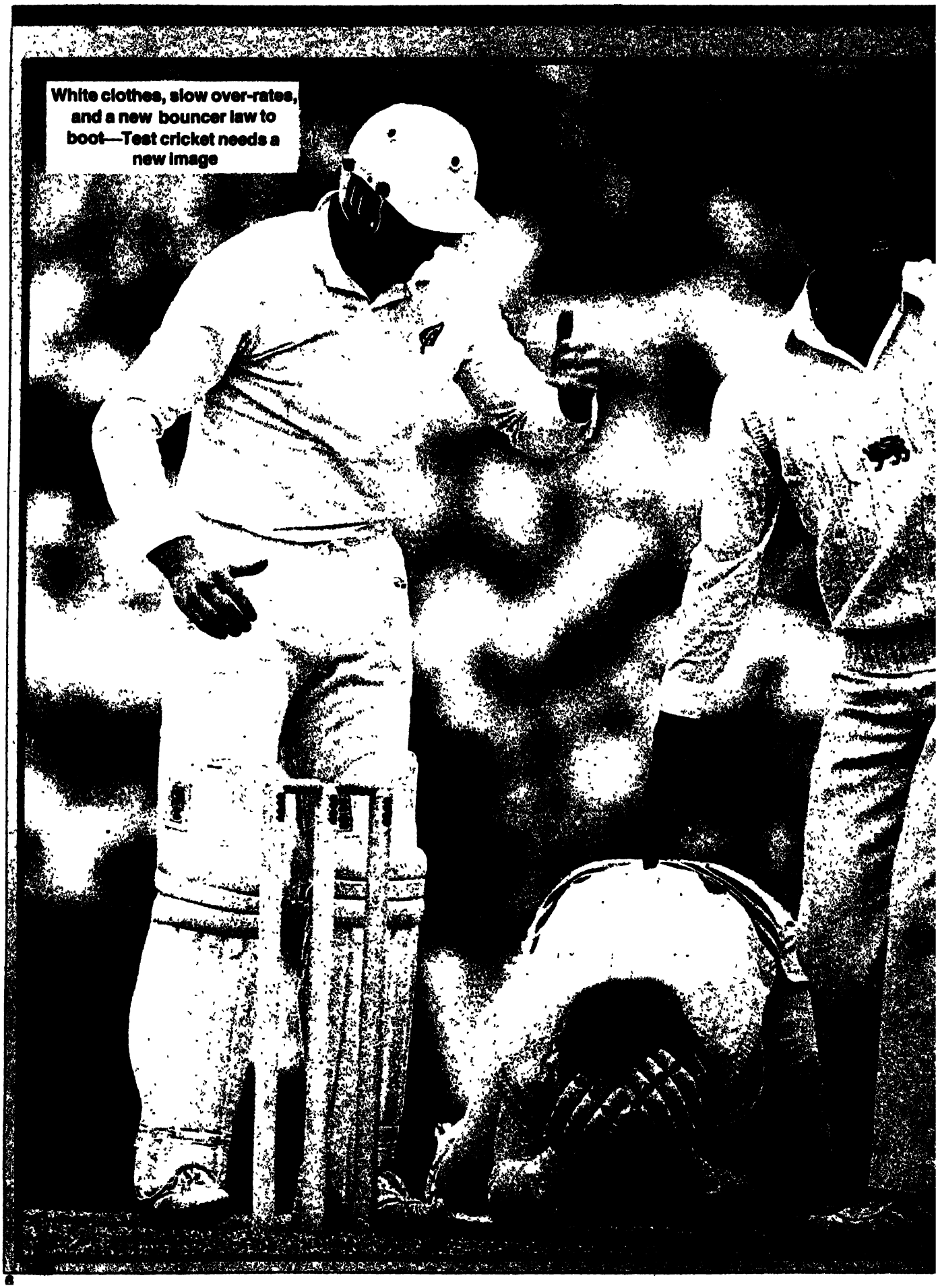
Unfortunately, while interviewing the ICC chairman Sir Colin Cowdrey, it was clear (and his interview which appears in this issue shows it) that the gentleman is somewhat of a conservative; one who still believes in the old values of cricket as it was meant to be, and not as a product which it now must become. Faced with competition from other sports, cricket has a two-fold challenge. One is to make the one-day game as attractive as possible, and to spread its gospel. The other is to market Test cricket and bring it to the same level of acceptability as the shorter game. Speak to Cowdrey about this and his mind strolls off into ephemera, the beauty of the traditional game of cricket (even though he doesn't say it in so many words), and how it is the beauty of the limited-overs game. Sorry Sir Colin, that he isn't even [illegible] look for changes. [illegible] chance his changes [illegible] in the 1920's. [illegible] this great oxymoron from [illegible] change. We have to change with the times. Times demand [illegible] and who is anyone to tell the people – who basically decide what [illegible] that this is not as classy as Test cricket, it is up to the people."

[illegible] Allan Border also admits that Test cricket is what players want [illegible] But isn't it true that successful marketing [illegible] With the attention span of most sport watchers shortening [illegible] and options for our leisure time increase, the shorter sporting [illegible] becoming more popular.

It is the irony about accepting the will of the people is, how much the people have been influenced by the media, marketing and advertising. Let's face it if cricket was on channel 9 for the alleged dramas of one-day cricket (God knows why, but promoters would not persist with them. In the past 15 years, Channel Nine and the Australian Cricket Board have pushed and pushed the one-day game. And as this World Cup has proved, the pushing has worked. The ACB have taken cricket [illegible] a different level, seeing the World Cup as "a consolidation" of their [illegible] event that is right and proper. The one-day game brings in the [illegible] Test cricket from other games. And yet there is a danger, that if



Cricket is faced with a two-fold challenge. One is to make the one-day game as attractive as possible. The other is to market Test cricket and bring it to the same level of acceptability as the shorter game


White clothes, slow over-rates, and a new bouncer law to boot—Test cricket needs a new image



Perhaps Sir Colin Cowdrey and the ICC should keep in mind that great oxymoron from politics: If you want things to stay as they are, things will have to change



His bowling, his batting, his captaincy ... Pakistan couldn't have gone so far without the all-round skills of Imran Khan



Andrew Hudson and his fellow South Africans have every reason to feel cheated out of a World Cup final berth, thanks to the strange rain rules

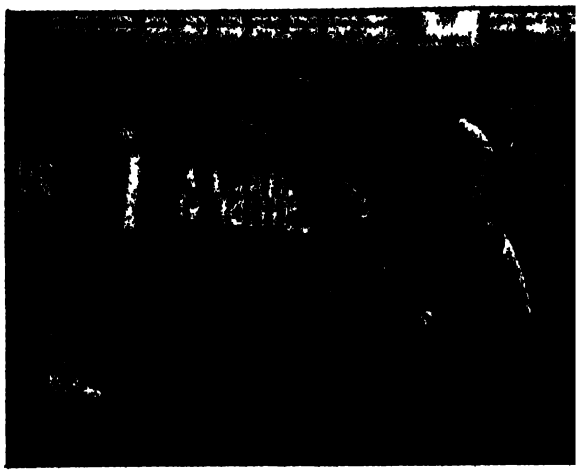


Wasim Akram learns at the feet of the master ... Imran Khan

World Cup moments...



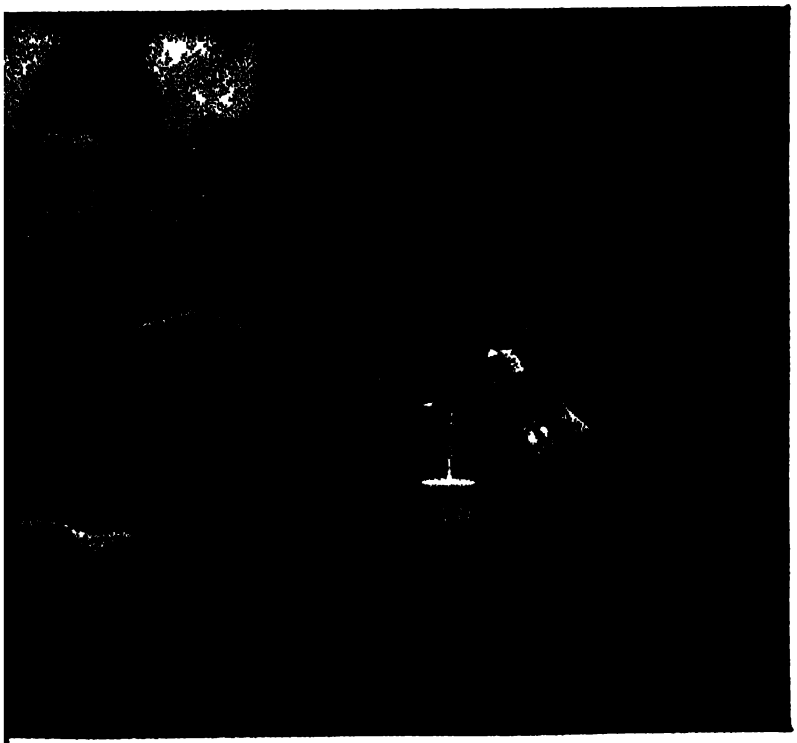
The sheer athleticism of Chris Lewis has been a boost for England's World Cup campaign

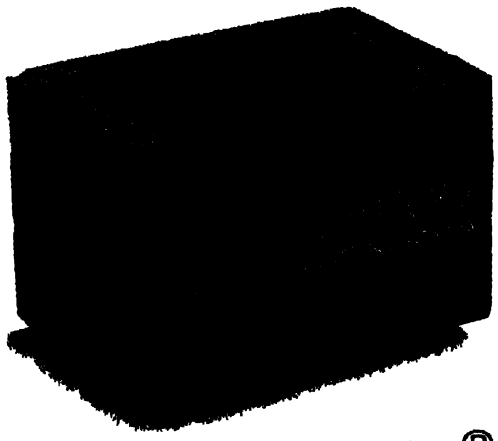


Wasim Akram's accuracy might not have been perfect ... but when he did get it right, he was almost unplayable



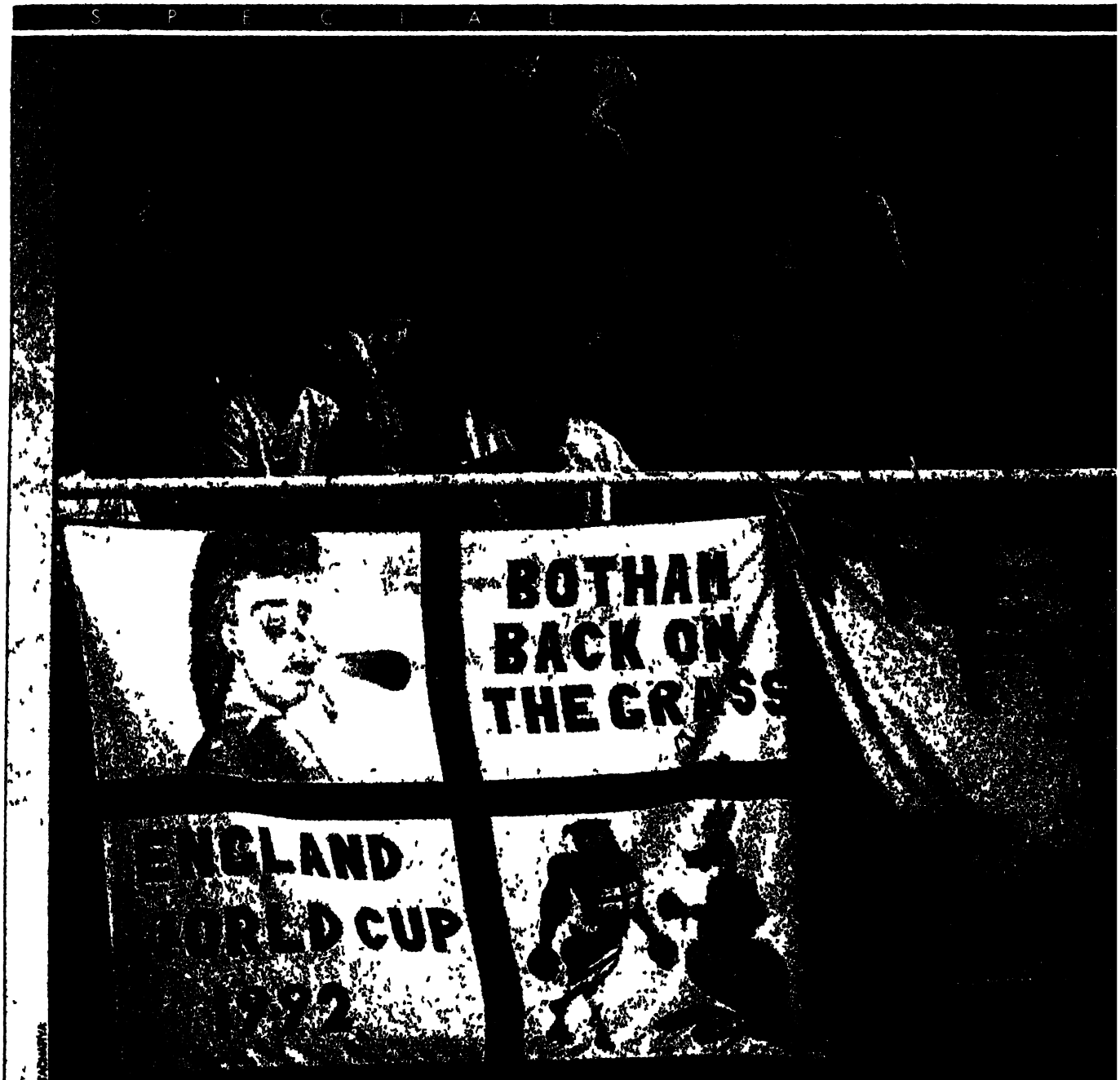
Gooch (seen here with DeFreitas) must get full credit for nursing an injury-ridden team through an arduous month of cricket





ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY KODAK

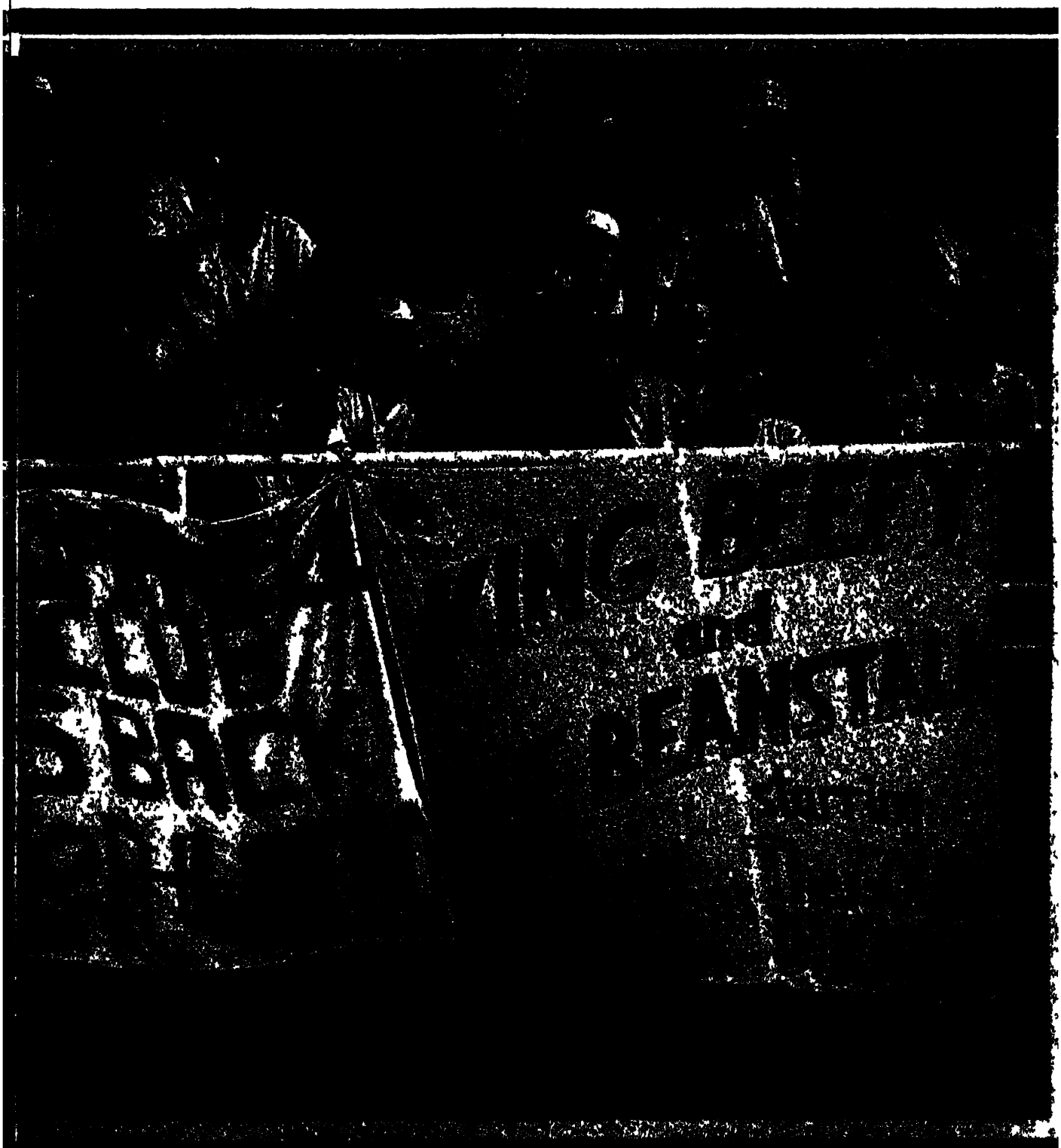
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BY ANDY CRIER

The Best & worst

The dust is yet to settle...but there's apparently been mor



of the World Cup

to this tournament than just cricket



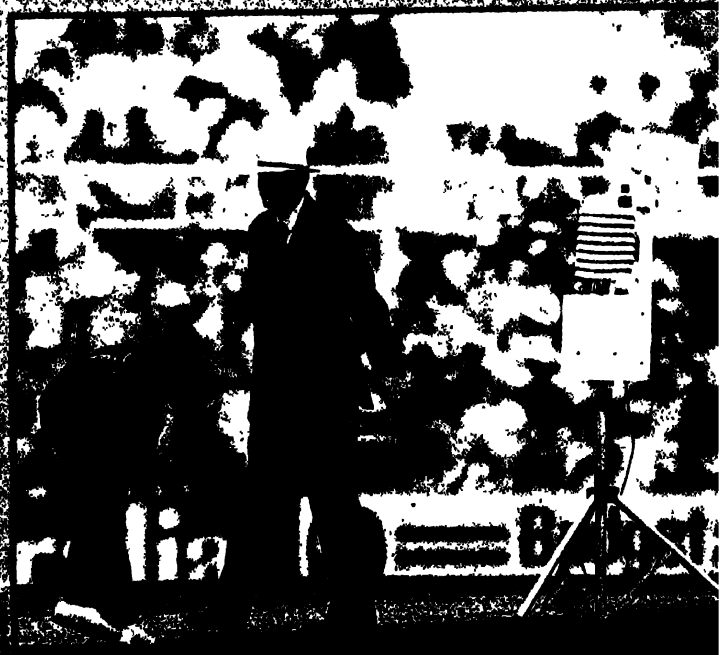
David Shepard (right) is a smiling, fat Englishman and a helluva umpire

BEST QUOTE BY AN UMPIRE: Umpire Shepard for: "We have too much to do in the game these days. You need one eye up your backside".

SPECTATOR OF THE TOURNAMENT: Ms. Pamela Jones, who got thrown out of the SCG when she cursed the "f...ing cops" while supporting England against Australia. "I don't know why they didn't just throw everyone of the 50,000 people out. The whole ground was using offensive language," she said later. Problem was that the whole ground was full of drunken Aussies. (Note: Ms. Jones from Derby went there to receive her award since she had been thrown out of the Kingston room for advising the organisers where to "stuff" their award.)

BEST IMITATION: M.C. Hammer's new song 'Marvellous' which is now on the Aussie pop charts. In this rap parody, the singer does an imitation of Ian Benaud introducing his Channel Nine colleagues. The title of the song, of course, is derived directly from the word used thousands of times in Nine's broadcasts to describe anything from the weather, the cricket and even Bill Lawry's ugly nose.

THE 'DID YOU KNOW' AWARD: To David Boon. Because there were so many things people didn't know about him. That he was half Chinese. That he was the favourite cricketer of both the Chappell brothers. That he is so tough Mike Whitney says he should be playing 'hooker' for the South Sydney rugby team. "People think he's fat" says Whitney "but he's not. Touch him and you will see that he's very hard." The best [illegible] Australian [illegible] met after [illegible] probably [illegible] used to [illegible] World Cup [illegible] Boon is the [illegible]



Not only does Greig talk too much, he talks rubbish



Bobby Simpson (extreme left) can never find fault with his players

THE FOOT-IN-BIG-MOUTH AWARD: To Bob Simpson, who predicted after his team lost to New Zealand that they would not lose again. Who claimed that India had the advantage after rain shortened the match against Australia at Brisbane. Who claimed that all the teams doing well in the tournament were "copying" the Australian methods of play.

Simpson was also nominated and awarded for the 'Most Confident Loser Award' for similar comments after Australia had lost three matches in the World Cup, the press conference and ever talking coach [illegible] in Australia, and held a [illegible]

THE 'HOW THE WEATHER RUINED THE DAY' AWARD: To the streaker who ran onto the field in Dunedin when India were playing New Zealand. It was a deadly cold morning—the coldest day Martin Crowe claimed he had ever played cricket in—so the streaker actually covered himself partially with a blanket before he ran onto the field and into the waiting arms of the police. A close second in this category was this World Cup's wet weather interruption rule which, as Confucious says, is like making hay when the rain come.

THE 'TILL DEATH DO US PART' AWARD: To the [illegible] that India's team [illegible] people repeated [illegible] as if [illegible] to [illegible] up at odd [illegible] coverage, and [illegible] when all hope was [illegible] in more bad times than [illegible] Kapil Dev's heart. With dedicated [illegible] who needs to win to be popular? [illegible] maybe it's time for divorce proceedings.

[illegible] LEADER AWARD: To Channel Nine [illegible]. Because unfortunately his [illegible] people has not extended to [illegible] more than a decade of terrible

WORLD CUP

SPECIAL

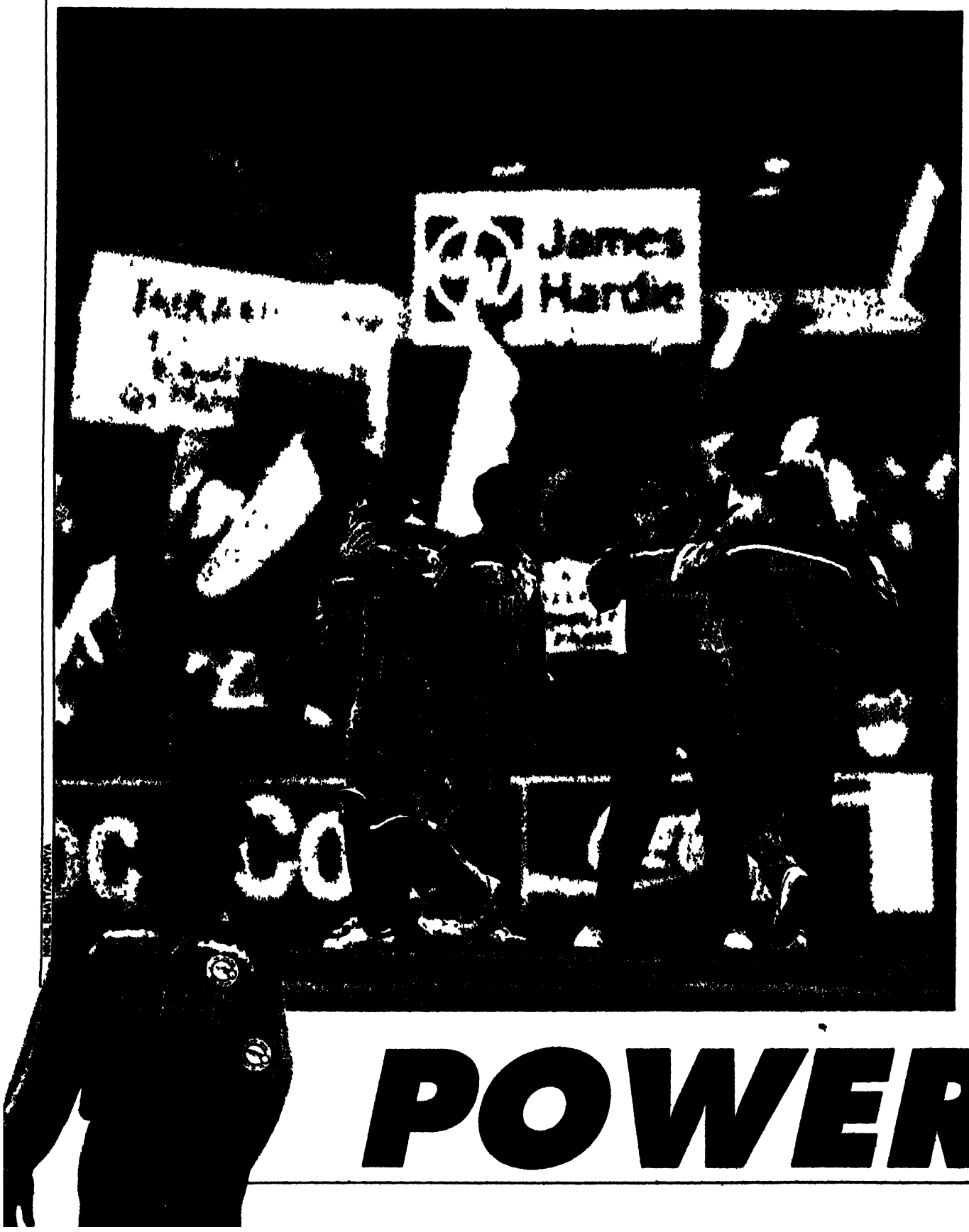


PHOTO: ERIK TACHIAVA

POWER

BY ANDY O'BRIEN, MELBOURNE

-PAK!

Inspired by their skipper Imran Khan, Pakistan bounce back to grab the World Cup from more fancied England

"TOMORROW will be fine, with temperatures in the high twenties, and it will not rain, not even for two overs." The Melbourne weather bureau issued that promise confidently on the eve of the World Cup final. But given the meteorological madness that generally passes for a climate in Melbourne, all hands kept their fingers crossed. It was a sad commentary on World Cup proceedings that the weather had come to be regarded as the most crucial ingredient in the build-up to the show-piece showdown. But given the controversial circumstances in which both finalists, Pakistan and England, won their way through to the final, it was no surprise.

Much of the talk over the previous few days was of rain; the effect it was having on the outcome of this World Cup. And so you got the impression that whoever won the toss at the MCG would bat first, lest he risk the fate that befell Kepler Wessels a few days before.

In fact the omens seemed to be in Pakistan's favour right from the start. A student of history, Imran Khan believes that his favourite subject does have this habit of repeating itself. Recalling that no team had won a World Cup final batting second, he decreed that his talented batting line-up would take first strike against a bowling attack which was not exceptional, but effective throughout this tournament.

With Pakistan two wickets down and the only two men to have featured in all five World Cups somewhat bogged down, the Union Jack waving fans decided to compete with Melbourne's weather men, and raised placards saying "Weather forecast: England reigns soon." But the vagaries of one-day cricket can be as baffling as that of a Melbourne autumn.

Graham Gooch had done a superb job transforming England into a professional disciplined side. Being organised, it is called. Gooch is a classic professional, hard nosed and driven by responsibility; characteristics he has transplanted into his team. So when Pakistan finished with 249 in their allotted overs, the 87,182 spectators that had flocked to the MCG and the millions watching the telecast thought they had a match on their hands.

The crowd was clearly divided in their support. The many English people who live in Melbourne joined their vocal breathren who had travelled the seas with their Union Jacks, coloured faces and beer bellies, to support their Queen, country and team. Of course the Australians, having formally declared their cricket season closed when they bowed out of the tournament five days before the grand finale of the cricket season, were to provide the tilt in the balance.

Pro-republican politics combined with anti-British sentiments and insults to the Queen and their repercussions had all built up a tremendous anti-pommie fever in Australia.



King Imran is all smiles as he holds the World Cup. In the background is former cricketing great, Tony Greig

PHOTOGRAPHS AP/PTI

But after Imran had savaged the organisation of the cup, it was expected that England would be the favoured team. Yet, when Beefy Botham—defender of his Queen and country—who had the previous evening walked out of an official World Cup dinner in protest against a comedian 'taking off' on the Queen, was given caught behind for a duck, a huge roar of elation exposed the majority's allegiance.

After Mustaq Ahmed, reared at the Abdul Qadir school of deportment and who none the less possesses many of his master's skills, ripped through the heart of the England batting in the form of Graham Gooch, it seemed only a matter of time that Pakistan would dispatch the English professionals, just as they had done the Kiwi romantics.

Any remaining bulldog stubbornness the English batsman had was tamed by the magnificent Wasim Akram, the wayward genius who, though cursed by the confines of one day cricket, is still the game's most dangerous wrecker. As Imran said after the great victory, "I believe that you have to use your strengths. If you have super fast bowlers, then use them and not medium pacers who can bat a bit. I have always maintained that attack in the form of going for the wickets is the best way to play one day cricket."

It was a sad commentary on World Cup proceedings that the weather had come to be regarded as a crucial ingredient in the build-up to the show-piece showdown

With two beauties that cut back off the wicket, Akram sent many English supporters scurrying back to the safety of the bars on Melbourne's Flinders Street where they had been celebrating hours prior to the start of the match.

In walked, yet another of England's bits-and-pieces cricketers: Dermot Reeve. Unfortunately, he wasn't equipped enough to play the superhuman role a Hollywood actor with a similar surname had played on the silver screen. It was only a formality and a matter of time before Imran Khan, watched by the cricketing world—and apparently also his World Cup girlfriend, the blonde Angela O'Donoghue—had his sturdy hands around the fragile crystal that symbolised world supremacy.

The team, that only two weeks earlier, were as their captain put it "at the rock bottom in morale" had climbed back out of the coffin and was now at the receiving end of resurrected glory. And as Imran spoke at the post match Press conference, the song and dance of the Pakistan dressing room could be heard clearly through the corridors of the magnificent MCG. Even the eloquent Imran could not put into words what was happening back home. "It's unimaginable to you," he said referring to the celebrations in Pakistan which defied the general atmosphere of austerity which marks the Islamic nation in the month of Ramzan.

And yet it was a success, a triumph that deserved every bit of the wild celebration. That there were no champagne bottles





Imran and his teammates in a relaxed mood during a warm-up a day before the final



PATRICK EAGER

popped at the MCG that night was only due to religious restrictions; to emotions there were no such barriers. Imran described it as the 'ultimate thing in the twilight of my career' and did not hesitate to add that he was "terribly tempted to call it a day at the moment. I have achieved all that I wanted to," but his obsession with raising funds for his cancer hospital allows the cricket fan to continue to enjoy the great allrounder's cricketing brilliance.

On great occasions, great men rise like rich cream to the top, riding their talent , their experience, their inspiration, their nerve, and if necessary, their luck. It's called class. And Imran Khan has it. The World Cup was for him a personal triumph just as it was "joy for so many people back home who don't have any happiness in their lives."

The team, almost hand picked by Imran himself, always had the talent, but their early World Cup performances had brought the critics out in search of Imran's head. "I go for guys if they have guts. Even if they happen to be a little less than others on the talent". Imran explained about his method of selecting the national team from coaching camps. But even Imran admitted that after their loss to South Africa it "was really bad because the youngsters had lost all confidence. So I told them look here, let's forget what has happened. We have nothing to lose, so let's go out there, relax enjoy ourselves, play at out best and fight all the way. And that's what we have done."

His young team had been criticised as being uncoordinated in fielding, inconsistent in the

> In India, we have the talent and we have a better cricket set-up and conditions than Pakistan. Yet Pakistan came on top. Maybe it has something to do with spirit; the unselfish determination to fight to the bitter end for team and country

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batting and erratic in the bowling. Even through their victories in the tournament, Pakistan remained themselves; a rabble with the exception of their imperious captain. In line with the cultural gap, it seemed to many people in Australia, the Pakistanis conducted their cricket on another plane so that Western logic could not be applied against it. At times they seemed to have no direction yet they were brilliantly cunning.

When Imran and his team arrived in Australia, they played Victoria at a small suburb of Melbourne and when young Australian hope Darron Lehmann walked on to bat there were two gullies on immediately. Two men lurked at deep square for the talented Darren Ramshaw. Lehmann is notorious for slashing to gully; Ramshaw has been known to hook in the air. But the Pakistanis had seen neither player before. There is a lesson in it somewhere for those who thought Imran's outfit to be uncoordinated. Imran was able to joke about this after the final when a journalist inquired about the way the Pakistanis played.

"You are meaning, disorganised, aren't you?" he said laughing. And yet even in the final they had their tactics all worked out. Questioned about the period when he and Javed put the MCG scorer to sleep, Imran responded that it was part of the game plan. "We knew that the Englishmen knew how to use the hard new ball well. So we decided that we would have to use our experience to get rid off the shine so that our younger talented and stroke-playing batsmen would be protected for the later part of the innings to get quick runs."

And that's what happened.

Uncapped in Tests and unknown before this tournament, the 22-year-old Inzamam-ul-Haq has the talent to lay waste any attack. In this World Cup he did precisely that,leaving the road for the other sidekicks to ride into town with the flag. Imran Khan had claimed that Haq was the finest talented stroke maker in the world. That he is as natural and gifted as a young Viv Richards, and on the same lofty plan as Sachin Tendulkar. Early in the tournament it seemed just another Imran justifications for a selection he had made. But after what Haq—who Imran says many underestimated because he was too fat—has shown, who can now take issue with Imran?



PATRICK EAGER

Inzaman ul-Haq did the star-turn for Pakistan both in the semi-finals and the final

Any remaining bulldog stubborness the English batsmen had was tamed by the magnificent Wasim Akram, the wayward genius who, though cursed by the confines of one day cricket, is still the game's most dangerous wrecker

Even the poison-quilled Pakistani journalists were scurrying for cover. Having for long been at the receiving end of their criticism—which intensified to the point of questions being raised about Imran's continuation as captain in the early part of the World Cup—Imran refers to the Pakistani press as "Jackals".

"Where are the Jackals who wait behind bushes to pounce on me. Where are they now?" he asked. Yes indeed where were they? Throughout the tournament there were only a couple of Pakistani journalists present. For the final only five seats were reserved for Pakistani journalists in the press box. At the post final press conference, with the entire world's cricketing press in attendance, there was only one journalist from the champion nation—and he is a known Imran sympathiser.

Imran has been criticised for his ignorance of domestic cricket in Pakistan, having not played there for years. But now that he has the upper hand he hopes "to get the patron of the board, that is the president of the country, to reorganise the domestic set-up, not only limiting it to banks or two cities." Having long been a believer that there is no proper cricket set-up in Pakistan Imran with the World Cup under his belt, is now prepared to call the shots.

"We have the talent." "With our talent it should have been a India-Pakistan final," he said, while appealing to Indians to support Pakistan in the final since they represented the sub-continent, Asia and a non-white nation. Maybe in the aftermath of Sharjah there were not too many takers in India for Imran's plea. But maybe in Pakistan's success, there is an answer to the Indian team's poor performances.

In India we too have the talent and we have a better cricket set up and conditions than Pakistan. Yet Pakistan came out on tops. Maybe it is something to do with spirit; the unselfish determination to fight to the bitter end for team and country.

Maybe therein lies the answer to many of the seemingly unbelievable come-from-behind wins in Sharjah. After Imran had called this World Cup a farce, he was asked by an Indian journalist 'If this is a farce, then what about Sharjah?" That was the only time in those few happy days that Imran seemed to lose control of his composure. He rudely replied, "I don't think you are a journalist," before changing the topic.

Yet, at the end of it all, while we in India still lament and debate what would and could have been, Pakistan rule the world! ●

IMRAN: A GOOD & LUCKY CAPTAIN

FROM out of nowhere, and without ever being seriously in the reckoning, Pakistan found their way into the finals and South Africa into the semis. The two sides that were supposed to reach the last four stage, India and Australia, got stuck somewhere along the line. There is going to be a lot of soul searching in this country and Down Under. Australia had shown over the last couple of years that an assiduous manager and a capable captain could do wonders with an average side. Simpson and Border are presently wondering what hit them. During the same period, India was busy entertaining all who cared to turn up, with the most swashbuckling cricket seen since Victor Trumper waltzed down the wicket to Wilfred Rhodes.

That they kept losing matches, which could and should have been won, made little difference. "Jolly good for cricket" they all said in England last year as Kapil Dev smote four consecutive sixes to save the follow-on. India, the nice guys, lost another game, but boy, oh boy, what a way to save the follow-on.

Yet the other glamour boys of cricket, Pakistan, wandered into the finals, pushed along by their belief in their own ability (Inzamam-ul-Haq is a better player than Tendulkar is the kind of evaluation which breeds confidence) and some close to-divine intervention. But to be fair, Imran's presence has contributed so much, that a Pakistan side without him will be lost for at least a season or two.

Imran is not only a good captain, he is a lucky captain and a team can ask for no more from a leader. He nearly lost the game against New Zealand with his hesitant crawl at the crease and a bowling spell of 10 overs which cost 59 runs. Inzamam-ul-Haq (whose name in case you are interested means



Led ably by Imran, Pakistan got it all together at the right time

merged with truth') saved his skipper and the day. Naturally, Miandad was there throughout the crucial period, and one often wonders whether the Pakistanis truly appreciate his contribution which has been so liberal, but always under the shadow of the mighty Khan.

Speaking relatively, one of the major disappointments of the World Cup had been Wasim Akram, and it is fortunate that Aaquib Javed has emerged as a front line bowler. Mushtaq will always trouble those who play from within the crease, but in a limited-overs game the Pakistani bowling could be found wanting as was amply demonstrated by Crowe and Rutherford during the middle game. The eventual total of 262 would have been a winning score on the larger Australian grounds, but as Moin Khan found to his delight a small ground and a gale force wind can do wonders even to mishits.

In Sydney, South Africa, much relieved after the recent referendum at home, took on England. On a cloudy afternoon, with a real threat of rain, Wessels had to make a tough decision. To bat first on a lively wicket or pray for the rain to stay off. In retrospect he got it wrong, for it did rain exactly when it was not required for South Africa. On the other hand, with DeFreitas wobbling the ball around it is unlikely that the South

African batsmen would have taken away the initiative from the highly professional English seam attack. The South Africans were enthusiastic and in their over-excitement both Donald and Pringle bowled fast but wide. And when their quota was over, Hick with some middle order support, did much as he wished with the bowling, now down to club level standard. A total of 252 in 45 overs (23 extras) was never going to be easy and it was a remarkable effort that South Africa had England seriously worried (though I do not think they would have quite made it) till it rained, and there arose another ludicrous situation.

I have no idea whose brilliant mind thought up this ridiculous rule, but the organisers are not to be solely blamed. The rules were sent to all participating countries and scrutinised by their technical committees and nobody thought of complaining then. Another matter which will have to be considered at length concerns a fundamental premise: How can there be a uniform World Cup, with its records, statistics etc. when playing conditions have changed from country to country. In England it is 60 overs, in India 50, with provision to play the next day if necessary, and in Australia it is played at night with a white ball and a regrettable rule when rain curtails play. These are matters for the Boards to ponder.

As far as Pakistan was concerned, this was more than a game of cricket. Imran Khan and Pakistani cricket (it is easy to get confused between the two) had loftier and more noble designs, than just the World Cup. A win here meant a large inflow of dollars for the cancer hospital, and a longer lease for the commander-in-chief of a hand-picked side which owes personal allegiance to the leader. It is a well known fact that the Pakistani sports press cannot stomach what it gets from Imran, who has openly and consistently been dismissive of his home press, considering the journalists to be ignorant (about the game) with highly inflated egos with little to no influence among the readers. In Sharjah these scribes were gleefully sharpening their knives in the early part of the tournament as Pakistan fumbled around like a bunch of schoolboys led by an ageing schoolmaster. Well, the knives were sheathed pretty quick as once again Pakistan defied logic and beat the odds.

Much the same happened in Melbourne, except that here Pakistan took on a solid professional side and beat it convincingly with a mixture of talent and enthusiasm, tempered most importantly with some discipline. The discipline came from the two most experienced players in the entire competition, as Imran and Miandad held the middle order together and, at the right moment gave way to Haq and Akram to set England a tough total. England was clearly not up to it (the only person who remained hopeful of an English victory till the second last over was David Gower in the commentators box) as Pakistan with only 3 effective bowlers wrapped up this game most convincingly. Akram at last bowled fast and swung the ball and with two devastating deliveries destroyed the middle order. Meanwhile, Mushtaq was making life complicated for Hick and other Englishmen who cannot remember the last time they played a leg spinner in the domestic circuit. Quite fittingly, Imran took the final wicket and as far as the World Cup is concerned, the final bow.

The Indians who were watching the latter part of the competition on their TV sets, instead of playing in it, are presently in the time honoured process of parking the blame as far away as possible. Azharuddin has made the same mistake that Vengsarkar did by blaming his team and not himself. This is not a very endearing attitude, and it may well cost him the captaincy.

There is not a great deal of difference in character between Indians and Pakistanis, and a mild, democratic, consensus seeking captain is hardly ideal to weld a number of individuals into a cohesive unit. Hopefully, in the future, Indian captains will remember that being liked by members of the team (or their press) is irrelevant. The idea is to be respected and for that you must be tough and honest to yourself as well as to each member of side. ●



BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

ALL CREDIT TO IMRAN



THERE has always been an eternal freshness a gaiety a sense of fun enjoyment and challenge about Pakistan's batting and bowling that has attributed box office appeal towards it From the days of Mian Saeed the first unofficial captain of Pakistan to the charismatic Imran Khan the team's overall have been entertainers supreme yet impeccable sportsmen expressing marvellous eye instinctive timing balance flexible wrists nimble footwork backed by a complete armoury of strokes supported with a rare capacity for audacious improvisations

Nazar Mohammad Maqsood Ahmed Imtiaz Ahmed Waqer Hassan and Hanif Mohammad of the earlier days and Mushtaq Mohammad Majid Khan Asif Iqbal Zaheer Abbas of the formative years and Imran Khan Javed Miandad Salim Malik of the current crop portray the traits of all those batsmen plus some of their own All have had years of classy cricket and are never wanting in giving their best

All of them epitomised greatness in their own way Some plodding to unimaginable heights some stroking it to immortality Yet others like Zaheer Abbas Asif Iqbal and Majid Khan brought to the game a degree of individualism stamped with thorough personalities hitherto not seen on the cricket field Waseem Raja's bravado and boisterity lifted the spirits now and then but never the team And time and again tour after tour the waywardness and

By IMTIAZ SIPRA, Sports Editor, Jang Group, Pakistan

inability to rise to the occasion buried the talent and the team under heaps of unmentionables.

And then came Imran along with Javed Miandad and followed here and then by the magician Abdul Qadir. Players of exceptional ability, talent and above all, commitment. These three demonstrated traits of dexterity, durability and defiance. Javed Miandad expressed a clear case of a batsman's inhumanity to a bowler; Imran Khan, thorough professional, always in command, trying to give his 100%, certainly a player's captain; Abdul Qadir, all guile, disguised in modesty off the field, tigerish clowning on the field. Yet all three were parts of a whole, somehow unbalanced and disfigured due to failure of judgement at times, through unwarranted patronage on other occasions.

But Imran Khan's being at the helm of affairs, especially in the field, brought about a change of attitude and application by the players who, under his steely-eyed supervision, never lost sight of the goal—winning. The English tour of 1982 was a near-thing, the 1983 World Cup a disappointment. But harmony was being achieved, and the 1987 series wins in India and England vindicated Imran's efforts.

However, both these triumphs paled before that semi-final disaster of the 1987 Reliance World Cup. Imran retired, but returned. And now stands on the threshold of a remarkable sporting career spanning nearly 20 years of top-class cricket.

Never the one to give in, Imran presently has a team of dedicated players; some individually brilliant, some brilliantly individual. But it is because of him that Pakistan now has a team rich in spirit. He has blended them together, making them fire on all cylinders together. Tactically a deep thinker, and a highly intelligent man, Imran does what he thinks best; and hang the consequences. Anyone who leads Pakistan has a very difficult job; while the side is winning the captain and players are hero-worshipped; lose and the dream world crashes all around.

And unless you are a strong character, as well as really a top notch player, you are courting a hard time when the wheels come down. Imran always led from the front, under trying and testing conditions and batted and bowled well under pressure. Imran is a general, fearing no one, caring not if he trod heavily on toes from top to bottom. He has done it, moulding the Pakistan team into a tremendous fighting unit; a fact proved by making it to the finals of the 1992 World Cup, after winning only a single match from their first five outings.

Javed Miandad is a complete anti-thesis to Imran Khan; full of showmanship and guts. It always appeared as if the bat was a part of his nervous system, and his overall batting was sculptured! Every stroke of his was a complete statement, he is never one to win a popularity contest, such is his needling and continual gesturing while batting and fielding. But he always met the bowlers head-on; a master technician, attended to the particular, and never lost sight of the context...and that meant playing for Pakistan, and winning. And since his debut, he has won the day for Pakistan more than once, not only through sheer professionalism, but with a faultless flow of stroke-making; so beautiful in its construction that it appeared as if he had willed the ball to places.

But brilliance always also brings in inconsistency, and unpredictable performances follow. Salim Malik is one such case; a cricketer endowed with exceptional natural talent, yet of late burdened under a spell of low scores. Neat, wristy, nimble of feet, Salim Malik has so much time to play his strokes that it appears at times as if the ball had stopped in mid-air. His bat always seemed to be the talking, knows where the field is set, and adjusts the shots accordingly. A pleasant sight of smooth, calculated, timing to perfection. His stroke-play at times is prosaic to the point of historical understatement.

Others are no less talented or established; some being able to shave-off the edges to their batting and bowling through guidance, some being able to overcome their 'talent' inadequacy through motivation and enthusiasm. Rameez Raja, simply through dedication and discipline, attained a perfection that gave him mastery over every type of bowling.

And then others came about; younger, zealous and simply out of this world; playing Test cricket before taking the first class field. Zahid Fazal, Inzamamul Haq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Moin Khan and Waseem Akram along with Aaqib Javed, form a team that has more 'what's his name' in the team then established stars. All had the natural ability to put it together, but lacked the direction. Imran did just that, and now Pakistan has a team of youthful 'warriors', transformed into fighters while their talents are yet to be honed. Calm, measured contributions have been made by them all, under varying conditions through positive stroke-play, an ideal compliment to their efforts. Inzamamul Haq's innings at Auckland an apt description of felicitious stroke-play.

And in bowling, Waseem Akram, Aaqib Javed, Mushtaq Ahmed, express a honed-up ability of tight, crisp bowling. While Waseem and Aaqib Javed bowl jolting, short-pitched, difficult-to-stroke bowling, Mushtaq spins a web of chains around the batsmen. Moin Khan guards his stumps while batting, and helps the bowlers and fielders uproot them later on. All in all, a fine blend of youth and experience that stakes claim to be the best in the world.

And all this is due to one man, Imran Khan; majestic, poised, assured, a devastating amalgam of that physical and mental attributes that make up a great player. ●

THE

IN England, the expression "Essex man' has come to mean a fly by-night guy out to make a quick buck probably at some shady business in the city

England's own cricketing Essex man is nothing of the kind and now, as Graham Gooch captain of both Essex and England contemplates retirement within a year he can also say with pride that he has put the national team back at the top after years in the doldrums

Gooch whose solemn face under that dominant moustache has been a symbol of England s fighting spirit in the past decade is less like an Essex man of legend than it is possible to imagine He believes in hard work in large doses of regular practice, in team spirit—learnt in training sessions with his favourite football team West Ham—and in full-time dedicated professionalism

When he took charge of England he found another like soul Micky Stewart the team manager and coach who had wanted to put such principles into practice throughout his time with the team but had been thwarted as one captain after another had preferred a more casual approach Discipline too had been at an all time low and the 1990 rebel tour to South Africa had spirited away half a dozen of England s finest players

Gooch knew only one way to cure the problem He had been brought up in the East End of London, knew where poverty lay even if it did not directly affect his own family and even as a teenager had preferred to finish his apprenticeship in an engineering factory rather than risk a cricket career without a trade behind him So he and Stewart called in another batsman with a famous regard for both hard work and practice England s recently retired Geoff Boycott and the three devised a training course specially adapted to fit players for the upcoming tour of West Indies

It was tough but it worked and although England fared badly in the Caribbean tour of 1990, they won the first Test and broke a long sequence of dominance by West Indies under Viv Richards and Clive Lloyd The reason for the loss of two Tests at the end of the trip is clear Gooch was missing with a broken bone in his hand

Two successes against New Zealand and India followed in the English summer of 1990 as young players like Gus Fraser the fast medium bowler and Robin Smith the middle order batsman began to establish their place in the side Gooch and Stewart expected to consolidate the improvement with an Ashes success in Australia and might have done so if Gooch had not missed the first two Tests after a cut in his hand turned septic

It seemed for a while that worst days of the 1980s had returned In that time not a single great young English player emerged; more than 70 players were used in as many Tests as the selectors under England s greatest captain Peter May made wholesale changes after defeats by West Indies and when tactics seemed to be a matter of whim rather than reason

But it was against West Indies that Gooch and Stewart finally

The changing face of Gooch: in good times and bad he's been there for England



PATRICK EAGAR

BY JOE KING, LONDON

ESSEX MAN'S SUCCESS

Graham Gooch has given the not-too-complimentary tag of 'Essex Man' an entirely new meaning with his excellent handling of the English cricket team

convinced themselves, their players and the paying public that England could be great again. The World Cup success of the last month was born last summer when they fought a 2-2 draw as Richards completed his last tour; and perhaps as important, that series saw the re-emergence of Ian Botham as a force in English cricket.

Gooch, who had despaired of David Gower, the most brilliant player of the era, after an incident in Australia in 1991 when he hired a plane to fly over England's match against Queensland, needed another man from his own generation both to offer advice and add uplift in the dressing room.

Botham was his obvious choice. But he too had been out of favour; he was in his middle thirties and not in such good shape as he had been after a back operation that threatened his career and a flirtation with the show business side of cricket that threatened his waistline.

The return of Botham, who was flown out to the World Cup after appearing in a pantomime, marked the final stage of Gooch's rebuilding of England. It also brought him a new opening partner, but one who made him feel comfortable.



PATRICK EAGAN

Strangely enough, Botham is the one man in his team he allows latitude in the hard work and practice routine. Botham trains when he wishes but Gooch will settle for that—as he settled for Gower's eccentric attitude towards nets—because he recognises that he and Botham are at the end of their careers. "There's not much oil left in the can when you reach my age" he is apt to remind his questioners as his 39th birthday nears and "I won't be here for the next World Cup unless they have a senior citizens section."

More's the pity, for he has driven England to success when they seemed to be set for a permanent place at the bottom of the world ratings. Essex man has done it all by hard work and the good news for England is that they are about to appoint Keith Fletcher, Gooch's mentor and his predecessor as Essex captain, to be England coach when Stewart quits in August. ●

SOUTH AFRICA's leading batsman Peter Kirsten may well have been annoyed. He might have wondered why the decision to name the New Zealand captain Martin Crowe, as the player of the World Cup, was made even before the final line-up was known. In fact, the keys to the gorgeous Nissan sports car were handed over to the Benson & Hedges champion, soon after New Zealand had bowed out of the tournament, losing to Pakistan at Eden Park.

But would there have been any justification to Kirsten's annoyance? Surely not. Many followers of the World Cup felt, Crowe deserved the car and the title even if he had not scored a single run in the tournament. The engaging, buoyant Kiwi deserved the award merely because of the strange twist he gave to the tournament—which could probably have far reaching repercussions on one-day cricket in the future.

Burdened with an inexperienced team, his own struggling form and low morale, Crowe revelled in the challenge, treating the World Cup as if it were his university thesis. The Kiwi skipper did extensive research on every team, and painstakingly worked out which of his bowlers could contain the varying batsmen of the opposition. Indeed, Crowe played, and won, the first mind game of the tournament long before a ball was bowled. He decided to identify New Zealand's opponents, only by the colours of their uniforms rather than by their names. This was to dehumanise them, to defuse the power of legendary reputations for his young and very unsure side. And it worked—God, he went through every colour, till Pakistan in light green put an end to it all.

The unusual tactics that Crowe used, added enormously to this World Cup, whether it was opening the batting with the burly, maniacal Mark Greatbatch or allowing little Dipak Patel and his



Martin Crowe snuggles up to wife Simone

ARUP BHATTACHARYA

MARTIN CROWE

HERO

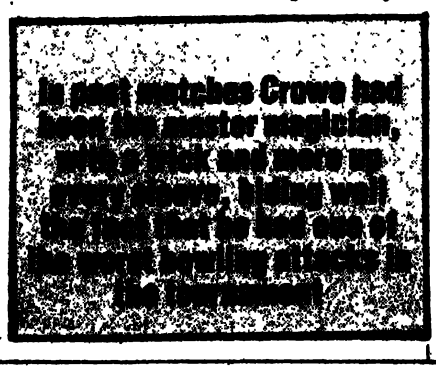
Imaginative in his captaincy and consistent in his batting, Martin Crowe proved,without doubt, that he was the player of the tournament

tight off-spin to open the bowling. It showed how much adventurous thinking Crowe and coach Warren Lees had put into their World Cup campaign. Instead of using bowlers in five over spells, ususally the standard in one-day cricket, Crowe used them in two or three over spells, auditioning bowlers as if he were a Broadway director choosing his chorus line. And they all performed the same act—bowling right-arm, gentle medium-pace. But both the pace, and the ploy of shock use, prevented batsmen from settling into a groove. As Allan Border put it, "Maybe this is where the one-day game is heading".

As a result, Chris Harris, who never opened the bowling for even his local team, became the tournament's highest wicket-taker (at least he was at one point). And Patel, hynotising opponents with his almost, slow-motion spin was ridiculously inexpensive. Crowe also decided against the cricketing convention of using pace for the final overs, on one occasion even giving part-time spinner Andrew Jones the honour of ending the innings. Crowe said he told Jones to plan for a long bowling stint, because powerful winds in New Zealand make it highly risky to hit him back over his head and into the wind. Field placings too were unorthodox to suit the nature of the bowling and other conditions peculiar to New Zealand.

If one-day cricket has one fault it is, that it has been far too unimaginative, too methodical, mathematical and mechanical. Crowe gave us something new, and more importantly it worked well. The essence of captaincy surely is to force your opponent to abandon his usual style of play and make him do something he is not used to That is what exactly what Crowe did.

Yet after a unique, three-week, clean sweep, the dream ended when Pakistan stunned a packed Eden Park into silence, successfully chasing what appeared an impossible winning target. Crowe's inability through injury, to lead his team in the final overs of the semi-finals probably



contributed heavily to their demise. His absence in the middle, after tearing a hamstring at the end of an artful 91, was a terrible moment for New Zealand. Instead, a combination of captaincy errors by acting skipper John Wright, and a loss of spirit by his teammates when Pakistan began to approach their target, left the Kiwis to ponder what might have been.

In past matches Crowe had been the master magician, with a trick and more up every sleeve, hiding well the fact that he had one of the worst bowling attacks in the tournament. Yet with Wright as captain, when Pakistan were batting, New Zealand reverted to the old formula of giving bowlers long spells with orthodox fields. If anything, Wright's failure only further emphasized Crowe's contribution to his team's success.

Crowe admitted his inability to lead his team was crucial that day: "I suppose my not being there and John Wright having to get accustomed to the game-plan and sorting things out might have disrupted the situation".

Apart from being the most imaginative captain of any of the teams, Crowe doubled up as the tournament's most dangerous batsman, ending with a strike rate that almost defied belief. And yet,



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Crowe said 'hit over the top' and Greatbatch, like a good soldier, just followed orders

prior to the World Cup he was asked by the selectors to step down as captain So he then began to use his injury as an excuse for a possible no-show in the World Cup. "The people who put me in that position of being captain were about to take it away from me They were asking me about the captaincy. How I was enjoying it and so on Basically my captaincy was in question. I had a feeling that I might not be named in the team for the World Cup When it happened and they said they were going to take the captaincy away, I said, 'I'm not going to back down to these guys I'm going to stick it right back at them.'"

And what a way he did it. In the sort of style that comes along once every few summers That he could not lead his team to the ultimate prize will live with him forever. But that he was individually, the finest player to grace this World Cup will never be in doubt. Even Peter Kirsten would probably agree.

Andy O'Brien, Australia

NEW ZEALAND

A Flair For

GIDEON HAIGH writes

THERE is a reason nobody ever stands back to wonder that New Zealand, isolated and sparsely populated, should have been so rich in cricketers. And that is because it hasn't.

The few transcendently great players it has thrown up, what is more, have never flourished without foreign enrichment. Martin Donnelly, Glenn Turner, John Wright, Sir Richard Hadlee and even Martin Crowe stepped to the front rank only after English finishing.

But while it is no Antarctic Antigua, New Zealand has churned out cricketers of immense usefulness. With a population of three-and-a-half million that can still maintain no more than half-a-dozen first class teams, it remains a country sensitive to, and sustaining of, the smallest cricketing gifts.

New Zealand cricketers are born into limitation. Tours abroad narrow their gaze as much as widen it. Ian Smith recalled, in his autobiography, a bus journey to Wankhede Stadium in Bombay in 1989, where his eyes widened at a roadside hoarding that boasted: "This site is seen by over two-and-a-half million people daily!"

"That is the equivalent", he said "of getting three-quarters of the entire New Zealand population to pass through Christchurch's Cathedral Square in one day" Unlikely.

New Zealanders grow up within boundaries of economy and circumstance. The

CRICKET

Making The Best Of Weaknesses

n cricket in his country—Kiwi country

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



quasi-amateurism of the cricket establishment even today, nudges internationals into premature retirement There was no professional suffrage in New Zealand, like World Series Cricket, to prolong the recent Test careers of John Parker, John Reid, Jeff Crowe, Bruce Edgar, Martin Snedden and John Bracewell.

Curatorial standards vary, with Martin Crowe's Test record a good illustration: he does far better abroad than at home. But not even the worldly Crowe complains: "It is not the fault of anyone", he observes in 'The Crowe Way'. "But because the grounds are used for rugby and soccer, they cannot get the same preparation and care as a ground used exclusively for cricket".

New Zealand has shown a remarkable flair for making the best of weaknesses. Allan Border might pine for a settled unit but New Zealand has had one by default for virtually its entire Test history As John Wright explained to an interviewer three years ago, the New Zealander who graduates to Test cricket is almost always given time to grow into his niche

"I went for 14 Tests where I averaged 17, before I made any runs", he recalled. "Martin Crowe didn't get any for six Tests. Finally, you get a very stable team base with hardly anyone under pressure for their place. That's what you need when you are competing against the likes of the West Indies. It's a feeling of hanging in there"

An 18-month runless spell, such as the one Mark Greatbatch endured before the World Cup, would have been unthinkable in Australia Geoff Marsh gushed runs in comparison But, as Smith explained, Greatbatch's face fitted "When he first walked into the dressing-room, he looked and behaved like he belonged there", he wrote ' If he isn't first to congratulate a bowler at the fall of a wicket, he isn't on the field."

But the orderly decline of the previous generation has compelled a changing of New Zealand's guard, elevating new faces such as Chris Cairns, Gavin Larsen, Rod Latham and Chris Harris Probations such as those allowed Dipak Patel and Ken Rutherford would have provoked inquiries in Australia to unravel their familial links with Bob Simpson.

Spirited promotion of 'the young guns' in New Zealand last season, did not blind locals to the possibility that they might fire blanks for a few seasons. The country's attainments in the Cup actually followed the abrupt end this year to 13 summers of Test invulnerability on their own soil: England dealt New Zealand its first Test-series defeat since 1978-79.

While they had the inestimable advantage of playing all its lead-up matches at home, perhaps only New Zealand among the cricket nations could have regenerated with such a minimum of fuss.

Wanted: The Right Balance


NIKHIL BHATTACH

Sir Colin Cowdrey, chairman of the ICC, worries that a plethora of one-day cricket would overwhelm the traditional game of Test cricket

SPORTSWORLD: One of the major lessons of this World Cup has been the success of its marketing... How would you as the chairman of the ICC view this and what do you think the ICC can learn from this?
COWDREY: I think, it has made all the cricket Boards of different countries aware of this concept of marketing. I think that's the benefit of having things like this World Cup jamboree . It's been a great coming together during this tournament; yet, we have to keep in mind the balance of the game, not forgetting the importance of the traditional game also. So this is an opportunity for officials from different countries to meet and exchange opinions about the future of the game and how there should be a balance between the traditional game and the kind of cricket we saw in this World Cup. So while we rejoice in the great success of this tournament, we must be aware that the game needs the balancing up with the traditional game. To me, that is the major problem. We shall now be meeting formally here but it will be a great forum for opinions to be exchanged. To me, all this is a huge problem.

You called this World Cup a jamboree. How far do you see such jamborees dominating world cricket in the future?
I think the major criticism against this kind of cricket is that, very surprisingly, it becomes too defense-oriented. I mean, if you have two batsmen who come in and get set, then the fielding side starts denying them runs without actually looking for the wicket; I think that is a disappointment. Besides, to reduce world class bowlers to bowl only ten overs is a rule that maybe needs to be looked into. Maybe, what can be considered is that two of the bowlers can bowl more than ten overs.

You talked about a balance between instant and Test cricket; you feel that's what cricket needs presently. How do you propose to go about this and where, according to you, does this balance lie especially considering the higher marketability of one-day cricket?
Yes, that's a difficult question you ask...(laughs). I wish I could give you a specific straightforward answer but I am afraid I don't have it. But I think the players are now more aware that traditional cricket is very important Also, I feel that to deny a public the sight of seeing a world class bowler or a world class batsman because of the time limitations you put on him isn't the best thing really. Also, it is terribly important that we have spinners back into cricket. We haven't had an awful lot of spinners in cricket lately and perhaps the limited overs game may have something to do with this. It's important that cricket sometimes has two spinners bowling against good batting and the game flowing at an easy pace and good tempo. But if you have four fast bowlers, then the over rates are slow and things don't go all that smooth. Of course, I have to admit that fast bowling is very effective. In that context, I think the new rule limiting a fast bowler to one bouncer per over is maybe, too hard a rule. It's probably just the same limiting a bowler's spell in a 40 or 50 over game. We haven't got the right answer yet on controlling this aspect of the game. Here too, I think we have to study a few more things before we come to a right balance. You may say, why not? Why ain't such kind of bowling_

allowed? After all, it's good to watch and it's also supposedly a supreme test for the batsmen. I believe it is, where you have the fast bowler bowling to the top of the off stump and not to the top of the helmet. I don't believe it was meant to be that

Allan Donald: the world's fastest bowler



way. I think that it's gone too far really. I don't think it is good for the game.

But many believe that the bouncer really tests the batsmen's skills and if cricket is indeed a game of skill, as you say, then the bouncer ought to have its place?

I don't think so Towards the end of my career, it had started and I didn't think it was good. I mean, you take fellows like Lindwall and Miller They had the ability to bowl the bouncer but they still kept the ball up Lindwall was an artiste, a great artiste, beating the bat outside the off stump, hitting the top of the off stump and so on and so forth I think that was more of an art. But then gradually, the short pitches stuff came back and I think it was only natural. I mean, after the Bodyline series opened this Achilles heel of cricket, it was obvious that at some time or the other, it was bound to return. You know when the England players were returning from the 1932 tour on the boat, they collectively decided to put Bodyline into its coffin to bury it. And I do recall Les Ames, the wicket-keeper on that tour, and many others say that there would be a day when the money will come into the game, when money matters and winning matters more then all this would come out of the coffin once again

When a side would have six fast bowlers all bowling at the body, and it has, then it has been resurrected.

So you believe that Bodyline has come back and that's why the ICC decided to come down on the bouncers and make the one bouncer rule?

Yes, I think it has. It evolved in the 70's, with the West Indies and then in the Packer era, it really went out of hand and from then on, every team was looking for fast bowlers and the umpires I think, could never control things after that. Cricket is not about hitting the helmet. It's about hitting the wicket.

The ICC concept of match referees has also come under fire. When he landed in Australia, Imran Khan went on record saying that the referee concept was merely an eyewash. The main issue, he said was neutral umpires. How do you react to this?

Well, anyone who criticises must produce a formula to back up his criticism. The concept of neutral umpires travelling around the world umpiring matches, is financially, humanly, and organisationally impossible. I know what Imran's saying. But I've played more cricket than Imran has. I've played for 25 years. He hasn't done that. But I know exactly what he is trying to say but we have to ask ourselves whether something is feasible. I mean, we are ready for people to give us ideas, you know, lay it on the table for discussion . we are not dictators. We want the best for the game

Now that this World Cup has been a stupendous success, what do you think of the future of cricket?

You have to ask yourself whether you want every day's cricket to be like the games in this World Cup. I personally wouldn't like to see every day's cricket played in this fashion. I mean, this World Cup has been a fantastic success. I am not knocking it one iota. But if you were to ask the top ten players in this competition, I won't be amazed if they say that they still prefer the traditional game And the reason is that it is only in the traditional game that bowlers will have a chance to bowl 20, 25 overs. I mean, how can you enjoy a game when you can only bowl ten overs.

Imagine Bedi bowling 25 overs to Gavaskar. Now that's more interesting cricket, isn't it. I'm sure any connoisseur would want that and not get caught up in this one-day thing. I am sure most players will still want quite a large chunk of the traditional game and the five day Test game provided the tempo is kept going. The tempo has become too slow. If the tempo is maintained, then you get to see the skills and the art of the traditional game. Then you have bowlers bowling to get wickets, battles between batsmen and bowlers, lasting many overs. That's cricket.

Interviewed by Andy O'Brien

4 SUCCESSES

Pakistani Spirit

THE World Cup was not just a victory for the Pakistani cricket team, but for the collective temperament of that team. Remember, even before the tournament had begun, Pakistan lost the man who was considered to be the spearhead of their campaign to win the one trophy in cricket that had always thwarted them. With the withdrawal of Waqar Younis, the odds changed dramatically. Pakistan had been considered a strong candidate, with Australia firm favourites, yet after Younis's departure, the team that has never even been in a World Cup final, slipped even further from popular fancy.

They certainly didn't begin the tournament in very impressive fashion. If you look back on the early rounds, you would recall that Pakistan lost to South Africa, to Australia and to India. They came close to losing another match too, when England bowled them out for 74 and were then robbed of victory by rain. Had it not rained, Pakistan would surely have been out of the tournament.

The other thing to remember is that in any of the other World Cups, three losses by any one team would have effectively put that side out of contention. Yet the expanded format for the 1992 competition and the increase in the number of teams meant that Pakistan were able to take a breather and find the winning formula.

Let us not dwell on their early setbacks in this competition. Their greatness lies not solely in the fact that, in their last three games they had three straight victories against extremely professional sides (New Zealand in the last round robin match, New Zealand again in the semi-final and England in the final). No, their greatness lies in the way they reversed their own form and then, after a perilously slow start in the final, powered home to what turned out to be a great victory.

The Cup Itself

YES, yes, I know you think that because I live in this country I am biased. But the 1992 World Cup was a great success no matter what Imran had to say about it being the worst organised in the history of World Cup cricket. No other World Cup has had so many teams, hence no other World Cup has had such an expanded schedule. There was also criticism about the fact that the World Cup was tagged on at the end of a gruelling cricket season. But what the critics forgot to take into account was the fact that at this time of the year, the weather is at its kindest. It may be winter in the rest of the world, but it is summer here, and although part of the tournament was played in hot conditions, it was not as unbearable as it might have been earlier.

The South Africans

IF there was one team that stole the heart of those who sat and watched, it was the South Africans, back on the world stage for the first time in more than two decades. Unlike most people in this country, I had always thought the South Africans would be a force to reckon with, because I had seen them in action in India. I warned cricket buffs here that they would be a striking outfit, but even I could not have foreseen how successful they would be. Who knows what might have happend if that brief shower of rain had not come in the dying stages of their semi-final against England. The target might have looked daunting, but they had begun to accelerate and, all of a sudden, England looked vulnerable. The South Africans bring a new level of entertainment and class to a game that is developing all the time.

A Man Called Crowe

THIS is the man who had just lost a Test series and a one-day series to England. This is a man who had struggled for form all through the long, hard series against England. This is a man who had faced the wrath of a hostile press, sections of which had even suggested the best thing would be for someone to replace Crowe as captain.

But Crowe stayed on. And for [illegible] point came in the [illegible] when Australia's bowlers got two early breakthroughs against New Zealand and it looked as though they would be routed yet again. Crowe played an inspirational innings, scored a wonderful century, and led his side to victory against the defending champions and host nation. He finished with more runs and [illegible] tournament, took a [illegible] tournament. He [illegible] semi-final [illegible] victory.

4 FAILURES

DAVID McMAHON nominates the successes and failures of the World Cup



English Humour

THE English sense of humour. Or, more specifically, Ian Botham's sense of humour. Now, now, what have we here? A bloke who has poked more fun at other people than most of his closest friends would care to remember. A joker who used to mash bananas on phone receivers. A wit who used to scrape the edges off his friends' favourite Test match bats. A wag who was given to pouring champagne on David Gower's head as they posed for official team portraits. From the time he made his debut in 1978, if there was a caper in the England dressing-room, you could bet your bottom dollar Botham was involved.

Yet all of a sudden, Botham's sense of humour deserted him dramatically in Australia. At the last official engagement of the World Cup, a black-tie dinner on the eve of the final, Botham walked out because an Australian comedian—who, it must be said, made fun of our own Prime Minister and other prominent Australians—joked about the Queen. Botham took umbrage, took his captain, and walked out.

If he is so sensitive about the manner in which a head of state is treated, then why did he make disparaging remarks about Prime Minister [illegible] in the early days of the World Cup, but I recall that it was after [illegible] said it did to the Queen. After [illegible] walked out of an official dinner that the World Cup players were contracted to attend, [illegible] on his sleeve all [illegible] Botham is trying to [illegible] on [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] with [illegible] and

HIGHLIGHTS

COMPILED BY HARI PRASAD CHATTOPADHYAY

SRI LANKA became the only team in the history of one day cricket to score over 300 runs to win a match In their match against Zimbabwe they scored 313 for 7 to win the match Zimbabwe's score of 312 for 4 in 50 overs is also incidentally the highest score that a losing side has accumulated The match produced an aggregate of 625 runs which is also a record in a 50 over match The previous record was 626 runs between Sri Lanka and Pakistan in 120 overs in the 1983 World Cup

JAVED MIANDAD the Pakistani vice captain became the first cricketer to play in all editions of the World Cup when he played against West Indies on Feb 23 in Melbourne In Pakistan's next match against Zimbabwe three days later Imran Khan became the second player to achieve this honour

JAVED MIANDAD of Pakistan became the highest run getter in the history of the World Cup with 1029 runs in 28 matches surpassing the record set by Viv Richards with 1013 runs in 23 matches Miandad became the second cricketer after Australia's David Boon to hit five half centuries in a single World Cup Boon achieved the feat in the 1987 Reliance Cup Miandad's 58 in the final was his 45th half century in one day internationals and thus equalled the world record of most half centuries held by Vivian Richards and Desmond Haynes of West Indies

IMRAN KHAN and Javed Miandad of Pakistan playing their 28th match in the final in Melbourne on March 25 jointly hold the record of figuring the most number of matches in World Cup

PAKISTAN'S total of 74 in 41 2 overs against England at Adelaide is the lowest total ever recorded by a Test playing nation in the World Cup The earlier record was 93 all out by England against Australia at Leeds in the 1975 World Cup

NEW ZEALAND skipper Martin Crowe's 50 off 31 balls against Zimbabwe was just one ball short of the quickest World Cup half century scored by Chris Old of England who scored 50 off 30 balls in their match against India in the 1975 World Cup

*ANDREW FLOWER of Zimbabwe became his country's first and the third cricketer after Dennis Amiss of England and Desmond Haynes of West Indies to score a century on debut in one day internationals by scoring 115 against Sri Lanka Flower also became the youngest cricketer to score a century in the World Cup at the age of 23 years and 301 days thus surpassing Kapil Dev's record of 24 years and 163 days when he made his 175**

MEYRICK PRINGLE of South Africa in his second World Cup appearance and second one day international took four wickets for 11 runs in the best bowling performance in this World Cup He established this record in the match against West Indies

ZIMBABWE'S total of 131 against England was the lowest score recorded by a winning side that batted first



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Eddo Brandes' haul of 4 wickets for just 21 runs against England gave him the Man-of-the-Match award and Zimbabwe a victory

SACHIN TENDULKAR became the youngest player in the World Cup to receive the an-of-the-Match award for his superb knock gainst Pakistan. He also is the youngest player to mplete 1000 runs in one-day internationals. He hieved this milestone in the match against mbabwe and was just 18 years and 318 days old.



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DEAN JONES of Australia became the sixth batsman in the world, after Desmond Haynes, Viv Richards, Gordon Greenidge, Javed Miandad and Allan Border, to score over 5000 runs in limited-overs cricket. Jones also scored his 37th half-century in the match, an honour he shares with Allan Border.

KRIS SRIKKANTH, when he scored 39 against England, became the first Indian and the ninth cricketer in the world to complete 4000 runs in one-day internationals.

DON PRINGLE (East Africa) and son Derek Pringle (England) was the first father son instance when both father and son played in the World Cup. When Chris Cairns played in this World Cup, it was the second occurence.

DAVID HOUGHTON became the first Zimbabwean player to cross 500 runs in the World Cup, when he scored 55 against West Indies.

GRAHAM GOOCH became the fourth player to win three man-of-the-match awards in a World Cup. This distinction was earlier held by Vivian Richards, Graham Gooch and David Boon.

JOHN TRAICOS of Zimbabwe at 44 years and 282 days was the oldest player on view in this edition of the World Cup. Incidentally Sachin Tendulkar at 18 years and 302 days (when he played the first match of the World Cup against England) was the youngest cricketer in this World Cup.



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KEPLER WESSELS of South Africa became the first cricketer to have played for two countries in the World Cup. He had earlier played three matches for Australia in the 1983 Prudential World Cup. In the match against Australia, his score of 81 made him the sixth player in one-day internationals to hit five consecutive fifties.

WHEN twin brothers Steve and Mark Waugh scored half-centuries against Zimbabwe it was the first instance in one-day cricket when twin brothers have scored half-centuries in a one-day match. This is also the secnd occasion when two brothers have scored half centuries in one innings. Jeff and Martin Crowe were the first when they played against Zimbabwe in the Reliance World Cup.

PETER KIRSTEN of South Africa became the first batsman to cross the 300 run mark in the tournament. He achieved this in his fifth innings of the tournament, against Zimbabwe. ●

WHAT'S THE USE OF COMPLAINING?

No-one Read The Rules!



When Imran Khan speaks people tend to listen Whether the compelling factor is his Oxford accent rakish good looks or leadership values depends on who's doing the listening

Anyway, having been forgiven for comparing Inzamam-ul-Haq with Tendulkar—even the Khan speaks the odd nonsense off and on—he then went on the rampage, dumping the World Cup as 'the worst tournament' he had been to Reasons being the rules, the scheduling, this, that and the other

The Khan was absolutely right this time So too was everyone else who bawled that the rain rule sucks and that Channel Nine had a sneaky hand in all this somewhere Only problem was that they had conveniently forgotten two, long-standing, sporting truths a) don t cry after the milk has spilt, make sure the glass isn't cracked to begin with, and b) television will continue manipulating sport because it can

From Lahore to London Bombay to Bridgetown and Cape Town to Colombo, everyone has been bitching about the rain rule India said it cost them the match against Australia, others sulked when Pakistan salvaged a point after England bowled them out for 74 in Adelaide and South Africa is probably still weeping because of 12 balls that were never bowled



If no-one properly examined the rain-rule and no-one stopped television from manipulating the schedule and timings, then no-one has reason to complain

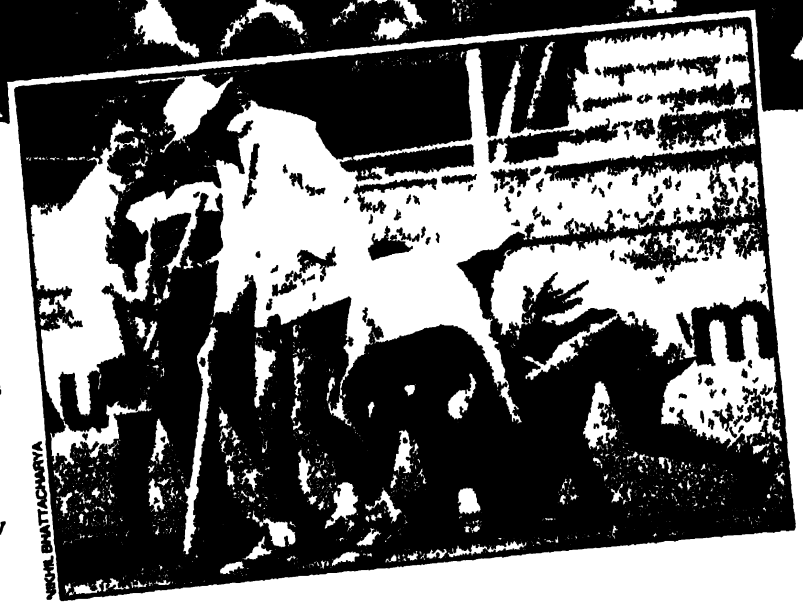
But all this a little silly and definitely too late It s like John McEnroe being defaulted from the Australian Open in 1990, and then claiming he was unaware the rules regarding a default had changed Strange, considering the new rule was made by the ATP, which is the players' association, and circulars were sent to every member, McEnroe included If you don't read the rules, keep quiet

It's the same in the World Cup Surely the rules of the tournament and the scheduling of the Cup were not something the World Cup organising committee locked in a vault, and then thrust suddenly on a host of unsuspecting teams Rubbish, it was common knowledge

Every single Board of the participating nations was sent a copy of the rules to read, discuss and then give a signature of assent, which they all did happily Thus,



Wrapped in blankets, spectators brave the freezing cold—why the tournament was held during this time of year is a question not asked and therefore not answered



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once the lunacy began, as Ali Bacher put it, "There was nothing anyone could do They had all signed"

Having signed and then screaming does nothing, but reflect poorly on the people sitting on the various Boards how come no-one reacted to the idiocy of the rain-rule especially, and this is vital, considering that rain in Australia and New Zealand at this time of year is not unusual? It's autumn fellas, in case you didn't know

Equally astonishing was the outpouring of emotion that followed South Africa's exit from the Cup. That Wessels had wasted time and bowled only 45 overs, and moreover, decided to bat second knowing full well rain was imminent since it delayed the start by 10 minutes, became secondary. Amazing—first no-one reads the rules properly, and then having understood the lopsidedness of it, you still flirt with disaster! Empty Wessel, this fellow.

How come no-one reacted to the idiocy of the rain-rule considering that rain in Australia and New Zealand at this time of year is not unusual?

That the dates of the tournament and the inflexible match timings were also, to an extent, dictated by Channel Nine was true.

The schedule for instance, unless you are a great believer in coincidence, uncannily suited Channel Nine's televising commitments perfectly The last Test between India and Australia ended on February 5; three days later, on February 8, they began their exclusive coverage of the Winter Olympics which



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The West Indians fool around , checking the pitch roller and perhaps also its occupant

finished on February 23; and on February 22 the World Cup began, meaning only a day's overlap. Hey presto! (Weather may have demanded the Cup being held earlier, but no way was Nine going to forego the Olympics. It's called having your cake and eating the damn thing too).

Secondly, Nine's rivals, Channel 7, have their prestigious nightly news at 6 pm every evening. Not to lose any advantage, Nine also have their news at 6 pm—and coincidentally (that word again) day matches at the World Cup were to end at 6 pm exactly, and the dinner break for day-night matches was also at exactly 6 pm. Hey presto again.

That nobody has been quick to point a finger at Nine, may be explained by the fact that it is owned by Kerry Packer, the very gent who some decades ago was responsible for a better life for every impoverished cricketer. Even if that is true, though it does appear far-fetched, there is no need to blame Nine for wanting their own way. Hell, television has been doing it for years, often so audaciously that it makes Nine seem like innocent choirboys.

The U.S. Open tennis championships for instance, is so totally controlled by the televising network's demands, that it is rudely referred to as the CBS Open. This includes the punishing schedule of having the semi-finals on Saturday and the finals on Sunday, unlike other grand slam events where it is Friday and Sunday.

Television rules in soccer and athletics too: at the Mexico soccer World Cup in 1986, matches were held at noon to suit European prime time viewing; at the 1990 Seoul Olympics, track and field events, including the marathon, were held in the heat of the afternoon (100m final at 2 pm) to coincide with American prime time demands.

The revenues that televising rights provide (CBS's bid for the Winter Olympics was $243 million) cannot be sneered at, and organising committees are prone to be wonderfully accommodating for such sums of money

This manipulation is allowed, simply because sport is impotent without television. The revenues that televising rights provide (CBS's bid for the Winter Olympics was $243 million) cannot be sneered at, and organising committees are prone to be wonderfully accommodating for such sums of money.

Furthermore, since sport survives courtesy television, rules are quickly altered if it means enhanced viewership. Tennis' tie-break rule was made for television, since it stops matches from going on and on. Hockey has gone a step further, changing the surface and a variety of rules, to make it a free-flowing game more conducive to telecasting.

Individual sportsmen themselves are loath to complain, for without television neither would Boris Becker be idolised in Africa, nor would Fila agree to pay him millions to wear their clothes. Television gives him and his fellow men a world-wide image.

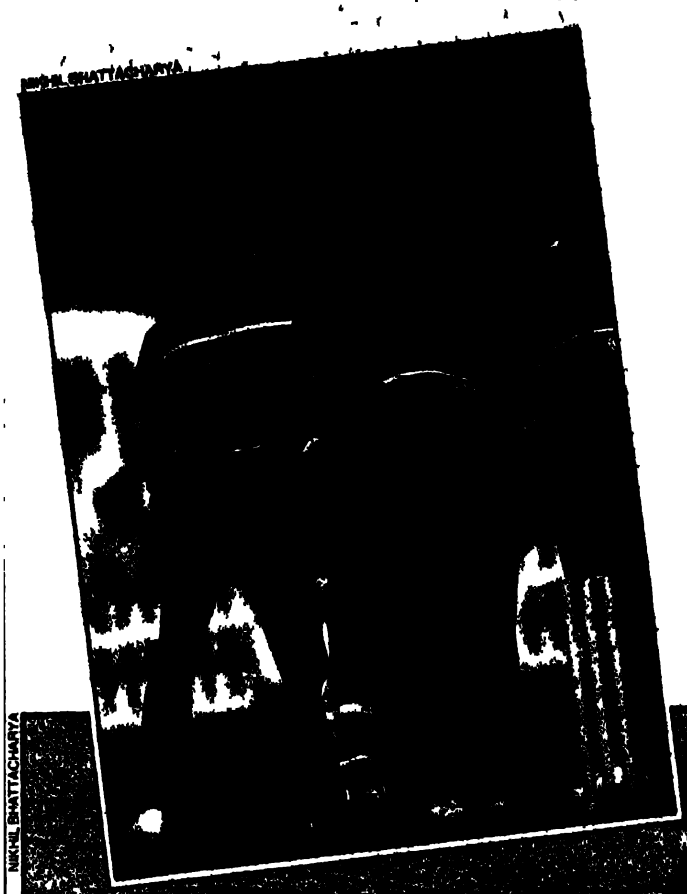
Yet, despite the requirements of television and the deal-making that accompanies it, that the World Cup has been sullied, and rather badly too, is unfortunate. However, unless people read the rules properly and television is denied an absolute free hand, it would be churlish to complain.

Sport must be careful never to sell itself short. If the essence of a sport is affected, as it was in Australia where the end result was often farcical at time, then that is a shame. That, is going too far. And more's the pity that it's only the sport itself and the players who are to blame

Rohit Brijnath

IMAGES

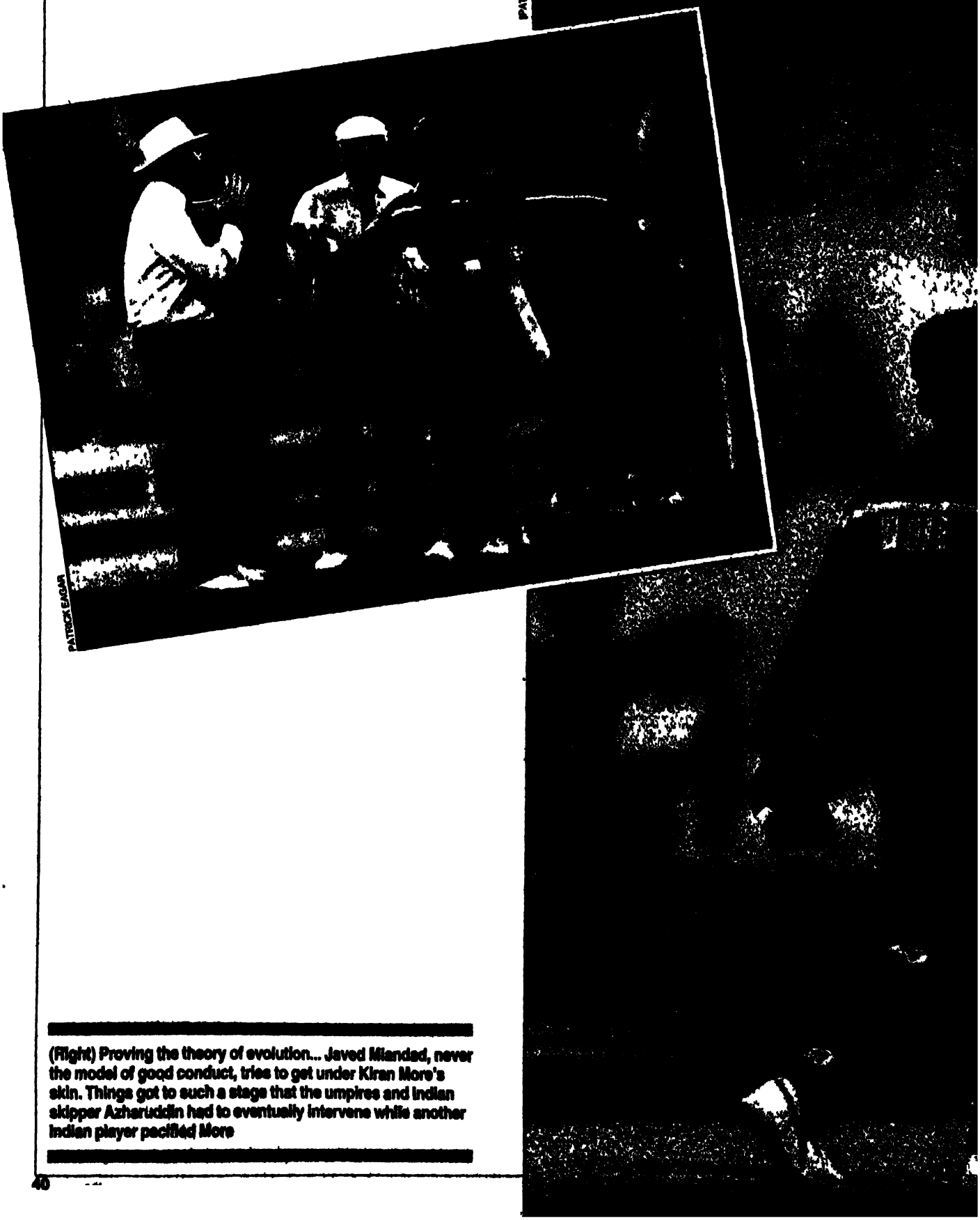
Visions of the month gone by



(Left) The long and the short of it... Curtly Ambrose literally dwarfs teammates Williams and Lara

(Below) The camera never lies... a TV technician checks the stump camera used during the tournament

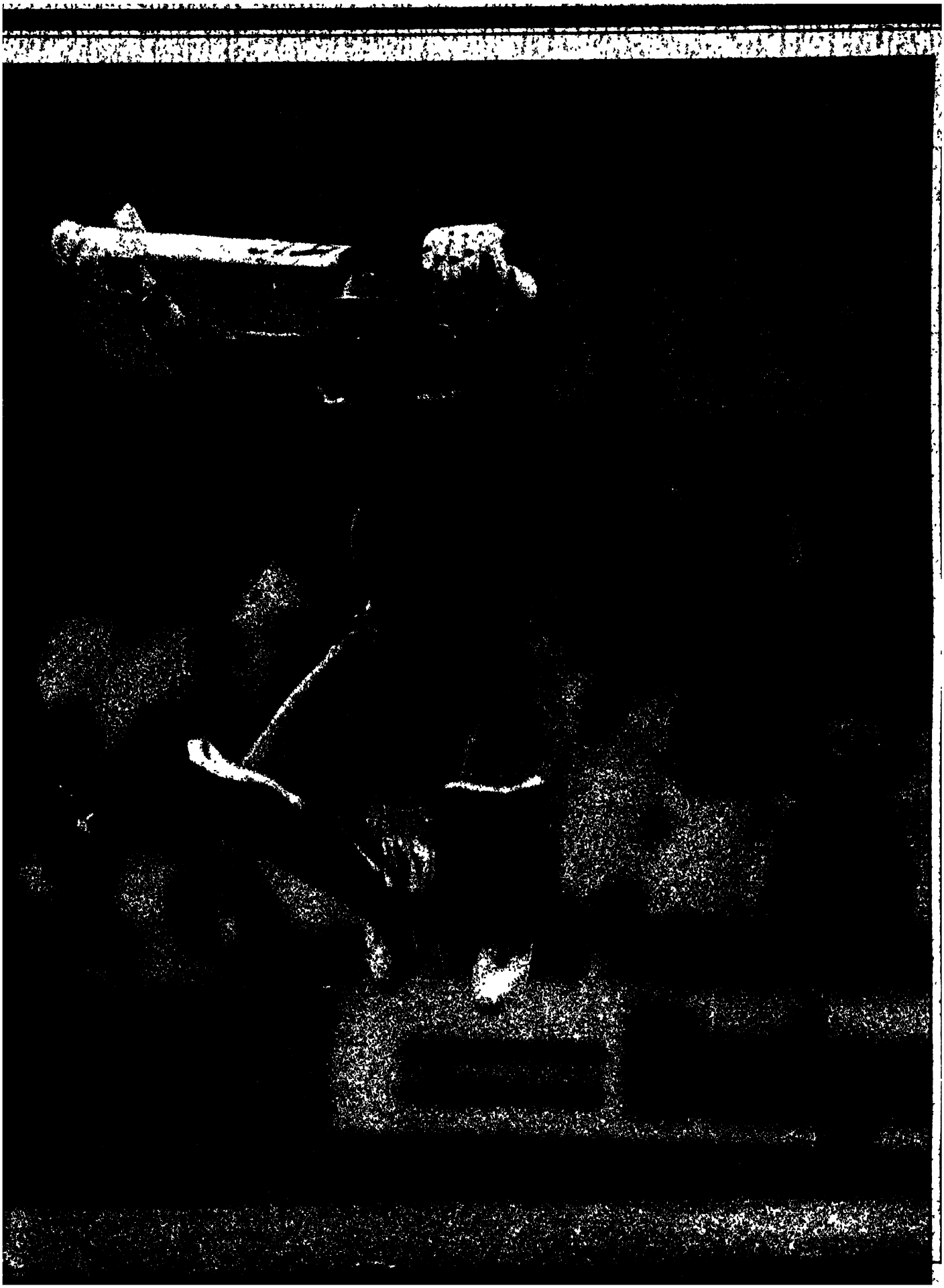




PATRICK EAGAR

PATRICK EAGAR

(Flight) Proving the theory of evolution... Javed Miandad, never the model of good conduct, tries to get under Kiran More's skin. Things got to such a stage that the umpires and Indian skipper Azharuddin had to eventually intervene while another Indian player pacified More



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- 3 Laps Motorcycles Group 'E' above 80cc upto 110cc.
- 3 Laps Motorcycles Group 'B' above 80cc upto 110cc.
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W. GOVIND RAJ of TEAM MRF
- Cars A (IND) above 800cc upto 1000cc.

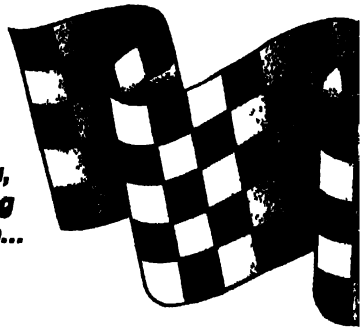
J. ANAND of TEAM MRF
- 6 Laps Cars Group 'F3'.

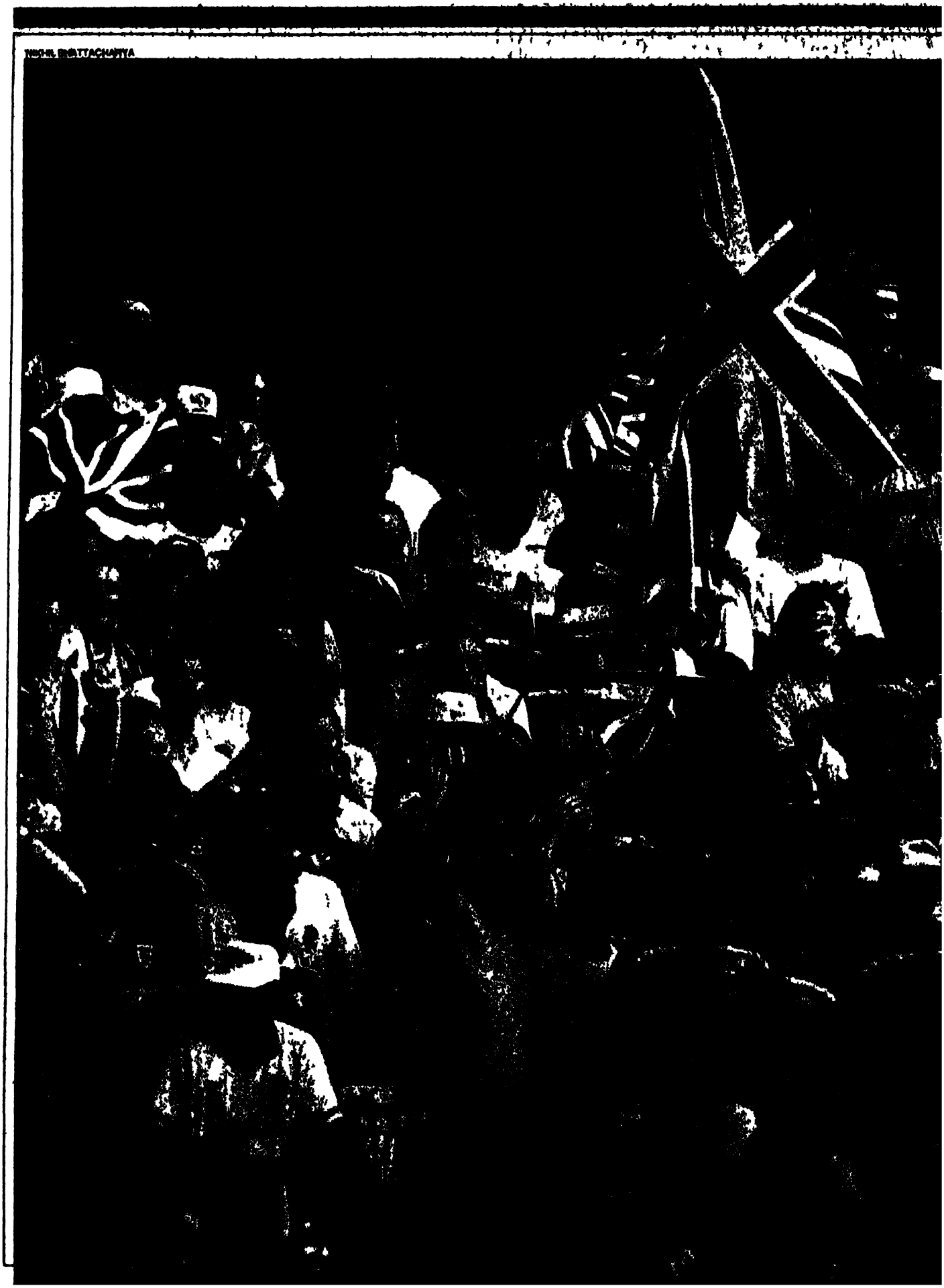
P. VETRIVEL of TEAM MRF
- Cars Group 'F3' (IND) 2 seater engine 1000cc - 4 Laps.

NIKHIL TANEJA of TEAM MRF
- 3 Laps Cars Group 'A' (IND) above 700cc upto 1000cc.
- Group 'A' (IND) Cars 10 Laps Race.

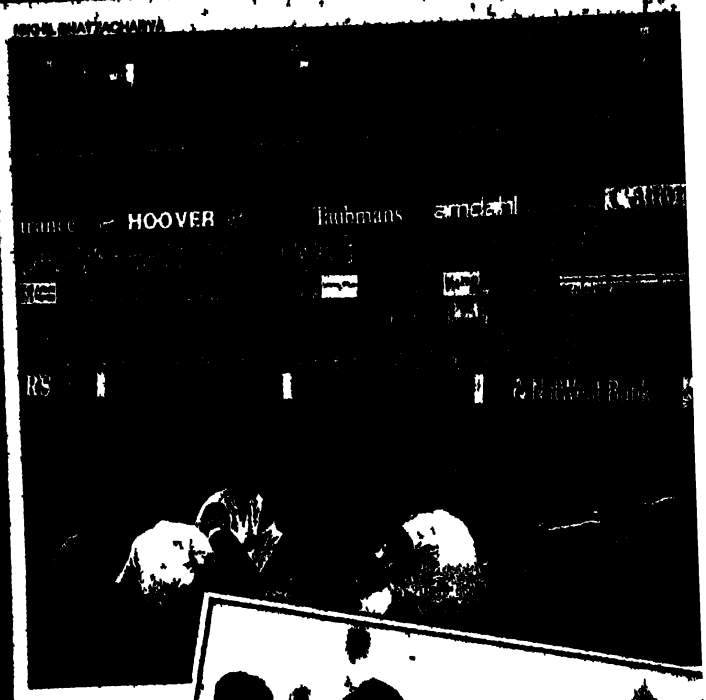
MRF TYRES
Tyres with Muscle

Thank you, TEAM MRF for carrying on the winning tradition...





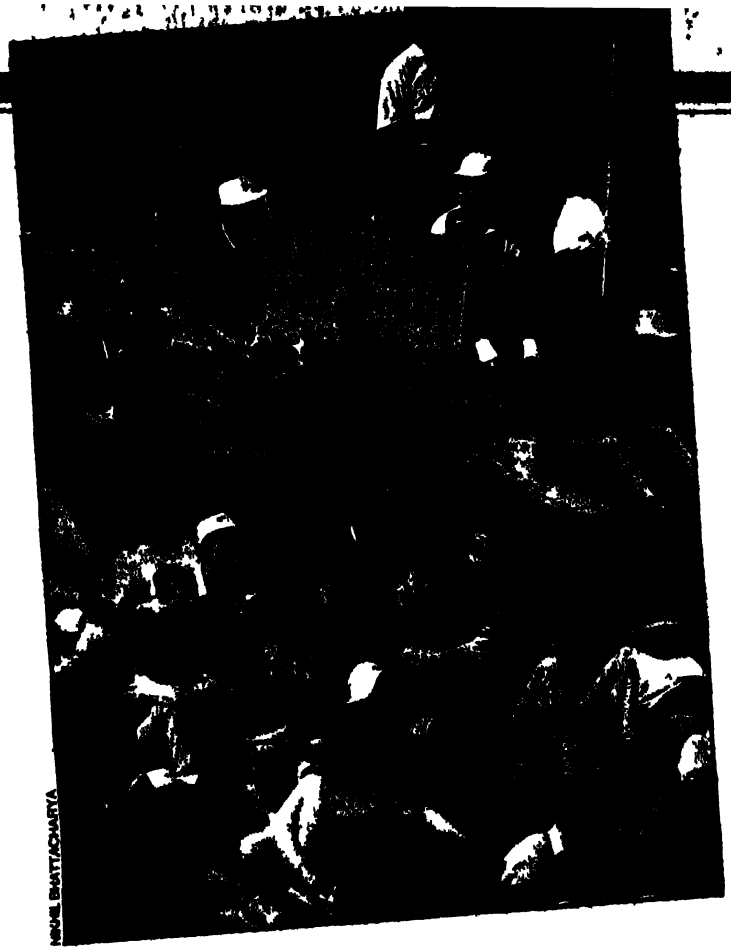






(Above) Fortune favours the brave... Pakistan's horrendous start to their World Cup campaign belied their innate talent. It eventually took their skipper Imran Khan—for whom his team will do almost anything it seems (least)—to rally the team together for the final charge

(Left) Rule Britania... While England's confident run through the preliminary round marked them out as potential champions, the same couldn't be said for their opponents in the final



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

(Left) It's banner time.... Harika gets her message across. Hope her grandparents were watching 'cos the match—judging from the spectators especially the person in black (bottom left)—don't seem too interested

Do it for your country... Mark Greatbatch's national fervour didn't just stop at clutching his fist to his heart while the Kiwi national anthem was played. He took it out into the middle with him

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



World Cup

STATISTICS

Compiled by Ravi Kant Srivastava



PAKISTAN

P	W	L	Abd	Pts
10	6	4	1	13

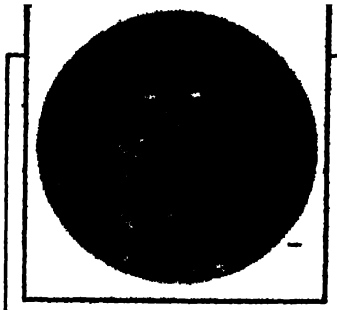
PAKISTAN			
vs West Indies	Lost by 10 wkts	(PAK 220-2/50 WI 221-0/48.5)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 53 runs	(PAK 254-4/50 ZIM 201-7/50)
vs England	Abandoned	(PAK 74/40 2 ENG 24-1/8)
vs India	Lost by 43 runs	(IND 216-7/49 PAK 173/48.1)
vs South Africa	Lost by 20 runs	(SA 211-7/50 PAK 173-8/36)
vs Australia	Won by 48 runs	(PAK 220-9/50 AUS 172/45 3)
vs Sri Lanka	Won by 4 wkts	(SL 212-6/50 PAK 216-6/49 1)
vs New Zealand	Won by 7 wkts	(NZ 166/48 2 PAK 167-3/44.4)
vs New Zealand	Won by 4 wkts	(NZ 262-7/50 PAK 264-6/49)
vs England	Won by 22 runs	(ENG 227.10/49.2 PAK 249.6/50)

PAKISTAN-Batting

	M	*Inn*	*No*	*Runs*	*Avge*	*HS*	*C*	*F*	*Ct/St*
Javed Miandad	9	9	2	437	62.42	89	—	5	
Rameez Raja	8	8	2	349	58.16	119*	2	—	
Aamir Sohail	10	10	0	326	32.60	114	1	2	
Imran Khan	8	6	0	185	30.83	72	—	1	
Inzamam-ul-Haq	10	10	0	225	22.50	60	—	1	
Salim Malik	10	9	3	116	19.33	51	—	1	
Moin Khan	10	5	2	44	14.66	20*	—	—	
Wasim Haidar	3	2	0	26	13.00	13	—	—	
Wasim Akram	10	8	2	62	10.33	33	—	—	
Mushtaq Ahmed	9	4	1	27	9.00	17	—	—	
Zahid Fazal	2	2	0	13	6.50	11	—	—	
Ijaz Ahmed	7	4	1	14	4.66	8*	—	—	
Aaqib Javed	10	2	2	2	—	1*	—	—	
Iqbal Sikandar	4	1	1	1	—	1*	—	—	
Extras									
		80	16	2010	31.40	119*	3	10	

PAKISTAN-Bowling

	Overs	*Mdns*	*Runs*	*Wkts*	*Avge*	*Best*
Akram	89.5	4	338	18	18.77	4-32
Mushtaq	78	5	311	16	19.43	3-41
Aaqib	84.5	11	328	11	29.81	3-21
Imran	60.2	2	251	7	35.85	2-32
Zahid	40	2	184	4	46.00	2-26
Sikandar	33	2	147	3	49.00	1-30
Haidar	19	1	79	1	79.00	1-36
Ijaz	36	1	149	1	149.00	1-28
Malik	4	0	18	0	—	—
Extras (B/B)(LB)			107	4		
	445	28	1918	65	29.14	4-32



ENGLAND

P	W	L	Abd	Pts
10	7	3	1	15

ENGLAND			
vs India	Won by 9 runs	(ENG 236 9/50 IND 227/49 2)
vs West Indies	Won by 6 wkts	(WI 157/49 2 ENG 160-4/39 5)
vs Pakistan	Abandoned	(PAK 74/40 2 ENG 24 1/8)
vs Australia	Won by 8 wkts	(AUS 171/49 ENG 173-2/40 5)
vs Sri Lanka	Won by 106 runs	(ENG 280 6/50 SL 174/44)
vs South Africa	Won by 3 wkts	(SA 236 4/50 ENG 226 7/40 5)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 7 wkts	(ENG 200 8/50 NZ 201-3/41)
vs Zimbabwe	Lost by 9 runs	(ZIM 134/46 1 ENG 125/49 1)
vs South Africa	Won by 20 runs	(ENG 252-6/45 SA 232 6/43)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 22 runs	(ENG 227 10/49 2 PAK 249 6/50)



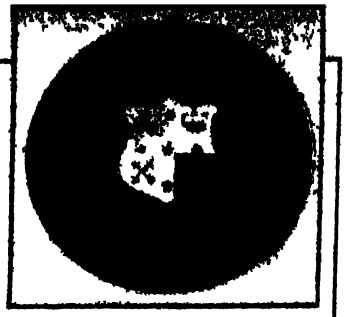
ENGLAND-Batting

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Neil Fairbrother	9	7	2	285	57 00	62	—	3	
Dermot Reeve	9	5	3	79	39 50	25*	—	—	
Alec Stewart	10	8	1	259	37 00	77	—	2	
Graeme Hick	10	9	1	264	33 00	83	—	3	
Robin Smith	8	8	2	193	32 16	91	—	1	
Graham Gooch	8	8	0	216	27 00	65	—	3	
Ian Botham	10	10	1	192	21 33	53	—	1	
Allan Lamb	4	4	0	79	19 75	31	—	—	
Chris Lewis	9	6	2	81	20 25	33	—	—	
Richard Illingworth	6	3	1	27	13 50	14	—	—	
Derek Pringle	8	5	2	30	7 50	18*	—	—	
Gladstone Small	5	1	0	5	5 00	5*	—	—	
Phillip DeFreitas	10	5	1	16	4 00	10	—	—	
Phillip Tufnell	4	2	2	3	—	3*	—	—	
Extras				174					
		81	18	1903	30.20	91	—	13	

ENGLAND-Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Reeve	34.4	4	126	8	15.75	[illegible]
Botham	89	7	306	16	19.12	4-31
Small	35	5	127	5	25.40	2-29
DeFreitas	85.5	12	319	11	29.00	3-34
Lewis	50.4	9	214	7	30.57	[illegible]
Pringle	66.5	15	218	7	31.14	[illegible]
Illingworth	58.1	2	250	8	31.25	[illegible]
Hick	14.2	0	70	2	35.00	[illegible]
Tufnell	28	2	133	3	44.33	[illegible]
Extras (B/B)NO			92	12		
	462.1	90	1835	79	23.48	[illegible]





AUSTRALIA

P	W	L	Pts
8	4	4	8

AUSTRALIA		
vs New Zealand	Lost by 37 runs	(NZ 248 6/50 AUS 211/48 1)
vs South Africa	Lost by 9 wkts	(AUS 170-9/49 SA 171 1/46 5)
vs India	Won by 1 run	(AUS 237 9/50 IND 234/47)
vs England	Lost by 8 wkts	(AUS 171/49 ENG 173 2/40 5)
vs Sri Lanka	Won by 7 wkts	(SL 189 9/50 AUS 190 3/44)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 48 runs	(PAK 220-9/50 AUS 172/45 3)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 128 runs	(AUS 265 6/46 ZIM 137/41 4)
vs West Indies	Won by 57 runs	(AUS 216-6/50 WI 159/42 4)

AUSTRALIA— Batting

	M	Inn	Runs	NO	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
David Buon	8	8	368	1	52.57	100	2	—	—
Dean Jones	8	8	276	1	39.42	90	—	2	2
Mark Waugh	5	5	145	1	36.25	66*	—	1	4
Geoff Marsh	5	5	151	0	30.20	60	—	1	—
Steve Waugh	8	7	187	0	26.71	55	—	1	2
Tom Moody	8	8	202	0	25.25	97	—	2	2
Mike Whitney	7	3	22	2	22.00	9*	—	—	—
Ian Healy	7	6	51	2	12.75	16	—	—	9
Allan Border	8	7	60	0	8.57	22	—	—	3
Mark Taylor	2	2	13	0	6.50	13	—	—	—
Bruce Reid	6	4	9	2	4.50	5*	—	—	—
Peter Taylor	7	6	17	2	4.25	10*	—	—	1
Craig McDermott	8	5	9	0	1.80	6	—	—	2
Merv Hughes	1	1	0	1	—	0*	—	—	—
Extras			122						
		75	1632	12	25.90	100	2	7	37

AUSTRALIA—Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Whitney	66	12	215	9	23.88	4-34
P. Taylor	37.4	1	147	5	29.40	3-14
McDermott	73	9	246	8	30.75	2-29
Moody	49	2	225	7	32.14	3-36
S.Waugh	60.4	2	277	8	34.62	3-36
Hughes	9	1	49	1	49.00	1-49
Border	14	0	75	1	53.00	1-40
Reid	54.4	3	210	3	70.00	1-18
M. Waugh	5	0	40	0	—	—
Extras (B/LB)/RO			64	13		
	369	35	1533	57	26.89	4-34



ZIMBABWE



P	W	L	Pts
8	1	7	2

ZIMBABWE		
vs Sri Lanka	Lost by 3 wkts	(ZIM 312-4/50 SL 313-7/49 2)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 53 runs	(PAK 254-4/50 ZIM 201-7/50)
vs West Indies	Lost by 75 runs	(WI 264-8/50 ZIM 189-7/50)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 48 runs	(NZ 162-3/20 5 ZIM 105-7/18)
vs India	Lost by 54 runs	(IND 203-7/32 ZIM 104-1/19 1)
vs South Africa	Lost by 7 wkts	(ZIM 163/48 3 SA 164-3/45 1)
vs Australia	Lost by 128 runs	(AUS 265-6/46 ZIM 137/41 4)
vs England	Won by 9 runs	(ZIM 134/46 1 ENG 125/49 1)

ZIMBABWE—Batting

	M	Inn	Runs	NO	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Andy Flower ...	8	8	246	2	41.00	115*	1	—	6/1
Andy Walter ...	8	8	192	2	32.00	83*	—	1	2
Ali Shah ...	7	7	161	1	26.83	60*	—	1	1
Dave Houghton ...	8	7	165	0	23.57	55	—	1	1
Iain Butchart ...	5	3	60	0	20.00	33	—	—	—
Kevin Arnott ...	5	5	94	0	18.80	52	—	1	1
John Traicos ...	8	5	35	3	17.50	16*	—	—	—
Eddo Brandes ...	8	6	71	1	14.20	23	—	—	1
Malcolm Jarvis ...	5	3	28	1	14.00	17	—	—	—
Wayne James ...	4	3	35	0	11.66	17	—	—	—
Mark Burmester ...	4	3	17	1	8.50	12	—	—	1
Andy Pycroft ...	8	7	50	1	8.33	19	—	—	2
Kevin Duers ...	6	2	7	1	7.00	5	—	—	3
Alaiser Campbell ...	4	3	13	0	4.33	8	—	—	1
Extras									
	70		1345	14	24.01	115*	1	1	20/1

ZIMBABWE—Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Houghton ...	2	0	19	1	19.00	1-19
Brandes ...	70.1	7	355	14	25.35	4-21
Butchart ...	32	2	195	6	32.40	3-57
Burmester ...	21.5	0	138	4	34.50	3-36
Traicos ...	62	5	253	6	42.16	3-35
Ali Shah ...	57	9	237	5	47.40	2-17
Jarvis ...	47.3	4	239	5	47.80	1-23
Duers ...	50	2	256	3	85.33	1-17
Extras (B/LB)/RO ...			58	4		
	343.3	29	1750	48	36.45	4-21



WEST INDIES

P	W	L	Pts
8	4	4	8

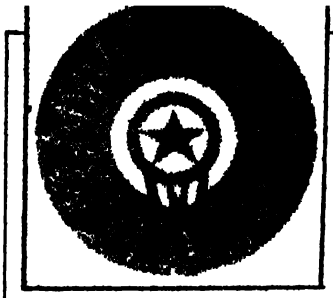
WEST INDIES		
vs Pakistan	Won by 10 wkts	(PAK 220 2/50 WI 221 0/46 5)
vs England	Lost by 6 wkts	(WI 157/49 2 ENG 160 4/39 5)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 75 runs	(WI 264 8/50 ZIM 189 7/50)
vs South Africa	Lost by 64 runs	(SA 200 8/50 WI 136/38 4)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 5 wkts	(WI 203 7/50 NZ 206 5/48 3)
vs India	Won by 5 wkts	(IND 197/49 1 WI 195 5/40 3)
vs Sri Lanka	Won by 91 runs	(WI 268 8/50 SL 177 9/50)
vs Australia	Lost by 57 runs	(AUS 216 6/50 WI 159/42 4)

WEST INDIES — Batting

	M	Inn	Runs	NO	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Brian Lara	8	8	333	1	47.57	88*	—	4	2
Desmond Haynes	7	7	251	1	41.83	93*	—	1	4
Keith Arthurton	8	7	233	1	38.83	58*	—	2	1
Phil Simmons	4	4	153	0	38.25	110*	1	—	1
Winston Benjamin	8	6	54	4	27.00	24*	—	—	4
Carl Hooper	8	7	120	1	20.00	63	—	1	4
Richie Richardson	8	8	132	1	18.85	56	—	1	3
"Gus" Logie	8	7	101	0	14.42	61	—	1	3
David Williams	8	6	52	2	13.00	32*	—	—	11/3
Curley Ambrose	7	4	33	1	11.00	15*	—	—	1
Andy Cummins	6	2	11	1	11.00	6	—	—	—
Malcolm Marshall	5	4	16	0	4.00	6	—	—	—
Roger Harper	2	1	3	0	3.00	6	—	—	1
Patrick Patterson	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Extras			111						
		71	1603	13	27.63	110	1	10	36/3

WEST INDIES — Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Cummins	59	1	246	12	20.50	4-33
Patrson	10	0	25	1	25.00	1-25
Benjamin	79	4	297	10	29.70	3-27
Simmons	20	1	91	3	30.33	2-40
Harper	14	0	63	2	31.50	1-30
Ambrose	68	6	235	7	33.57	2-24
Arthurton	15	0	70	2	35.00	2-40
Hooper	80	3	312	8	39.00	2-19
Marshall	43	3	174	2	87.00	2-26
Extras (B/LB)/RO			52	4		
	388	17	1933	91	30.89	4-33



INDIA

P	W	L	Abd	Pts
8	2	5	1	5

INDIA		
vs England	Lost by 9 runs	(ENG 236 9/50 IND 227/49 2)
vs Sri Lanka	Abandoned	(IND 1-0/0 2 SL)
vs Australia	Lost by 1 run	(AUS 237 9/50 IND 234/47)
vs Pakistan	Won by 43 runs	(IND 216 7/49 PAK 173/48 1)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 54 runs	(IND 209-7/32 ZIM 104-1/19 1)
vs West Indies	Lost by 5 wkts	(IND 197/49 4 WI 195-5/40 3)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 4 wkts	(IND 230-6/50 NZ 231-6/47 1)
vs South Africa	Lost by 6 wkts	(IND 180-6/30 SA 181-4/29 1)

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



INDIA- Batting

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Mohd. Azharuddin	8	7	0	332	47.42	93	—	4	1
Sachin Tendulkar	8	7	1	283	47.16	84	—	3	2
Ravi Shastri	2	2	0	82	41 00	57	—	1	1
Subroto Banerjee	2	2	1	36	36 00	25*	—	-	2
Jawagal Srinath	8	6	5	34	34 00	11	—	—	—
Sanjay Manjrekar	6	6	0	154	25.66	47	—	—	3
Kapil Dev	8	8	1	161	23.00	42	—	—	—
Ajay Jadeja	6	5	1	93	18.60	46	—	—	2
Krish Srikkanth	8	8	1	117	16.71	40	—	—	4
Praveen Amre	4	3	1	27	13.50	22	—	—	—
Kiran More	8	6	2	41	10.25	15*	—	—	6/1
Vinod Kambli	5	4	0	29	7 25	24	—	—	—
Manoj Prabhakar	8	4	1	11	3.66	8	—	—	1
Venkatpathy Raju	7	2	0	1	0.50	1	—	—	1
Extras				87					
		70	14	1488	26 57	93	—	8	23/1

INDIA-Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Prabhakar	57.1	2	245	12	20.41	3-41
Kapil Dev	58	2	251	9	27.88	3-41
Shastri	4	0	28	1	28 00	1-28
Srinath	53.1	1	249	8	31.12	2-23
V. Raju	48 1	3	208	5	41 60	2 38
Banerjee	13	1	85	1	85 00	1-45
Tendulkar	41	0	180	2	90 00	1-35
Jadeja	7.3	0	39	0	—	—
Srikkanth	2.1	0	15	0	—	—
Extras (B/LB)/RO			57	6		
	284.1	9	1397	44	30.84	3-41

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



NEW ZEALAND

P	W	L	Pts
9	7	2	14

NEW ZEALAND		
vs Australia	Won by 37 runs	(NZ 248 6/50 AUS 211/48 1)
vs Sri Lanka	Won by 6 wkts	(SL 206 9/50 NZ 210 4/48 2)
vs South Africa	Won by 7 wkts	(SA 190-7/50 NZ 191 3/34 3)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 48 runs	(NZ 162 3/20 5 ZIM 105-7/18)
vs West Indies	Won by 5 wkts	(WI 203 7/50 NZ 206 5/48 3)
vs India	Won by 4 wkts	(IND 230 6/50 NZ 231-6/47 1)
vs England	Won by 7 wkts	(ENG 200 8/50 NZ 201-3/41)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 7 wkts	(NZ 166/48 2 PAK 167 3/44 4)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 4 wkts	(NZ 262 7/50 PAK 264 6/49)

NEW ZEALAND- Batting

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avge	HS	C	St	Ct/St
Martin Crowe	9	9	5	456	114.00	100*	1	4	5
Gavin Larsen	9	2	1	45	45.00	37	—	—	—
Mark Greatbatch	7	7	0	313	44.71	73	—	3	3
Ken Rutherford	9	7	2	212	42.50	63*	1	3	4
Andrew Jones	9	9	1	322	40.25	78	1	3	4
Chris Cairns	5	3	3	21	—	16*	—	—	—
Rod Latham	7	7	0	136	19.42	60	1	1	2
John Wright	4	4	0	71	17.75	57	—	1	1
Ian Smith	9	5	1	61	15.25	19	1	—	1
Dipak Patel	9	3	1	25	12.50	10*	—	1	1
Danny Morrison	5	1	0	12	12.00	12	—	—	—
Chris Harris	9	6	1	44	8.80	16	—	—	—
Willie Watson	8	1	1	5	—	5*	—	—	—
Extras/Subs		—	—	154	—	—	—	—	1
		64	16	1877	39.93	100*	3	19	26

NEW ZEALAND-Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Harris	72.1	6	342	10	34.20	3-15
Watson	79	11	301	8	37.62	3-37
Jones	12	0	52	2	26.00	2-42
Larsen	76	7	268	8	33.50	3-16
Patel	79	8	245	7	35.00	2-24
Morrison	40	1	180	3	60.00	3-42
Cairns	25	1	161	2	80.50	2-43
Latham	23	0	136	1	136.00	1-35
Greatbatch	1	0	5	0	—	—
Crowe	1	0	6	0	—	—
Rutherford	1.4	0	11	0	—	—
Extras (B/LB)/(W)	—	—	75	—	—	—
	496.5	34	1795	41	43.78	3-15

SRI LANKA

P	W	L	Abd	Pts
8	2	5	1	5

SRI LANKA		
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 3 wkts	ZIM 312-4/50 SL 313-7/49 2)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 6 wkts	(SL 206-9/50 NZ 210-4/48 2)
vs India	Abandoned	(IND 1-0/0 2)
vs South Africa	Won by 3 wkts	(SA 195/50 SL 198 7/49 5)
vs Australia	Lost by 7 wkts	(SL 189-9/50 AUS 190 3/44)
vs England	Lost by 106 runs	(ENG 280-6/50 SL 174/44)
vs West Indies	Lost by 91 runs	(WI 268-8/50 SL 177-9/50)
vs Pakistan	Lost by 4 wkts	(SL 212-6/50 PAK 216-6/49 1)



SRI LANKA- Batting

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Arjuna Ranatunga	8	7	2	262	52 40	88*	—	2	1
Athula Samarasekera	6	6	0	219	36.50	75	—	1	—
Roshan Mahanama	8	7	0	246	35.14	80	—	3	3
Pramodaya Wickremesinghe	8	3	3	30	—	21*	—	—	2
Aravinda de Silva	8	7	0	175	25 00	62	—	1	1
Graeme Labrooy	1	1	0	19	19.00	19	—	—	—
Ruwan Kalpage	7	6	2	67	16 75	14	—	—	3
Sanath Jayasuriya	6	5	0	74	14.80	32	—	-	4
Hashan Tillekeratne	8	7	1	80	13.33	25*	—	—	6/1
Don Anurasiri	5	4	2	21	10.50	11	—	—	1
Asanka Gurusinha	8	7	0	73	10.42	37	—	—	2
Chandika Hathurasinghe	4	3	0	26	8.66	16	—	—	1
Champaka Ramanayake	8	6	2	25	6.25	12	—	—	4
Kapila Wijegunawardene	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Extras				152					
		69	12	1469	25.77	88*	—	7	28/1

SRI LANKA- Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Hathurasinghe	17	0	97	5	19.40	4-52
Renatunga	18	0	94	3	31.33	2-26
Anurasiri	50	3	184	5	36.80	3-41
Wickremesinghe	60 1	5	276	7	39.42	2-29
Gurusinha	48	0	256	6	42.66	2-67
Ramanayake	64.4	6	265	5	53.00	2-37
Kalpage	50	0	241	4	60.25	2-33
Labrooy	10	1	68	1	68.00	1-68
De Silva	1	0	6	0	—	—
Jayasurya	6	0	44	0	—	—
	—	—	53	5	—	—
	341 5	16	1672	41	40.78	4-52

SOUTH AFRICA



P	W	L	Pts
9	5	4	10

SOUTH AFRICA		
vs Australia	Won by 9 wkts	(AUS 170-9/49 SA 171 1/46 5)
vs New Zealand	Lost by 7 wkts	(SA 190-7/50 NZ 191 3/34 3)
vs Sri Lanka	Lost by 3 wkts	(SA 195/50 SL 198 7/49 5)
vs West Indies	Won by 64 runs	(SA 200 8/50 WI 136/38 4)
vs Pakistan	Won by 20 runs	(SA 211 7/50 PAK 173 8/36)
vs Zimbabwe	Won by 7 wkts	(ZIM 163/48 3 SA 164 3/45 1)
vs England	Lost by 3 wkts	(SA 236 4/50 ENG 226 7/40 5)
vs India	Won by 6 wkts	(IND 180 6/30 SA 181-4/29 1)

SOUTH AFRICA — Batting

	M	Inn	Runs	NO	Avge	HS	C	F	Ct/St
Peter Kirsten	8	8	410	2	68.33	90	—	4	2
Brian McMillan	9	5	125	3	62.50	33*	—	—	4
Kepler Wessels	9	9	313	2	44.71	85	—	3	7
Andrew Hudson	8	8	296	0	37.00	79	—	3	—
Hansie Cronje	8	6	102	3	34.00	47*	—	—	3
Dave Richardson	9	5	66	2	22.00	28	—	—	14/1
Jonty Rhodes	9	8	132	1	18.85	43	—	—	4
Mark Rushmere	3	3	49	0	16.33	35	—	—	1
Adrian Kuiper	9	8	113	1	16.14	36	—	—	3
Richard Snell	9	4	24	2	12.00	11*	—	—	1
Omar Henry	1	1	11	0	11.00	11	—	—	—
Meyrick Pringle	7	1	5	1	5.00	5*	—	—	1
Allan Donald	9	1	3	0	3.00	3	—	—	1
Tertius Bosch	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			131						
	67		1780	17	35.60	90	—	10	41/1

SOUTH AFRICA — Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Kirsten	18	1	87	5	17.40	3-31
Donald	78	5	339	13	25.30	3-34
Kuiper	41	0	235	9	26.11	3-40
McMillan	73	7	306	11	27.81	3-30
Pringle	57	7	236	8	29.50	4-11
Henry	10	1	31	1	31.00	1-31
Snell	72.5	10	316	8	38.75	3-42
Cronje	20	1	85	2	42.50	2-17
Bosch	1.1	0	9	0	—	—
Rhodes (0/1,0/RO)			21	9		
	375.2	32	1509	66	25.39	4-11

THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY!

Despite ridiculous organisational drawbacks, the World Cup still managed to keep one-day cricket ticking

THIS fifth World Cup was staged in that part of the world where one-day cricket has progressed from a mere game to well marketed entertainment. .and as always happens in Australian cricket these days, marketing and television had as much to do with how the tournament was run as any of the game's administrators.

And so it was the first World Cup with players in coloured clothes.using white balls, black sightscreens and coloured pads, and with some games played under lights The cricket world has known what Australia have been getting up to here over the years

This time, however, it was not only Australia doing its thing, but an official world event played like the good old World Series Cup. Australian cricket-lovers have come to love or loathe according to individual taste Now whatever happens, one thing can be assured after this World Cup one-day cricket will not look back after this event It had already captured the hearts of millions around the rest of the cricketing world and now that those people have been dazzled by the 'pyjama World Cup' and Channel Nine's brilliant coverage of it, one-day cricket has taken perhaps its biggest stride forward To borrow a famous phrase, the game will not be the same after this World Cup.

The question is how will it be different? What effect will all this have on the game as we know it? The following are a few thoughts put down about the path one-day cricket might take after being influenced by



Chris Harris, who doesn't [illegible] for his club team, [illegible]

What happened in the 1992 World Cup.

Even before this World Cup began, Test cricket's unique and obvious, dwindling crowds and stuffy, slow to react administrative attitudes have left the game clinging grimly to life, supported financially by its bastard child, one-day cricket.

The symptoms of one-day cricket's disease, however, were not so apparent to all. The patient appeared to be blooming. Noisy enthusiastic crowds jammed into its stadiums for a day of barracking, entertainment and revelry. Runs are smashed, wickets tumble, the crowds roar. Averages and strike rates are compiled, analysed, discussed, match reports in the newspapers are extensive.

Not only is one-day cricket more commercially viable than Test cricket, but it is now being taken just as seriously. Otherwise, how do you explain suicides when a team loses; ransacking a power station when electricity robs viewers of the television coverage of a match; Ravi Shastri's house being *gheraoed* and his effigy burnt because he batted slowly; Richie Richardson saying that his team will have a tough time if they went home without the World Cup; South African cricketers claiming that their excellent performance in the World Cup did play its part in influencing a 'yes' vote back home in a referendum.

The tide against the traditionalists seems irresistable. And yet, the limited-over game for all its apparent vitality was at heart a little dead, mechanical thing. Bowlers especially knew this. While one-day cricket encourages a batsman's creativity (much to the distress of the purist), it discourages a bowler's. It takes away variety, a bowler's main weapon—the opportunity to tease a batsman or to attack all out.

So despite all the fireworks, limited-overs cricket came to be a game based more on defence than on attack. Bowlers, the game's natural attackers, were stifled, becoming the petty misers and the slaves.

But the major problem that cropped up in the short game was its predictability. Limited-overs made batting and bowling too predictable. Bowling, because containment is more important than taking wickets. Batting, because the fall of wickets has very little to do with skill.

Concern also centred around the simplicity of television coverage and advertising, which simplified the game to hitting a ball over a fence in front of a frenzied crowd. Fun and entertainment it may be, but it comes across as a frivolous lottery.

This World Cup's major contribution has been that it has given limited-overs cricket a new fillip in many ways. The rapid overhaul in match strategies stand out as starkly as the red garb of Zimbabwe against traditional whites. Any game needs a basic set of conditions, which provide a pattern of predictability against which variations stand out. The game already had the predictability, this World Cup provided the variation to some extent. The [illegible] is mainly psychological, not [illegible]. And this World Cup has shown that [illegible]



PATRICK EAGAR

In the face of Srikkanth's failure, dashers like Jadeja were very welcome

80s. After that it seems it got bogged down for too long and lost its technological edge.

Several teams have added new dimensions to the version of cricket preferred by the mass of cricket followers, and displayed them to the disadvantage and embarrassment of those who continued to stick to the set pattern.

There is no doubt that the World Cup has shown that one-day cricket—an entertainment barely out of its infancy—is in a stage of creative ferment, and it is this that will keep this version of the game marketable for the next few years. It may even become an interesting enough game during the 90s to stir up considerable demand, involving a larger number of countries.

All in all, the last flurry of the 36-match qualifying period of the World Cup produced what students of form could only regard as a slightly surreal set of results. But it still took until the final match to determine the composition and configuration of the final four—and that's the unmistakable hallmark of a good, engrossing and unpredictable competition.

There were teams in this World Cup who helped release limited-overs cricket from the strait-jacket it

was tending to get itself into. There was a lesson to be learnt: that teams need to take off their pin-striped jackets, once in a while, unbutton their collars and loosen their ties. No longer can you mend yourself because you have captains and teams who come out shooting even before the opponents' guns have cleared the holster. No longer can you rely on a wait and see policy. Now you have to go out and get it.

Martin Crowe, the World Cup's most inventive captain, resorted to a full range of tactical trickery which underlined New Zealand's success in reaching the semi-finals. The top two teams in the preliminary stage—England and New Zealand—set a pattern of going for the runs from the beginning. New Zealand promoted Mark Greatbatch and England Ian Botham to that effect. The Australian coach denigrated this approach saying, "forget all about the new vogue".

But indeed that was Simpson's—and Australia's—problem. Australia did not change their 'winning' formula from the last World Cup, and that they paid the price only goes to show how the game has evolved since. In a tournament where captains, bowlers, batsmen and fielders were going for their holsters like gunfighters at dawn, the teams who didn't attempt initiatives were left behind.

It is not good enough to use methods everyone knows and expects. Tried and trusted methods seem redundant in a changing world. The World Cup has shown that things have changed in one-day cricket. The bowling, for instance, is a lot more attacking. Imran Khan and Allan Border even advised their pace bowlers to fire on all cylinders, regardless of the risk of conceding extras in the form of wides and no-balls. Even Kapil Dev claimed he had rediscovered his outswinger only because he was not worried about bowling flat out. In a tournament dominated by pitches like the one seen on the third day of a Test match, the graveyard of the super-fast boys, it is the medium pacers who have flourished. They have learnt that the best method of survival is the element of surprise; mixing up one over with six different deliveries. And, as anyone who enjoys a drink will testify, the mixing of six different cocktails can be a devastatingly potent concoction.

Combined with innovative bowling changes and field placings, the bowlers have begun to restore the balance in this limited-overs version of the game. As a result, batting also seems to have changed. Runs come more off nudges and deflections than hefty blows. The concept of an anchorman opening the innings has been challenged by one of a big-hitter going over the top while the fielding restrictions of the first 15 overs are in effect. No wonder previously successful sheet-anchors like Geoff Marsh and Ravi Shastri were found wanting...and eventually dropped. Dashers like Botham, Greatbatch, Jadeja, Lara and even Kapil Dev were promoted in the order. The wisdom behind all this being that the ball comes faster onto the bat in the early stages, thereby making stroke-playing easier.

The metamorphosis filtered through to the bowlers too. Realising that the big hitters were coming early, they opened with slower bowlers, making the batsmen struggle for velocity off the bat. The statistic Chris Harris, who doesn't even open the bowling for his club team, led the cricket tally proved that it was the bits-and-pieces cricketers who dominated this Cup. The Harrises, the Lewises, the Reeves, the Larsens. No wonder England, for long accused of producing too many bits-and-pieces players, went so far in this tournament!

Even fielding, already an art form in this type of cricket, has changed. Players like Jonty Rhodes and Chris Lewis don't hesitate to launch themselves soccer goalkeeper-style to stop bolts of lightning or

New Zealand used Greatbatch's powerful hitting to maximum effect



run out a batsman. In fact, this World Cup has changed the way the game is played, watched, marketed, publicised, broadcast and written about. It has greatly increased the demands made of the professional player, both as skilled artist and superior athlete.

Yet it was the rules of this World Cup that really took pre-tournament form by the scruff of its neck and shook it up. While the rigours of travelling thousands of kilometres was bad enough, the rain rule has thrown the entire tournament into a comedy of farcical proportions. The chaos and uncertainty that prevailed in the semi-final at the SCG was a sad and anti-climatic end to possibly the most exciting weekend of limited-overs cricket ever. It prompted one of the most erudite men in the game today, Imran Khan, to voice the concern of every cricket lover: "I don't know whether they (the officials) have been embarrassed. I played in each of the four previous World Cups and this is the worst organised. In England, it was superbly organised. In Pakistan and India, where we had provisions made for rain and teams didn't have to travel that much, it was as it should be. The World Cup is a special event held once every four years. It should be held in the middle of the season. We must get our priorities right. Everyone must have a fair chance because you have to wait another four years for another one. In England it is held in June and everything stops. We shouldn't just think about television. There are other considerations. Why couldn't the South Africa-England semi-final be extended another eight minutes? This tournament means a lot to people. For matches to be wiped out by rain means cheating these people".

The organisational inadequacies had the traditionalists smiling and sporting a smug 'we told you so' look. And not without reason. While Pakistan were considered lucky to have reached the semi-finals, thanks to the rules, the same could be said about England in their semi-final. No wonder the followers of 'classic cricket' were calling the one-day version 'coordinated claptrap': contrived results for contrived cricket.

One could picture someone like Colin Cowdrey, chairman of the ICC and a conservative by his own admission, saying: "When God deems it shall not rain in cricket season, when umpires are infallible, when batsmen don't hit the ball in the air, when bowlers don't bowl wides and no-balls ... well, let's just play Test cricket and know exactly what's going on". But then, that's one-day cricket for you. You can love it for the excitement of the first semi-final. Or hate it for the second semi-final episode. However, this World Cup has proved that the game cannot survive on the whims and fancies of a select few people who can see no wrong in whatever they do.



Kapil Dev bowled superbly ... and even opened the batting when required to.

organisers were a little more up to it—or at least admitted their shortcomings—the world could recognise this tournament as the biggest milestone in modern cricket history.

Instead the World Cup Committee's attitude was that they could do no wrong. Why, after the farce of a semi-final at the SCG, a World Cup spokesmen defended the credibility of the rule, and the semi-final itself, saying: "I don't believe the semi-final was a farce. It was not one's fault—it was an act of God". Yeah, sure. And the Gods must be crazy!

SPORTING CALENDAR F

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
			1 All-India Inter-Zonal Asstt. Cwals' Volleyball (Rajkot); 18th Sub-Junior National and Inter-State Carrom Chps. (Delhi); Asian Under-16 Football Tourn. (Dhaka); European Cup Champions Cup Football semi-final Series, 5th Round; Family Circle Cup Women's Tennis(Hilton Head, USA); South American Youth Volleyball Chps. For Men (Caracas).
5 Wills Eastern Indian Open Golf Chps. (Calcutta), Asian Under-16 Football Tourn (Dhaka); Brazilian Grand Prix Motor Racing (Sao Paulo); F.A. Cup Football Semi-finals, Family Circle Cup Women's Tennis (Hilton Head, USA), All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn (Calcutta); Asian Club Volleyball Chps. (Hiroshima): South American Youth Volleyball Chps For Men (Caracas).	**6** Asian Under-16 Football Tourn. (Dhaka); B & L Chps. Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA); Japan Open Men's Tennis Chps. (Tokyo); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn. (Calcutta); Asian Club Volleyball Chps. (Hiroshima); South American Youth Volleyball Chps. For Men (Caracas).	**7** Asian Under-16 Football Tourn. (Dhaka); Asian Senior Freestyle Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); B & L Chps Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA); Japan Open Men's Tennis Chps. (Tokyo); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn. (Calcutta); Asian Club Volleyball Chps. (Hiroshima); South American Youth Volleyball Chps. (Caracas);	**8** Asian Under-16 Football Tourn. (Dhaka); Asian Senior Freestyle Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn. (Calcutta); B & L Chps Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA); Japan Open Men's Tennis Chps. (Tokyo); Asian Club Volleyball Chps (Hiroshima); South American Youth Volleyball Chps. For Men (Caracas).
12 All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn. (Calcutta); All India Veteran's Athletic Chps. (Perambur, Madras); 18th European Table Tennis Chps. (Stuttgart); US Masters Golf Chps. (Augusta); B & L Chps. Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA); Japan Open Men's Tennis (Tokyo); Asian Club Volleyball Chps (Hiroshima);	**13** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Championships (Kozikhode); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tournament (Calcutta), 18th European Table Tennis Championships (Stuttgart); Asian Club Volleyball Championships (Hiroshima); South American Youth Volleyball Championships (Caracas); US Masters Golf (Augusta);	**14** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Championships (Kozikhode); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tournament (Calcutta); Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn. (Calicut); 18th European Table Tennis Championships (Stuttgart); US Masters Golf (Augusta); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tournament (Houston);	**15** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps. (Kozikhode); All Airlines Gold Cup Football tournament (Calcutta); Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn. (Calicut); 18th European Table Tennis Chps. (Stuttgart); US Masters Golf (Augusta); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tourn. (Houston);
19 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps. (Kozikhode); Sait Nagjee Football Tourn. (Calicut), Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram); National Hardcourt Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tourn (Houston); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield).	**20** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps. (Kozikhode); Sait Nagjee Football Tourn. (Calicut); Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram); National Hardcourt Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tourn. (Houston); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); West Indies vs South Africa, 1st Test (Bridgetown, Barbados);	**21** Sait Nagjee Football Tournament (Calicut); Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram); National Hardcourt Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Spanish Open Women's Tennis Tourn. (Barcelona); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); West Indies vs South Africa, 1st Test (Bridgetown, Barbados).	**22** Sait Nagjee Football Tournament (Calicut); Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram); National Hardcourt Tennis Chps. (Bombay); Spanish Open Women's Tennis Tourn. (Barcelona); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); West Indies vs South Africa, 1st Test (Bridgetown, Barbados);
26 Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram); Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tournament (Calicut); Spanish Open Women's Tennis (Barcelona); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); Cannes Open Golf (Cannes); Motor Cycling, US Grand Prix (California); European Weightlifting Chps. (Szekszard, Hungary).	**27** Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn. (Calicut); BMW Open Tennis (Munich); Citizen's Cup Women's Tennis (Hamburg); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); Cannes Open Golf (Cannes).	**28** Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn. (Calicut); BMW Open Tennis Chps. (Munich); Citizen's Cup Women's Tennis (Hamburg); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); Cannes Open Golf (Cannes).	**29** Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn. (Calicut); BMW Open Tennis Chps. (Munich); Citizen's Cup Women's Tennis (Hamburg); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); Cannes Open Golf (Cannes).

)R APRIL 1992

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 All-India Inderchand Agarwalla Volleyball (Renukoot); 18th Sub-Junior National and Inter-State Carrom Chps. (Delhi); Asian Under-16 Football Tourn (Dhaka); Family Circle Cup Women's Tennis (Hilton Head, USA), Wills Eastern Indian Open Golf Championships (Calcutta), South American Youth Volleyball Chps For Men (Caracas)	**3** All-India Inderchand Agarwalla Volleyball (Renukoot), Wills Eastern Indian Open Golf Championships (Calcutta), Asian Under-16 Football Tourn (Dhaka); Family Circle Cup Women's Tennis(Hilton Head, USA); South American Volleyball Chps For Men (Caracas)	**4** All-India Inderchand Agarwalla Volleyball (Renukoot) Wills Eastern Indian Open Golf Chps (Calcutta), Asian Under-16 Football Tourn (Dhaka), Family Circle Cup Women's Tennis (Hilton Head, USA), Scottish Cup Football Semi-Finals All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn (Calcutta) Asian Club Volleyball Chps (Hiroshima)
9 Asian Senior Freestyle Wrestling Chps (Tehran), All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn (Calcutta), B & L Chps Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA), Japan Open Men's Tennis Chps (Tokyo), US Masters Golf Chps (Augusta), Radiant Grand Slam Billiards, 2nd Leg Of World Open Chps (Goa),	**10** Asian Senior Freestyle Wrestling Chps. (Tehran); All Airlines Gold Cup Football Tourn (Calcutta); All India Veteran's Athletics Chps (Perambur, Madras), 18th European Table Tennis Championships, (Stuttgart), US Masters Golf Chps (Augusta), B & L Chps Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA) Japan Open Men s Tennis Chps (Tokyo)	**11** All Airlines Cup Football Tourn (Calcutta) All India Veteran's Athletic Chps (Perambur, Madras), Radiant Grand Slam Billiards, 2nd Leg Of World Open Chps (Goa) 18th European Table Tennis Chps (Stuttgart), , US Masters Golf Chps (Augusta) B & L Chps Women's Tennis (Amelia Island, USA), Japan Open Men s Tennis (Tokyo)
16 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps (Kozikhode), Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn (Calicut), 18th European Table Tennis Chps (Stuttgart), US Masters Golf (Augusta), Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tourn (Houston), European Badminton Chps (Glasgow), European Basketball Champions Club Final (Instanbull),	**17** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps (Kozikhode), Sait Nagjee Football Tourn (Calicut) 18th European Table Tennis Chps (Stuttgart), Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Tourn (Houston), European Badminton Chps (Glasgow), Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram)	**18** 17th Goodricke National Team Chess Chps (Kozikhode), Sait Nagjee Football Tourn (Calicut), Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram) 18th European Table Tennis Chps. (Stuttgart), National Hardcourt Tennis Chps (Bombay) European Badminton Chps Finals(Glasgow), West Indies vs South Africa, 1st Cricket Test (Bridgetown Barbados)
23 Sait Nagjee Football Tournament (Calicut), Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram), National Hardcourt Tennis Chps (Bombay), Spanish Open Women's Tennis Tourn (Barcelona), World Professional Snooker Chps (Sheffield); West Indies vs South Africa, 1st Test (Bridgetown, Barbados)	**24** Sait Nagjee Football Tournament (Calicut) Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram) National Hardcourt Tennis Chps (Bombay), Spanish Open Women's Tennis Tourn (Barcelona), World Professional Snooker Chps (Sheffield); European Weightlifing Chps (Szekszard, Hungary)	**25** Asian Under-19 Football (Thiruvananthapuram), Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tournament (Calicut) National Hardcourt Tennis Chps (Bombay), Spanish Open Women's Tennis (Barcelona) World Professional Snooker Chps (Sheffield), Cannes Open Golf (Cannes), European Weightlifting Chps (Szekszard, Hungary)
30: Sait Nagjee Memorial Football Tourn (Calicut); BMW Open Tennis Chps (Munich), Citizen's Cup Women's Tennis. (Hamburg); World Professional Snooker Chps. (Sheffield); Cannes Open Golf (Cannes)		

OTHER EVENTS

County champions Essex vs England 'A' XI (Lord's) April 13—16

Brittanic Assurance County championship matches start from April 25—28

UEFA Cup semi-finals, 1st leg, Real Madrid vs Torino and Genoa vs Ajax Amsterdam on April 1

European Cup Winners Cup semi finals, 1st leg, Monaco vs Feyanoord and Bruges vs Werder Bremen

TELEVISION

Live telecast of final of All Airlines Gold Cup Football at Calcutta on April 15

Live telecast of final of Asian Under 19 Football at Thiruvananthapuram on April 25

Live telecast of 2nd leg of Radiant Grand Slam Billiards Chps at Goa, April 9 to 11

Live telecast of Final of Sait Nagjee Football Tourn at Calicut on April 30

Highlights of All England Badminton Chps , men's and women's singles Finals on April 12

RADIO

Running commentary in both Hindi and English on Semi-Final and Final of Asian Under-19 Football at Thiruvananthapuram

Running commentary in both Hindi and English on Semi-Final and Final of Sait Nagjee Football Tourn at Calicut

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA.

It's either victory or defeat

THE worst aspect about the cricket craze in India is that no one here really understands the game; they only understand either victory or defeat.
S.M. ASHRAF,
Ranchi.

Give the man a break

EVERYTIME the Indian cricket team loses the Indian public is up in arms and everytime the team wins the countrymen declare undying devotion to the team until the next defeat If the country's cricketing fortunes are fluctuating even more fluctuating is the attitude of the Indians towards the team

And the easiest scapegoat in the team has always been the vice captain Ravi Shastri The latest allegation is that India lost matches (especially the one against Australia) because Shastri took too long to score There is no doubt that Shastri's talent as a one day batsman is debatable He can by no stretch of imagination, be called an exciting batsman and is certainly not in the same league as Srikkanth and Tendulkar

But he is there in the Indian team today not just as a player but as the vice captain for some pretty good reasons He has a place in the team because he has chosen to rise above the pettiness and the selfishness of the Press and the public, and most important of all he has performed He has never allowed the unfair allegations to get him down, instead he used these to fire himself up and has toughened himself in the deal This is certainly a very admirable trait that he has, in spite of the allegations that are always levelled at him We hardly come across public in other countries criticising their players, irrespective of how long their lean trot continues The Press, knowing fully well that Shastri is no public idol, takes the easy way out to create sensationalism They are forever waiting and watching eagle eyed to pounce upon the slightest mistake he makes

The question is, can one player be solely responsible for a team's bad performance during a tour, and if so, why is it that Shastri is blamed all the time? Why doesn't Srikkanth's irresponsible habit of swishing and flashing at the ball draw the same amount of flak? Not to mention his flamboyant statements that he will continue to bat in the way he knows best and just hope that it clicks!

Why does Sanjay Manjrekar get away with a string of low scores which again has resulted in the team's downfall? Is Azharuddin above criticism for his unintelligent bowling changes and



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

the lack of aggression when India really needed the killer-instinct to surface?

The one-day version of the game, as all its followers are well aware, is filled with ifs and buts Many a time a team's exemplary performance has come to nought because Lady Luck had the last word And it again was luck that did us in against Australia

As such it is in very bad spirit to run down one player and blame him singly for the debacle And if the Indian Press and the public don't stop being 'armchair critics', Indian cricket will die many more deaths. As the vice-captain of the Indian cricket team, Ravi Shastri should not have to justify that he plays 'for the team' and not for personal glory' as alleged
UMA GIRISH,
New Delhi

The big guns don't fire any more

THE editorial 'Cricket isn't for nursing individual egos' was a brilliant piece Even though Tiger did not attack anyone' openly he has managed to 'speak' a lot through that column

It is high time the Board discards the 'bigger than-the-game' officials who couldn't care less about cricket It is also time that the seniors, 'the big-guns' in the team be asked for an explanation for their dismal performance That is the only way they can be made to realise the value and prestige of an Indian cap This might also force the youngsters in the team to show their true prowess

But, are the selectors listening?
ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack

Of World Cup and Board exams

I remember my friend moaning about the World Cup schedule last September, 'The World Cup is in February-March next year ' And she appeared very crestfallen when she said that Yeah so? , was my rejoinder With a harsh yet sorry, look on her face she said, 'That's when we have our Board exams '

Now that was a real sorry plight to be in, that's for sure

But nevertheless when I sent a good-luck-message to the Indian team I promised them that, though I was cursed with the Board exams, I would keep track of them on television In return I asked them to give us a treat by winning the tournament

Sadly this demand of mine could not be fulfilled, thanks to the many reasons that wreaked havoc on our team But I watched every single match of ours, and believe me, I was thinking cricket even when I was writing the exams that could well change my life

And the most ironical fact is that my exams finished on the 13th and India were for all purposes out of

contention on the 12th.

And the worst part is that the Indian cricket team knows about its results, but what happens to me and my Board exams are yet to be seen. I sure need some luck there, that's for sure.

SWAPNA MITRA,
New Delhi.

Countrymen to poll

NOW that India has returned, empty handed from their tour to Australia, it is time the Board took some serious steps to revamp the cricket scene if we are to do well in the forthcoming tours to South Africa and England, later this year.

Now maybe we could use another novel idea to select the Indian team. Why doesn't the Indian cricket Board advertise in some of the major national dailies and magazines, and ask the readers to nominate the players for the team. At least that way we will not have anyone complaining about the quota system, and the team will more or less comprise of players who make it into the team on their merit.

PRABAL GUHA,
Calcutta.

Take the bow, Azhar

IT can no longer be debated that Azhar has failed as a captain and as a batsman (at least in the initial stages) of this World Cup. That he, at the end, blamed the younger players is even worse. If one took a critical look, it was only the youngsters—alongwith Kapil and Prabhakar—who performed in the World Cup. Though Azharuddin came good with the bat in the latter part of the tournament, it was of no good.

The time has now come when he should seriously consider his role as the captain, and if he finds that the pressure on top is too much for him to handle, then he should step down from captaincy.

Another baffling occurence is the selectors' persistence to rely on Shastri in one-day matches. On many occasions he has slowed down the team's scoring rate. Many may argue that he played his role as the anchor-man, but in the process he consumed a lot of overs and these barren overs were the reason for our downfall.


ARKA BHATTACHARYA

Time for the Board to don its thinking cap and come out with some permanent solutions to the problems lurking within Indian cricket.

T.M. BALAKRISHNAN ERADY
HARIDAS UNNIKRISHNAN
VELLODI,
Calicut.

Rules be damned

THE weather and the rain rules that were framed by the authorities Down Under contributed in making this World Cup a dismal failure. The second semi-final between England and South Africa was really the limit.

If the rain had not interfered in this particular match then maybe South Africa would have cruised into the final. 22 runs off one ball! That was the limit.

Here's hoping that the next edition of the most prestigious tournament of cricket will see better framed rules. Rules that will give both teams an even chance in case the weather plays truant.

RAKHEE MUKHERJI,
Calcutta.

Comedy of run-outs

SANJAY MANJREKAR, before the World Cup started, was labelled as one of the mainstays of the Indian batting, but in the tournament he was always being run-out. This comical occurances that happened with increasing regularity spelled tragedy for Indian cricket.

On many occasions, when the team looked all set to amass a great score, there was the incident of a player (very often Manjrekar) getting run-out, and the Indian batting order just crumbled after that.

One wonders if it was sheer luck that was responsible for this. Surely the batsmen in the middle need more understanding and co-ordination if they are to perform credibly. Surely an aspect that needs to be looked into and things should be put in the right perspective if we are to do well in the forthcoming tours later this year.

G.V. SHWETHA,
Bangalore.

Cheer up lads

AFTER India crashed out, the World Cup lost its charm for many Indians. It was bad enough that we had to cope up with our Board exams during this period, but whatever hopes we had of enjoying the Indian team's performance after our exams were also dashed the moment India crashed out from the tournament.

The team that supposedly has the best batting line-up in the cricketing world failed to even make it to the semi-finals. Unbelievable! What could be the cause of this dismal performance? Lack of team-spirit? Lack of urgency? Or too much dependance on one player (Sachin Tendulkar)? Maybe these were some of the reasons, but Lady Luck seemed to have gone on a vacation after the Indians reached Australia. The encounters against Sri Lanka and Australia ellaborate this point.

Azhar's coming good with his bat in the last phase of the tour was one redeeming factor (though it was a bit late). Manjrekar was a trifle too unlucky at times and Ajay Jadeja certainly won many Indian hearts with his good performances and his winning smile.

Whatever be the reason behind the Indian team failing to reach the semis, they've disappointed many fans. But then, life must go on.

Time to pat the team on the back and tell them, 'Cheer up guys. Better luck next time!'

PAYAL DHAR,
New Delhi.

THE RESULT OF THE

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WORLD CUP QUIZ

ANSWERS

1 England

2 Graham Gooch

3 Clive Lloyd

4 Graeme Fowler

5 Sri Lanka vs West Indies, 1979

6 Don Pringle (East Africa, 1975) and Derek Pringle (England, 1987)

7 Clive Lloyd

With over a 1000 entries from all over India—as well as some from Bangladesh and Canada—we thank our readers for the overwhelming response...

8. East Africa and Canada

9 The Hadlee brothers Barry, Dayle and Richard

10. Vivian Richards (1013 runs)

11 Rambabu Gupta (India) and Mehboob Shah (Pakistan)

12 Farokh Engineer (India)

13 Dave Houghton (Zimbabwe)

14 Collis King (West Indies)

15 Ian Gould (England)

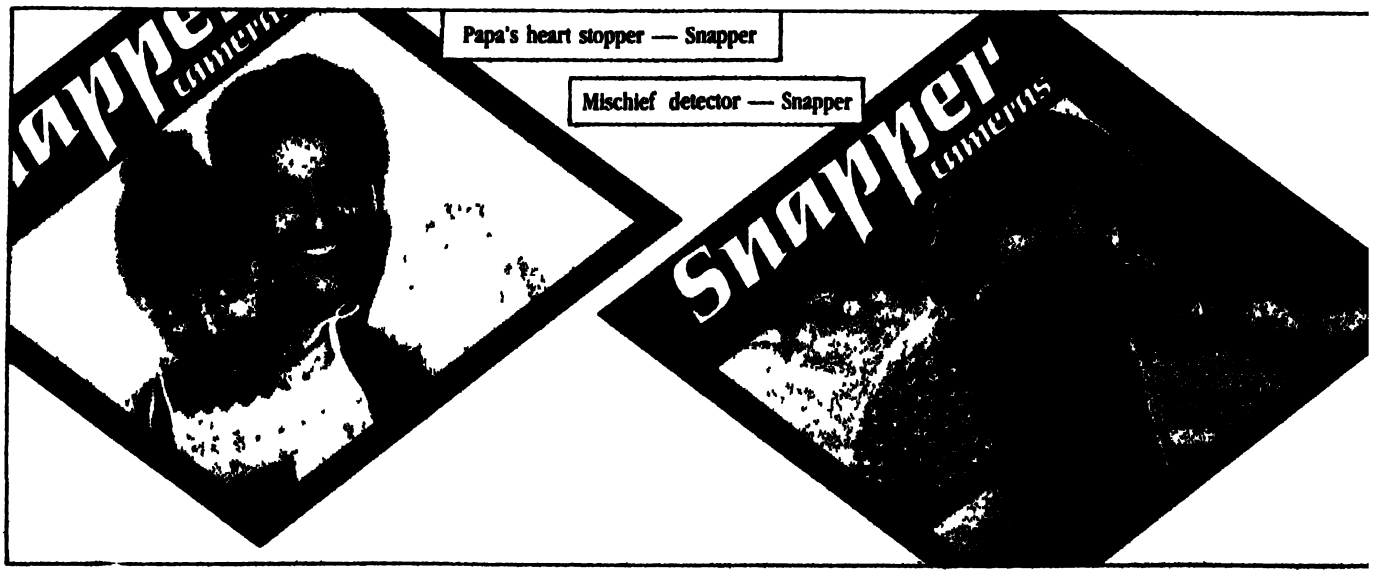
16 Pakistan

17 Wasim Akram (Pakistan)

18. Wasim Akram (18 wickets)

19 Martin Crowe (456 runs)

20 David Boon (Australia)



THE WINNERS ARE:

FIRST PRIZE
TAPAN MAJUMDAR
Calcutta
One Agfa Camera
One-year subscription of *Sportsworld*

SECOND PRIZE
RAKESH NARNOLIA
Calcutta
One Agfa Camera
Six-month subscription of *Sportsworld*

THIRD PRIZE
G. VENKATESH
Madras
One Agfa Camera
Three-month subscription of *Sportsworld*

FOUR MISTAKES

R C Kasturi Rangan Madras S Vijay Kumar Bangalore Syed Fariab Nizam Ahmed Hyderabad Asif Iqbal Mahendra Das Bangaigaon Dr Himanshu Malvani Bharuch Sohinee Roy Calcutta Saima Tabassum Azamgarh Navneet Mall Calcutta Chandan Datta Calcutta Naveen Goyal Jodhpur Anil Kumar Allahabad Biswajit Basu Calcutta Akhlaque Ahmed Khan Calcutta Kunal Shaha Calcutta Souman Maji Calcutta Sandip Jain Jhumari Telaiya

FIVE MISTAKES

Sibnath Dutta Asansol Lily Adhya Durgapur Aniruddha Ghosh Calcutta Raja Roy Chowdhury Ranchi Sanjay Kumar Singh Deogarh Rajiv Kumar Deogarh M F Baig Durg V Sethuraman Madras Dukool R Pandya Bombay Piyush Verma Balaghat Ashoke Sanyal Calcutta Subhasish Roy 24 Paraganas K P Banerjee Nagpur Sateesh Shah Keonjhar S M Ali Baseer Aligarh Pratheesh Polly Thrissur Ajay Yadav Gurgaon G Ram Prasad Madras S Srinivasan Madras Vinayak Palkar Bombay Santanu Kumar 24 Paraganas Minhaj Alam Patna Swapan Kumar Atarthi Calcutta Gautam Choudhury Cuttack Shib Shankar Patra 24 Paraganas Rajiv Agarwal Jamshedpur Mohd Mushtaque Nagpur Fazar Rahman Sibsagar Aditi Basu Tinsukia Deb Sanjay Nag Jamshedpur Rajendra Trivedi Bombay Ashru Mitra Calcutta Anook Mukherjee Calcutta R Perumal Bangalore

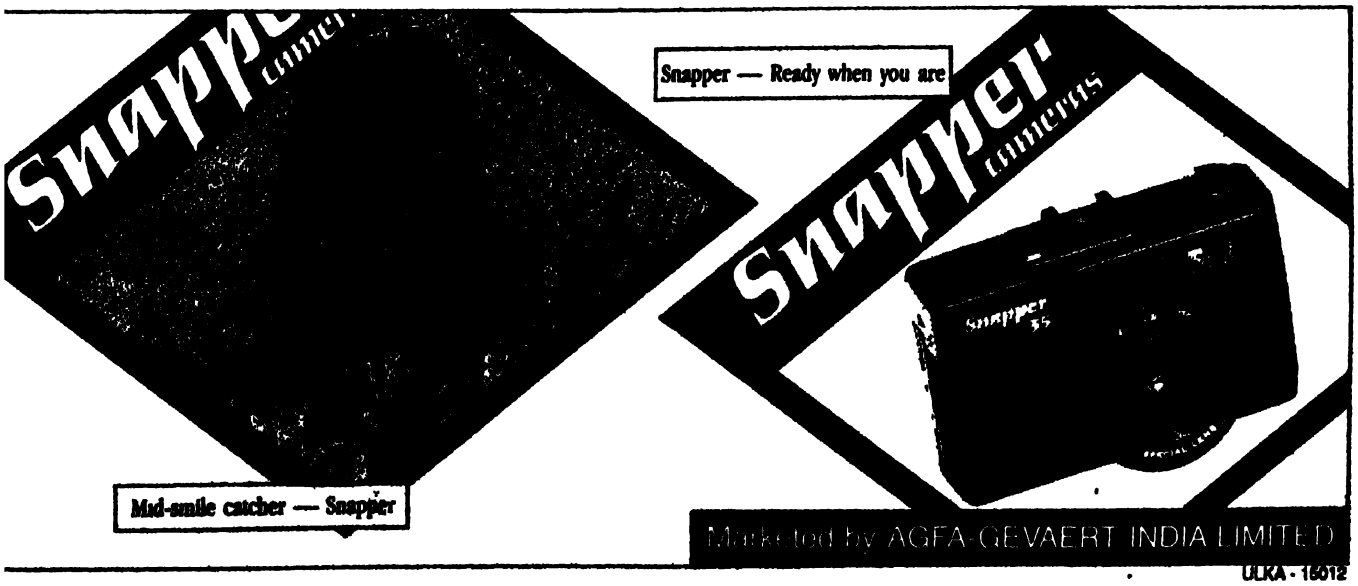
SIX MISTAKES

K Eashwar Pillay Hyderabad Mohd Sadique Kashfi Calcutta Sambit Begray Berhampur Rajneesh Srivastava Ranchi Sanjay Telang Bhopal Debabrata Chakrabarti Calcutta Dhurjati Majumdar Calcutta Dr Madhukar B R Bangalore Santosh Chakraborty Calcutta Surajit Dutta Calcutta Dr Matin Ahmad Khan Hazaribagh Vivek Srinivasan Madras T P Sharma New Delhi Subrata Sen Calcutta M Murthy Bangalore C H Saroja Vijayawada Satish S Kulkarni Ahmednagar Ashutosh Rathore Indore Dr S Muraliram Gobichettipalayam Shankar Sen Gupta New Delhi S Kumar Chikmagalur Prabal Kumar Ghosh Calcutta Md Bulbul Hussain Kahilipara Manmohan Dalai Ganjam Rima Kundu Calcutta Aniruddha Sinha Calcutta Vikas Agarwal Rajgangpur M Shridhar Bombay Mrityunjoy Patna Raju Basu Calcutta Dipanjan Chatterjee Hooghly Gaurav Moossaddee Calcutta

SEVEN MISTAKES

V K Ghai New Delhi Sunita Verma New Delhi Neeharika Sinha Dhanbad Shouvik Basu Calcutta Avneesh Prasher Bombay Sudama Tana Orissa Rakesh Kumar Singh Jamshedpur P Agilesh Calcutta Priyabrata Deb Barma Tripura Manish Ladha Thane Dilip Kumar Singh Patna Arijit Ghosh Calcutta Ummer Raqib Calcutta Prakash K Jaiswal Gondia E B Deepak Kerala Arif Jamal Khan Sundergarh Sumanta Kumar Paul 24 Paraganas Akshaya Kumar Nayak BBSR K B Kiran Kumar Bangalore Rajesh Rajagopalan Bhopal

Note: The basis for awarding the prizes and publishing names are based primarily on the predictions We are not responsible for entries arriving late No correspondence is going to be entertained on the subject.



• You can t expect to be on a high all the time We ve just hit a bit of a trough We ve got to pull our fingers out now It's now or never
ALLAN BORDER after Australia's defeat against New Zealand

• Every time we walk on to the field these days we look like a pack of goats The selectors need to look at the younger players again to get things back on the track
Former Australian cricketing great, BILL O'REILLY on the present Australian team.

• India have Kapil Dev Azharuddin and Sachin Tendulkar to look to as match winners Though I think the 1983 champions will struggle to make it to the semi finals
SIR RICHARD HADLEE before the World Cup began And how true he was

• Our recent record in one day games would definitely make us the favourites and I m not being cocky when I say that It would be a worrisome burden but it can be a great strength too
ALLAN BORDER before the tournament started

• I reckon we ve got a first class batting side But we would struggle as much as Sri Lanka or New Zealand in that we wouldn t have a bowling side to bowl people out twice That is the big idea of showing people we are capable of competing at this level
DAVID HOUGHTON, the Zimbabwean captain, on his country seeking Test status.

• It s nice to be unknown and regarded as the underdogs If we lose it will not be unexpected But if we win it will be a catastrophe for Australia
KEPLER WESSELS before South Africa's match against Australia And sure enough, they beat the favourites



• People constantly ask me whether I'll miss the performance of Viv (Richards) in the World Cup There is no doubt in my mind that his services would have been a great help to the team Yet, I feel we now have to look ahead The good things can t last for ever we have to find replacements and help them grow and become great players There is always a sense of loss and a drop in performance during the process of rebuilding, but we now believe in ourselves
RICHIE RICHARDSON, as the West Indian captain, had a tough job in this World Cup.

• If we had not qualified I might have just given it in, as you know there are enough jackals waiting
IMRAN KHAN at one point of the tour was even contemplating retirement. But now things certainly have changed.



• He has a lot of enthusiasm and is a real character Cricket needs characters
VIVIAN RICHARDS pays tribute to South Africa's Jonty Rhodes.

• I m very happy with the way the guys tried throughout this World Cup and I m very proud of them They wanted to go all the way we've got the nucleus of a very strong team for the future For us it's not a disaster
KEPLER WESSELS and his men certainly impressed the world in their first big-league endeavour

• We've been given so much travelling, it's truly unbelievable It's ridiculous It can upset the rhythm if you don't have enough rest, but I wouldn't find that as an excuse
ARAVINDA DE SILVA, the Sri Lankan captain, on the tough tour itinerary that they had to comply with.

• For an outside bet, at least for a place, I would go for India The ingredients are there, but someone has lost the stirring spoon
TONY LEWIS had hopes of India making it to the final, even after they lost their first match against England.

• It's rolled mud

BRIAN McMILLAN, of South Africa, after having a look at Auckland's Eden Park pitch.



• It was a very disappointing and frustating to lose a close game. Four run-outs in an innings is disastrous. This has been a problem with us right through the tour. We have worked hard on this aspect, and the fielding but there's still scope for improvement.

ABBAS ALI BAIG after India's loss to England.

• The cabinet and I, together with the whole of South Africa confirm our 'yes' for the team. Heartiest congratulations on the victory....a victory for all of us over isolation and dejection.

South African President, F.W. deKLERK, after South Africa defeated Australia.

• He (Srikkanth) got out at the wrong time. He hit two boundaries in that over and didn't need to go for



another on the ball that got him out. He's only been getting scores of 30 and he should be making more runs.

AZHARUDDIN on Srikkanth's innings against England. Incidentally Azhar went out for a duck in that innings.



• It was a welcome win for an average side who showed that without one Richard Hadlee the country's standard is still good enough to cause a few upsets. Toast to the success of Martin Crowe and his men. They have indeed helped in making the bookmaker's calculations go haywire.

SIR RICHARD HADLEE after his country defeated favourites Australia.

• One-day game is cricket of combinations. The team that gets it right doesn't need great players in it. Australia, for instance, hasn't got it right at the moment. Half the battle is won when you've got the right combination. And we moved one step closer to that today.

IMRAN KHAN after Pakistan defeated Zimbabwe by 53 runs.

• I'd love to play the final. To me the danger teams are England and Pakistan. When you're the underdog every side prefers that situation. Favourites have a nasty habit of getting beaten I suppose.

ALLAN BORDER before the tournament began. His predictions came true to the last letter.

• The old fella must go, he's too jaded.

An Australian TAXI DRIVER on Border. Border fell from grace after his team's dismal performance.

• I asked the team to behave like a cornered tiger. To go out and fight. To snarl. And they responded magnificently.

IMRAN KHAN on how he motivated the Pakistani team. That's the secret behind them winning the World Cup.



"WE WENT OFF THE BOIL'

He's down. But he's certainly not out. The Australian skipper attempts to analyse his, and his team's, disastrous World Cup performance in an interview to ANDY O'BRIEN

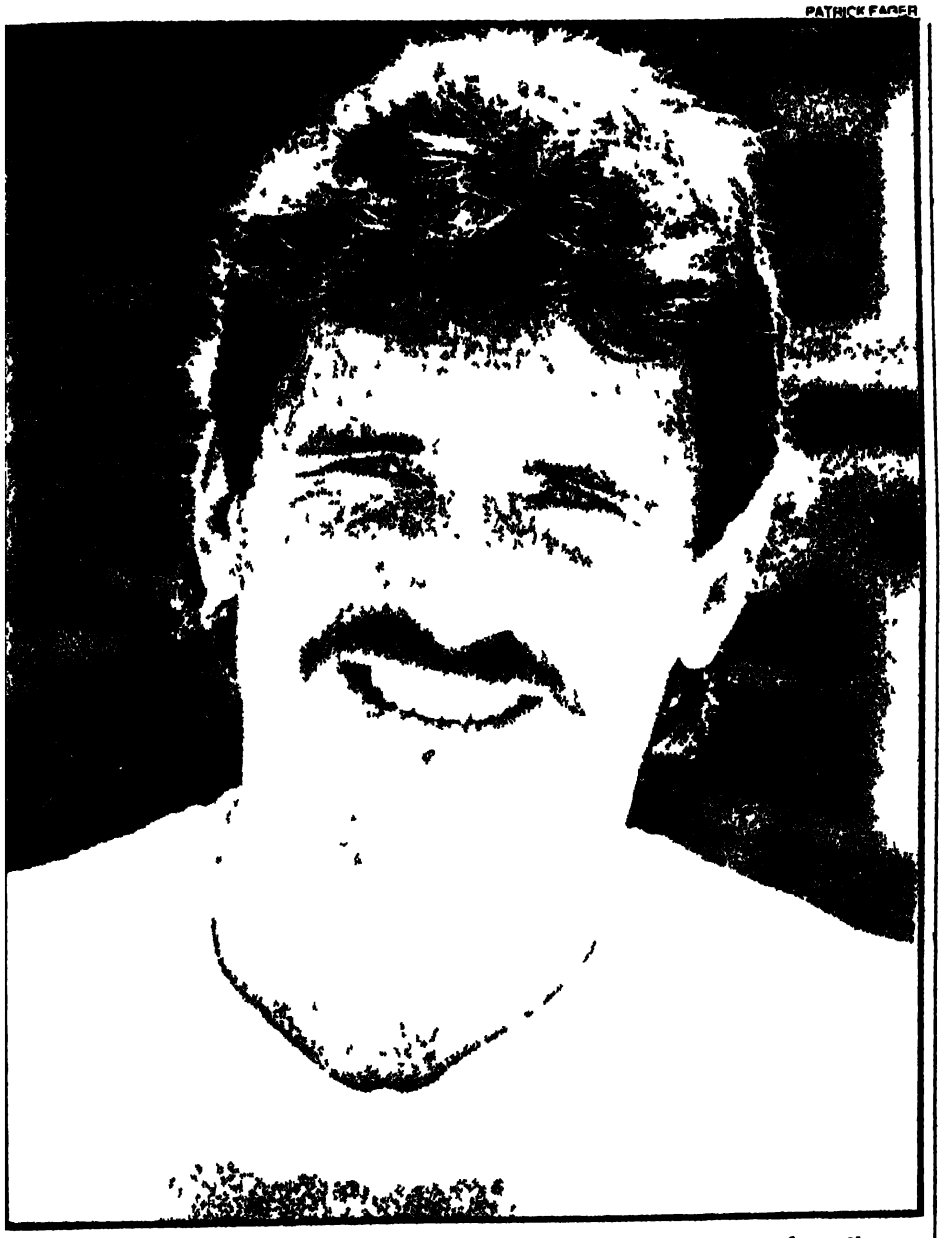
SPORTSWORLD: You have gone on record saying that the lack of preparation was one of the major reasons for the demise of Australia in the World Cup as a captain, how much emphasis would you say teams should have put on preparation for a tournament like the World Cup?
BORDER Oh I think it is all important For instance if you take our example our preparation was bad We went into it a little bit complacent thinking we could just come off Tests and Sheffield Shield cricket We never really got into what I would call a World Cup fever Everyone was jaded and before you knew anything we'd lost two games and things had gone haywire In hindsight that's where we made a huge blunder

As a captain what kind of preparation would you have recommended...in hindsight
The squad should have got together for a week in training camp and studied the tactics required for the various teams It's so important really in today's game and specially a tournament like the World Cup We never really sat down for any length of time to do that

What lessons has Allan Border the captain learnt from this World Cup debacle?
One that we should have prepared better As I said a camp instead we played Sheffield Shield which is important to us as players but if we were fair dinkum about the World Cup then the camp and not the Sheffield Shield is what we should have done Two that as a team we pushed the panic button too early, after we lost the first game to New Zealand We never really got a settled side after that It was only in the last few games that had a settled format and it showed I thought we could reach the semi finals and if we did manage it, then we could have gone all the way But we didn't show in the matches that mattered and hit our straps a little too late I still think we were good enough to win it But I guess that was the nature of the competition at least half a dozen teams were good enough to be champions

It's been a real roller coaster ride for you and your team. On a high one day, and then right at the bottom the next. You and the team have come in for a lot of criticism just as our Indian captain and team have. Is all this justified and how do you, as captain, tackle it?
Let's say the programme had a lot to do with it But I think we all have to accept the blame a bit I also feel that the Australian team's summer is being wrongly judged We're now all no hopers who should be dropped and there should be sweeping changes -and it's been




PATRICK EAGER

The smile's vanished and in its place is the grimness that stems from the realisation that he's failed both as a player and as a captain in this World Cup

because of a couple of weeks of bad cricket out of four or five months We had a great record for the last four years but unfortunately went off the boil at the wrong time It s as simple as that We just happened to play our worst cricket at the worst possible time And, in spite of being a little jaded, we managed to win 50 percent of our games in the World Cup. But obviously we needed that one more victory which we couldn't get We were a nervy type team in this Cup The more pressure we put on ourselves, the more negative we became

You talk about being jaded. The Indian team had been on the go since October, they came here in November for a four-month tour. How does all this affect performance?
Though you feel jaded, I don t think that is a valid excuse We are all professionals but any sportsman will tell you that it is difficult to peak all the time, which was precisely what we were being asked to do It s difficult and we chose the worst time to go off

It's just that by the time we--and maybe even India—came to the Cup we just never got into the fervor that should have been there We were just going through the motions— I mean we were playing as hard as we could but we were never as up as it should have been But then we are all professionals and we earn our basic living from the game and that s not a real good excuse

The other sides managed to prepare better having a look at one another just getting into the one day mode Just in hindsight— and you re always brilliant in hindsight if we d gone into camp for a week everything would have been all right

As a captain, isn't it partly your responsibility to ask for a camp or something? The Indian captain too complained that, prior to the World Cup, his team should have had a rest and done some soul-searching. Who does one blame for all this?
It s a combined effort In our case I should have recognised it so should Simmo (Bobby Simpson, the coach) the Board everyone concerned We should have but instead we thought what the heck, our preparation should be ok You come in after good hard cricket and swing in easily But as we ve seen it s not that easy coming in off a Test match into one day games It s not easy to chop and change so fast

In the seven innings of the World Cup, you totalled 60 runs. How badly does a captain's lack of form affect his team?
I was disappointed about the way I finished the season Obviously if I had hit my straps a little bit more, the side would have played differently Being the captain and a senior player, it s nice to get a few more scores That always plays on your mind

When does a captain say 'Ok, that's it. I don't deserve to be in the team, leave alone being captain'.?
I want to play to a certain standard If I feel I am going to drop below a

certain level. I don't want to linger around I've got a bit of rethinking to do in the off season, recharge my batteries, analyse my own game, what I have done wrong where my preparation has been wrong I have to sort all that out But I'm thinking like that not because I've had enough and that means I want to keep playing

The Australians have long been known for sledging and gamesmanship. Yet under your captaincy things seemed to have eased off a bit. You even tend to get extra friendly with the opposition. Why is this so?
It was true but no more, I think I did start to make a conscious effort not to be seen to be so chummy chummy, because in 85 I got a little bit of flak from people like Ian Chappell People I have a lot of respect for in cricketing circles were saying that I seemed to be quite friendly with the opposition and that might have been having some effect on the younger fellows in the team and maybe we didn t have the real killer instinct So I did make an effort to be a little more ruthless you know a bit more standoff ish with the opposition

Do you think there is a sort of general Aussie irreverence especially when it comes to playing teams, say, from the sub-continent or the West Indies? It doesn't happen so much with England...
When you are playing the West Indies or Pakistan or India, there is always the underlying thing about racism in sport, which isn't really all that evident But if you just happen to have a throw-away line, and it refers to someone being black, it causes a huge drama It's never intended to be more than a frustration type of thing But with England, you know you can call an Englishman just about anything, and they can call us anything and it s just a stand up thing afterwards you are laughing about it and having a drink Sometimes there is a different connotation placed on a bowler stopping and glaring and having a few words if he is Indian We re from different cultures Australian cricketers generally do stand and chat and all that—so called sledging—but the media do tend to beat up

The English team is one with whom the Australians get on very well. No sledging controversies between these countries



PATRICK EAGAR

"IT'S DIFFICULT TO PEAK ALL THE TIME"

Is it a general Aussie irreverence?
Yes, we tend to be like that, nothing's meant by it I'm just explaining that it does happen and nothing is meant by it The English understand that They don't like it either, but it's not quite the drama that it can be made out to be with other countries

Do you feel that age is a factor?
Not really I'm batting quite well in the nets That's the tragedy of it all, I suppose Why that happens, who knows. I won't go to Sri Lanka later this year and say 'I'm not playing well so that's it ' I owe it to the side, and to myself, to get through It's amazing how your form comes and goes and I haven't had too many slumps I'm not totally distraught about my batting I'm probably not as consistent as I used to be and I'm not making the big hundreds I did in the past I know I have slacked off in my approach to my batting because the team has

played so well and that's been my priority rather than me scoring bulk runs. Maybe I've got to get back to being a little more selfish for my own batting and hopefully that works out well for the team as well.

One of the major problems an aging star has, is to decide when to call it a day; isn't it so?

I want to play another couple of years. I'm not going to give it away, all right! I get asked this, like, three times a day for the last three years. Why? Does Graham Gooch get asked? He's older than me. Or Imran Khan? Do they get asked everytime they go into a press conference, when they are going to give it away? After a while it gets on your nerves. I'm not 21. I'm 36, and so you think about it. But I might play until I'm 45. If I play like a genius next year, why should I give it away? I haven't put any particular timing on it. Hopefully I'll recognise the time.

The World Cup for the Aussies was no laughing matter and a poker faced Border walks off after practice as Merv Hughes looks on



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

The Australian batting certainly did not live up to its reputation. Here Boon fails to reach home and Neil Fairbrother has the balls off



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

"WE JUST DIDN'T REALLY PREPARE AT ALL"

It's funny, you know, when you are doing well, you get the praises and when the team is not performing, the very same captain comes in for a lot of stick. How is a captain supposed to bear all this? Doesn't it get to you?
You get cranky, I suppose, because for the first time in weeks you lose a game and knives come out from all directions. A month ago I was a genius, last week I was an imbecile and should be dropped to make way for fresh stuff—it's incredible how your status can turn around in a matter of months. That's the thing that gets on my goat a little bit. Everyone says, don't worry about the Press, but you cop it (you take the flak). You read the newspaper and everyone is hammering you about it. You walk into a shop for a bloody hot dog and the bloke is into you about something. If an Ian Chappell says something, or a Neil Harvey, sometimes they just repeat it for the sake of it. It's the hardest thing to live with; when everything is going well, it's great, but as soon as you go off the boil a bit, you are hammered. We are all out there trying...playing for our country ...but it doesn't always work. I think it has been a successful season overall but of course people don't view it like that...in this tournament we haven't proven it but over the last 12 months we'd still be number one. Just because Edberg doesn't win Wimbledon, it doesn't mean he is not No. 1. (Border doesn't realise that Courier is number one at the time of our conversation). You are judged as a team over more than one tournament. Of course, it's all very disappointing that we didn't go a bit further and we let a lot of people down, but it's not quite the disaster some people are painting it to be.

Border and his men even took to golf and tennis in a vain bid to improve their game and morale



In a situation when 'you are off the boil', what does a captain do?
Well, the captain obviously has to ease the tension. But it's very difficult to do. We played tennis, we played golf, we had practice sessions off, we varied practice sessions. But basically when a side is off the boil you have to wait for the spark. That came too late, I think, for us. I don't know why that happened. We did everything the same way as we had done before.

As captain, do you think you and your team were too involved in the playing of cricket before the World Cup—like India was—and didn't really get time to think 'World Cup'? Was that a drawback?
I think that is a fair comment to



Graham Gooch is one captain who certainly did his homework and Border could well take a lesson or two from his book

make We didn't have time to prepare, neither, I think, did India, there was too much cricket going on, but as I said, that is no excuse The Kiwis and others did their homework and caught us napping It's amazing how one loss can change a whole way of thinking I must admit, we went into this World Cup as if it was just another series of one-day games Last time we had thought about the World Cup This time, we didn't think about things like run rates etc It wasn't done right

There are a lot of parallels that one can draw between India and Australia at present. How does a team tackle a problem, like the one India and Australia find themselves in now? Is a drastic change of players called for?
I don't think there should be any drastic diversion from teams If a few guys in the wings are good enough and are proving it, then no problem But again, one shouldn't panic and try and change too much

Do you think that the four captains of the teams who made it to the semis actually out-thought and out-captained you guys who didn't make it?
I wouldn't really generalise, but yes, the Kiwis have shown quite a few innovations—the early onslaught, the early adventurous batting But it is something we also discussed and thought about, but over a consistent period we found that it doesn t really work Maybe for an isolated tournament it is worth having a go, but we found that over the years it doesn t work for us for an extended time, at least on Australian wickets Maybe it s worth a try on sub continental wickets which are a lot flatter

You and Simpson have claimed that most of the teams have copied the Australian method of playing one-day cricket and yet these innovations have been so fruitful. What are the other trends in one-day cricket seen in this tournament?

"ONE SHOULDN'T PANIC AND TRY AND CHANGE TOO MUCH"

First I would like to say yes that I feel we have been greatly responsible and have greatly contributed to the evolution of the one day game as it is played today But, yes I think the use of a spinner to open the bowling on a slow wicket is a very good variation I mean let s admit it, Martin Crowe sat down with the New Zealand hierarchy and worked things out well They really planned their moves bowled well around their wickets etc It is something for all teams to look out for when you are playing overseas to play conditions a little better than we tend to normally do And then it has been shown that you have to think about playing different oppositions differently Yes, these are all lessons Whereas we just didn't really prepare at all We had just been playing a particular pattern and stuck to it no matter what the opposition or the conditions We didn't really sit down and prepare a strategy for the Cup That's where a guy like Crowe had one up on us

But would you say captaincy has so



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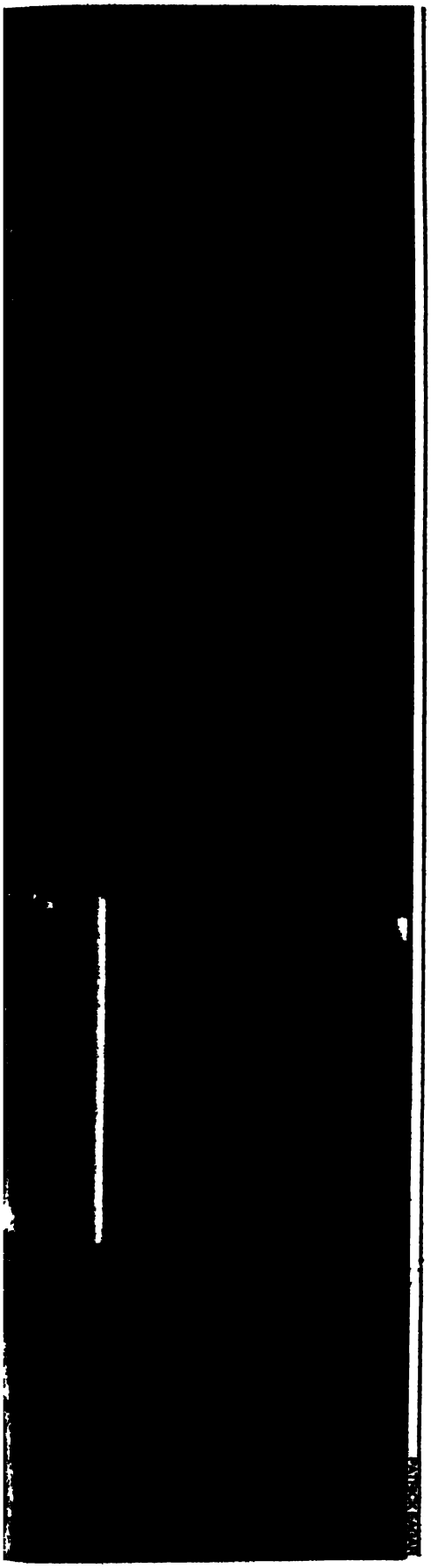
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Border was the man that the team looked up to but even he did not deliver the goods. Picture shows him being bowled by Botham for just 16 runs

much to do with it? I mean, what was the difference between the four captains who made the semi-finals and the five that didn't?
The Kiwis were innovative. Graham Gooch obviously has a higher presence as far as England are concerned. It's different when he is not playing. But the Pommies are on a roll and luck seems to go your way when you are playing well. The South African side reflects the nature of the cricketer Kepler is; consistent, determined and well prepared. Pakistan are a good side and Imran is obviously an inspirational leader to have got his guys to hit their straps at the right time, though it came towards the end of the tournament. But having said all that, I think any of six teams could have won.

"I LOVE CRICKET AND IT'S WHAT I WANT TO DO"

Six means the four semi-finalists as well as Australia and the West Indies. What about India?
Well, I say because there were, in the end, only six teams in contention for the semi-final places. Every one of the teams was vulnerable That was the nature of the tournament.

What about your captaincy?
Well, we won four out of eight matches.....so it's hard to tell about my captaincy. I'll leave that for you to judge.

You say one-day cricket has evolved. How come, then, a team like South Africa, who were out of the game for 22 years, can suddenly come back and make it to the semi-finals of the World Cup? John McEnroe could not come back into tennis after a break and become No.1 again because the game had changed so much....
Yeah...but age, McEnroe isn't 21 again. But then again, technology and the way tennis is played; maybe that has changed. I don't know. I don't follow the technological changes of tennis that much. But certainly one-day cricket has changed. I mean, the South Africans didn't only sit back for 22 years They have a very competitive domestic one-day competition, they've had different teams visiting out there, a lot of English players go out there and play and coach; so they have been able to sit back and watch tactics evolve internationally in the one-day game. And they have done their homework very well.

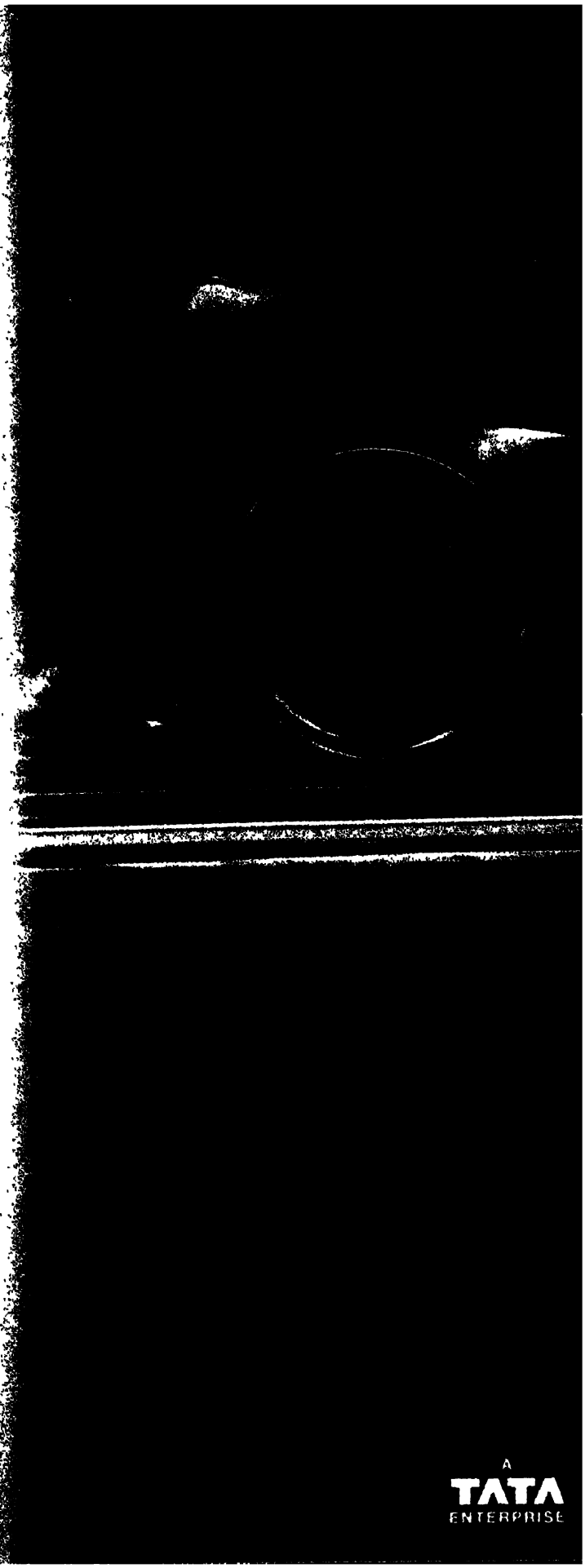
There has been a lot of talk about overkill of one-day cricket, especially with this World Cup coming soon after the World Series games etc. Is there a danger that we are playing too much one-day cricket at the expense of the traditional game?
I think Test cricket comes first. And yes, there is too much of one day stuff being played. It's up to the public to determine and it seems they like the one-day game better. But I think that they (the public) are getting force-fed that the one-day game is the one to watch rather than Test matches. We've got to make sure we keep Test cricket fresh and promote it properly. Certainly from the players point of view, it is the game that we want to play. But apparently the public really like the one-day stuff. As long as we can keep both in equilibrium, that would be ideal. Of course, as I have said before, we are professionals so we are not suffering really. We have to play regardless of a white ball or red ball. As far as I am concerned, I love cricket and it's what I want to do. I prefer it to doing a job (laughs); we're professionals now, that's the good side of it. We moan a little about being a little jaded but cricket leads to a lot of other good things in life, doesn't it?

Any ambitions left for the remainder of your career?
Yes, 10,000 Test runs...and Sunny knows it! ●

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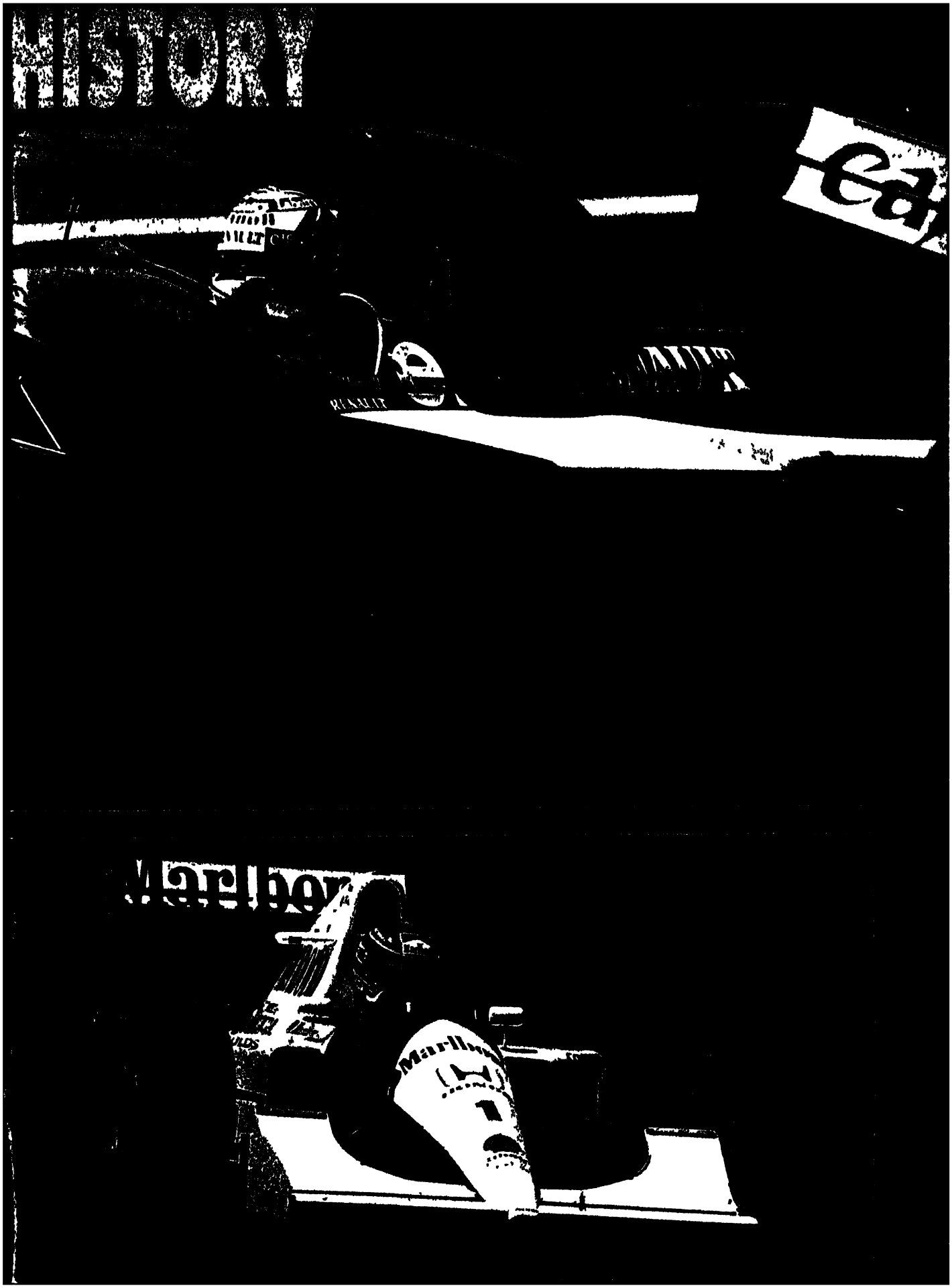


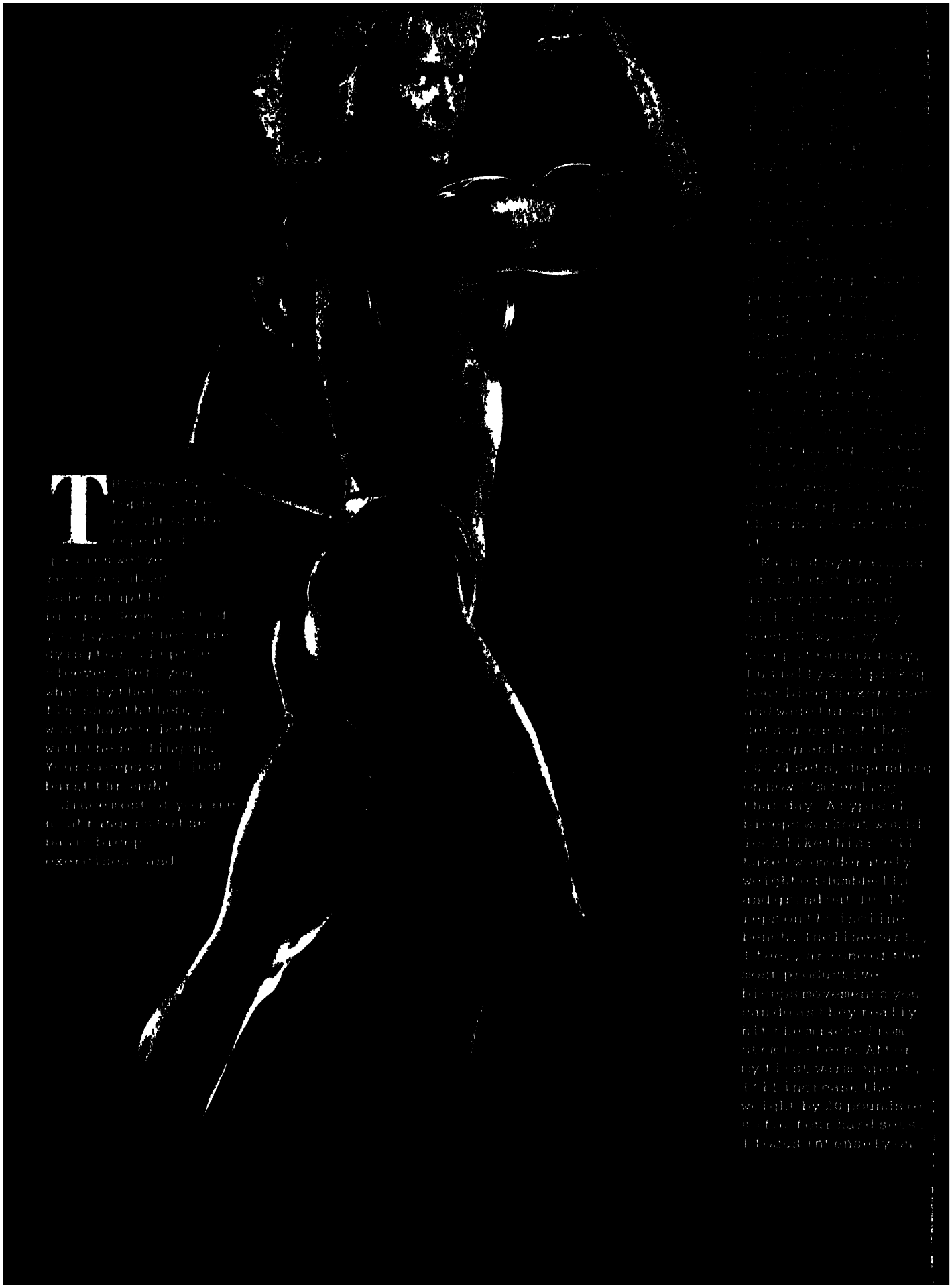
The handicap of racing in the spare car notwithstanding, Mansell was still too hot for second-placed teammate Riccardo Patrese and third-placed Ayrton Senna and unsettled celebrated in champagne



Senna is waiting for the new car from McLaren Honda scheduled to hit the track at the Brazilian Grand Prix

HISTORY





BULGIN' BICEPS!

CONCENTRATION CURL

freewheeling

IT'S a favourite piece of advice every mother gives her daughter of marriageable age: "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach".

It seems that in this world of competitive sport, as science comes to rule almost every aspect of a sportsman's career, the cricketer does not somehow fall into this category. Take a look at some of the paunches (read beer and other bellies) on the field during the World Cup, and it makes you wonder whether international cricketers are perhaps the most physically unfit of all professional sportsmen. And that too in an era when the demands of limited-overs cricket should have made many players follow the motto of 'eat lean, fight mean'.

During this World Cup, there was great interest about the eating habits of the various teams. Much has been said in the past about the non-availability of 'foods' from home, but by common consensus, so diverse was the food on offer to the players throughout the tournament, that most teams found it easy to find their traditional or preferred cuisine.

Of course, mystique still surrounded the Indian team. Especially the vegetarians, who according to one report, "eat only regional South Indian food". Unlike their colleagues, "they cannot head for a fast food outlet if they cannot find a suitable Indian restaurant. Instead, from a secret compartment in their baggage they will produce pickles, chilli powders and other such things, to accompany the staple rice and yogurt from a take-away near their team hotel. Had their calling been hockey or wrestling, their very special needs would be met, as those national teams still tour with their own chef."

That the Indian cricketers still frequent junk food joints, only goes to prove how much importance is given to diet, so important for ultimate performance in sport.

Australian team physio, Errol Alcott—who describes his position with the team as that of psychologist, physiotherapist, doctor, trainer, nutritionist, mother, father and what have you—believes that cricketers must accept the importance of strict diet and weight control.

Without imposing anything on his players, Alcott preaches the need for good, intelligent, commonsense eating. Only Merv Hughes, who would eat anything that crosses his path if left on his own, is kept under strict supervision. Alcott says he checks their hotel room-service bills to monitor his players' eating habits.

During this World Cup, curry was a very popular dish, the organisers claiming that curries—or at least the Australian version of it—was very often served during lunch for the players. Many cricketers, not only from India, asked for curry if it wasn't included on the menu.

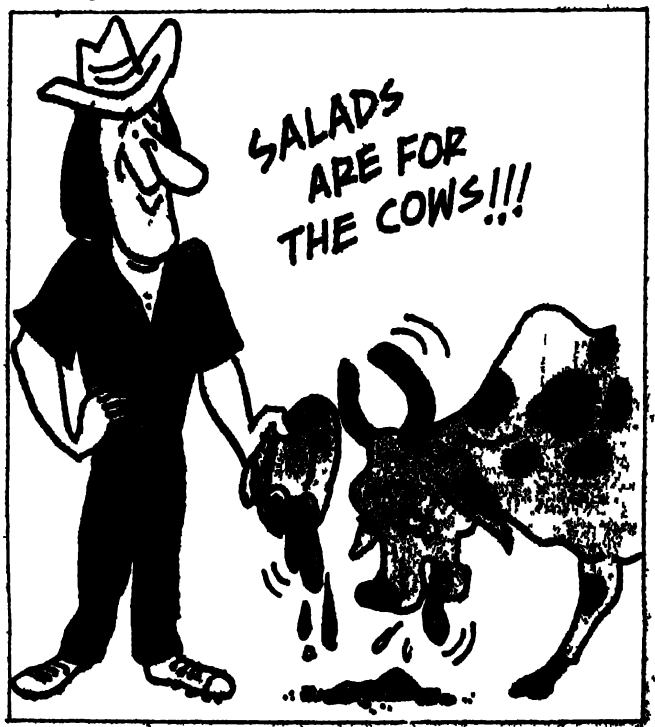
Of course, Azhar's eating of *halal* meat also received great publicity. Azhar prefers to eat vegetarian food if he is not sure he is getting *halal* meat. In fact, Azhar lived mainly as a vegetarian throughout his first tour as Indian captain in New Zealand two years ago.

The biggest source of home food for the Indian team comes not from hotels or restaurants, but from Indians living in the 'country' being toured. They go to the great extents to please the cricketers who lap up both the food and hospitality.

One Melbourne paper even carried a photograph of Azhar cooking a meal, with the caption: 'Indian captain Azharuddin prepares his special Muslim diet in Adelaide'.

In the Press Box the salads were funnily enough also a great source of amusement, since sub-continent cricketers are not used to subsisting on lettuce and other such stuff. When asked why his players were so amused to see people tucking into a salad, Imran Khan explained to an Aussie journalist that, "in our country there is no concept of salad. Ours is a high roughage food, and in the beginning the players got a shock with these salads, which they think should be for the cows". Imran himself thinks that Australia has the finest of seafood and steaks. "Eating is one of the great pleasures of my life", he says.

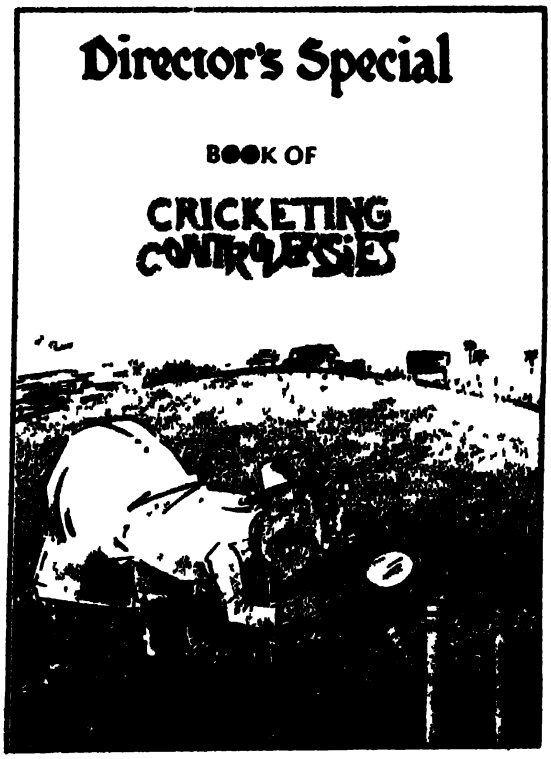
So come on all you girls, didn't mummy tell you that the shortest way to a man's heart is through his...



Lillee and **Marsh**, mavericks no doubt.
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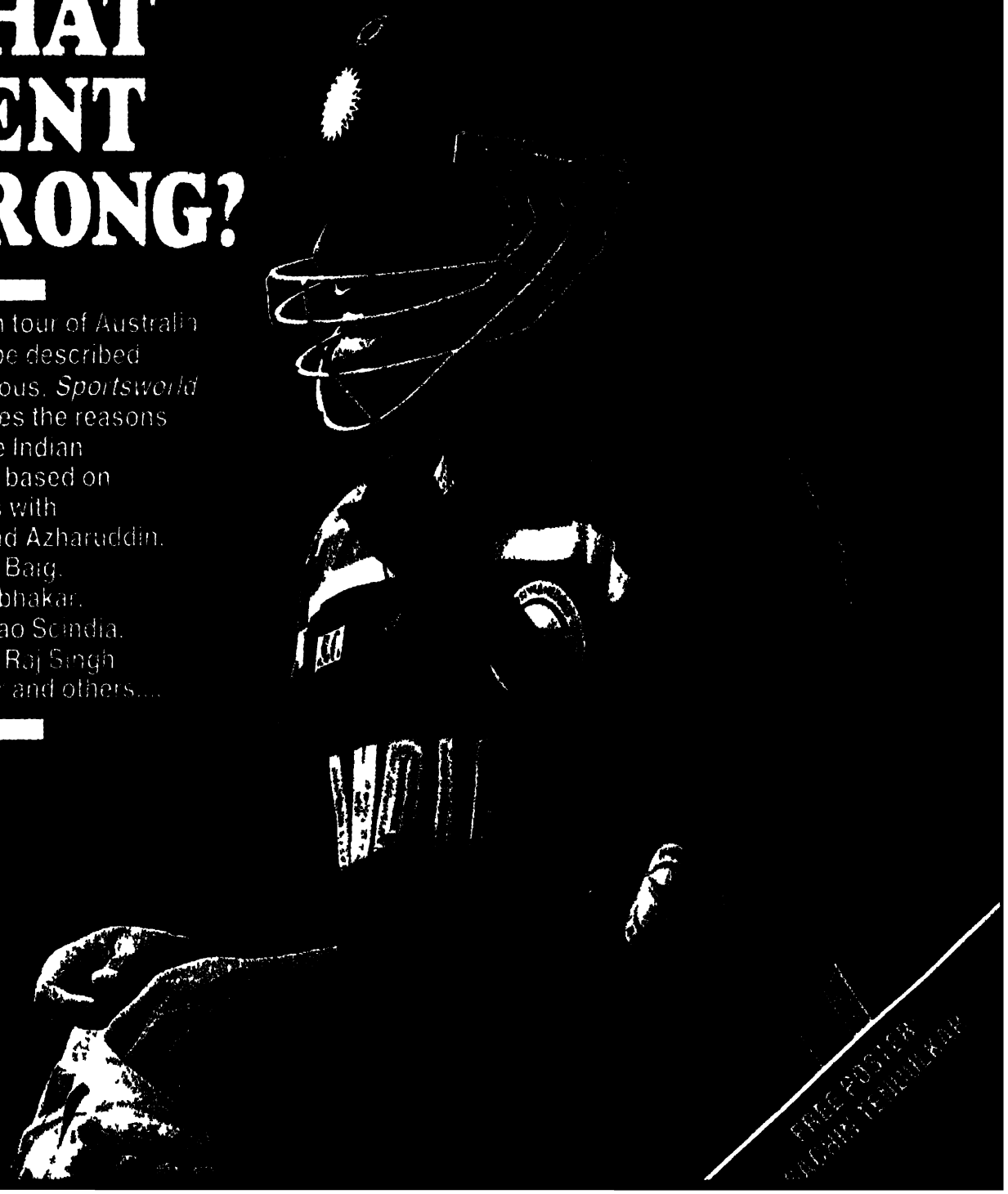
INDIA'S FOREMOST

Sportsworld

INDIA IN AUSTRALIA 1991-92

WHAT WENT WRONG?

The Indian tour of Australia can only be described as disastrous. *Sportsworld* investigates the reasons behind the Indian debacle based on interviews with Mohammad Azharuddin, Abbas Ali Baig, Manoj Prabhakar, Madhav Rao Scindia, Kapil Dev, Raj Singh Dungarpur and others....



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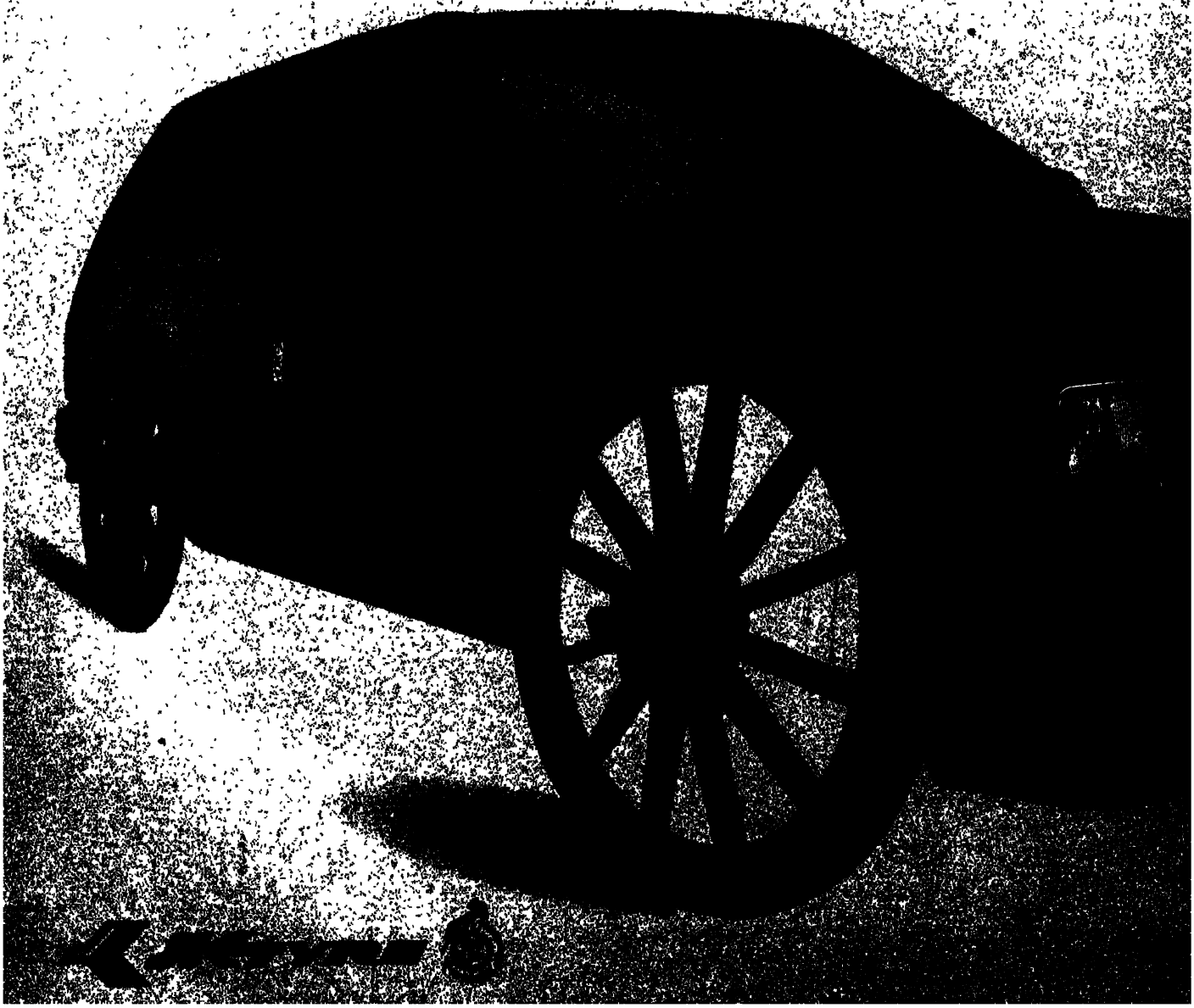
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"WHAT'S THE USE OF POTENTIAL...WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE THE URGE?"

Mohammad Azharuddin counters the charges thrown at him by **Suprakash Ghoshal**



Where there is such poor performance how can you keep saying that this is a talented team?

I think the basic problem was in the mind. There was no urge

Kambli and Saurav...same thing. We hoped that Kambli would be of more use. But it did not happen

Why should the team not have confidence in me? Why can't they give their life for me also?

Before the tour you were said to be leading a highly talented side to Australia. A side which had an equal blend of experience and youth. This assumption has obviously flopped. Comment.

What's the point in having talent, what's the point of having potential when the potential cannot be translated into performance?

I have been hearing for a long time that this Indian side is extremely talented But the question is how do you determine talent? On the basis of performance isn't it? So, where there is such poor performance how can you keep saying that this was a very talented team? What's the point?

Would you say then that these boys' potential was largely overestimated?

Yeah, I mean what's the point talking about their talent, their potential, when there is no performance I don't believe in talking If they were talented, they would have performed Since the performance is so poor, how can you keep saying that these boys are extremely talented How can you gauge talent?

Okay, talent apart what's missing? What made the team perform so badly?

Well lack of mental toughness, motivation.





I can tell you if we had put in even 60 per cent of our effort we would not have had such a disastrous tour. Sometimes when the bowling did well, the batting failed. And then there was this problem about fielding.

But do you regret taking some older players on the tour whose sudden selection raised many eyebrows. Like Srikkanth.
Not everybody can be successful on every tour.

But what if someone fails because he is claiming to be fit, while actually he is not.
Yes, but what can I do when the doctors in Bombay said he was fit; Ravi Shastri himself said he was fit. And he is a senior player.

What were you going to say about the fielding?
The fielding was bad, very bad. I mean our boys just couldn't cope with the pressure. They could not get the best out of themselves. No one was willing to go out of his way. No one even dived, you know, to stop a boundary. There are times when you just can't stop every ball by running or chasing it. You have to dive, you have to give your best! A lot of runs can be saved that way. So, in one word, the fielding was disastrous.

But don't the fielding lapses directly indicate that there was a fitness problem in the whole team?
Well, that's a very sweeping assumption. But I think the basic problem was in the mind. There was no urge.

You sent back Saurav Ganguli, even though he only got a semblance of a chance to prove himself. Wasn't this unfair?
Well, he looks like a talented player. But somehow he could not inspire any confidence in me I just could not bring myself to think that he could be of any use to me. He does have a lot of talent, but the way it all happened, you know, he couldn't generate any confidence in me.

But then what about Kambli? You took him sending back a talented bat like Ganguli. What was your net gain?
Nothing Kambli and Saurav same thing We hoped that Kambli would be of more use But it did not happen It is not fair to talk about individuals like this But that's it That's reality. The Board asked me to take Kambli, I took a chance It did not pay off Maybe, if I had kept on persisting with Saurav, trying him in more matches, we would have had better results Saurav has to work a lot on



his attitude, his fielding. Just having a little batting talent won't do. Kambli was also rated as extremely talented. So, I just took a chance. Bad luck for Saurav. Bad luck for Kambli.



There has been a lot of criticism about your captaincy. It's being said you could not motivate the players, which is an essential part of your job. What do you think?
I don't think that is fair. I went to every player in his hour of need, discussed the problems he had, been friendly with him. Given good advice, mixed with them all the time. I was very much a team man So, what more could I have done You put this particular question up for me in your magazine, asking all your readers, and cricket fans: What should I have done and should do as the captain? What were my shortcomings? Now you ask the players what did they find lacking in me as a captain?

Well, some of them have already said that India needs a captain like Imran. You're too mild mannered, too much of a nice guy, and also rather aloof.
But I can't copy someone What does Imran do, anyway? Does he go around whipping people, or lashing them into giving their best on the field? I think Imran is more aloof, and more insulated than anyone else

But Imran is looked upon as a God in Pakistani cricket. He has a big image. Anyone can give his life for him.
Well, Imran is a great cricketer, which is why they respect him But aren't we also accomplished?

But Imran is looked upon as a God in Pakistani cricket. He has a big image. Anyone can give his life for him.
Well, Imran is a great cricketer, which is why they respect him But aren't we also accomplished cricketers? Why should the team not have confidence in me? Why can't they give their life for me also? Well, if they cannot give their life for their captain, then they cannot give their life for their country too And that brings us back to the basic problem Lack of commitment And that's their problem. Not mine

How do you explain this phenomenon that everytime there is a disastrous tour, the Indian cricketers' patriotism is questioned, like you suggested?
I did not suggest anything It's all there for you to see and judge You see for yourself I have no further comment to make on this subject



Vinod Kambli: total flop

UTPAL SORKAR

Would you like to be retained as skipper in such uneasy circumstances?
If they select me again, I would not say no For deep down, my conscience is clear that even though I may have made some mistakes, which every human being can make, there was no lack of sincerity on my part There was no lack of commitment This, however, was not the case with many others

And you're talking about being like Imran? What does it mean, running to the players, rebuking them, using bad language and all? It does not make sense

It has been said by some eyewitnesses on this tour, that the defeats, the failures, were not upsetting the boys. No one was feeling hurt. Is that true?
That's right, and that's very bad

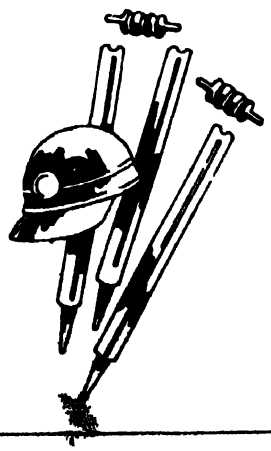
What went wrong with your batting?
I think I was going much too forward, and then when I realised what was wrong, I corrected it by playing more on the backfoot And that's how I got back my form

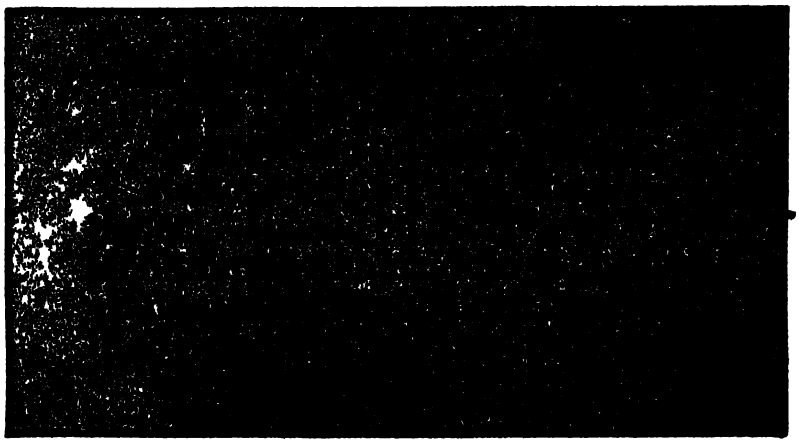
NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

INDIA IN AUSTRALIA ■ 16 NO

WHAT WENT WRO







Ravi Shastri is dismissed in one of India's WSC matches against West Indies: meek submission?

VEMBER '91—15 MARCH '92

KAMAL NUKA



By SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL and ROBIN CHATTERJEE

It seems as if all the glory of Indian cricket has suddenly vanished.

How it vanished, and what came to replace it, is a story not so much of villainy or greed—though in Indian cricket's age-old saga, there are potfuls of both—but more of changing times and changing men, of altered attitudes and lack of professionalism and honour.

Months ago, when, like the faint rumblings that herald an earthquake, India experienced its early discomfiture in Australia.The only bit of optimism we clung on to was that the failure must have been a temporary aberration.

Simply because, after a long time Indian cricket was now bestowed with a bunch of boys brimming with talent and youth and complemented with the maturity and experience of a number of seasoned veterans. Technically, there was nothing in the game this bunch could not do, and do brilliantly. In fact, so much was the concentration of talent in the country,that anyone who did not succeed early was likely to receive short shrift. So intense was the competition that quality was bound to emerge.

Against a backdrop like this, hope was imperishable.

Yet, five months later, now, the team has returned absolutely and totally humiliated in every department of the game. And it was indeed amazing, for on the one hand there was this profusion of talent, endorsed, acknowledged and praised by pundits and laymen alike, while on the other, there was this reality of India's crumbling glory. How do you reconcile the two? Talent and failure. Strength and meekness. Youth and surrender. Experience confounded in the simplest of situations.

How do you explain this distressing paradox?

It is impossible for anyone—pundit or layman—to claim that the guys who went Down Under did not represent the cream of India's cricketing talent. As Ashok Mankad pointed out, "except for one or two, no-one could make any changes in the current Indian side." There was no way one could complain that a better side could have been chosen.

Then, why the failure? Why the abject surrender? Why the repetitive, sickening sequence of mistakes made time after time?

Sportsworld's quest was to find an acceptable answer of this seemingly intractable paradox. To find those missing ingredients that should have been there but were not there to mould our talent to its logical destination: SUCCESS.

And in our search, which we undertook through a series of extensive interviews—some of which eventually turned into confessions—with a number of important participants in the Australian misadventure, we came across a number of major issues that brought about this unprecedented disaster.

MOTIVATION

"This is a national crisis that we Indians no longer want to fight for our honour, for success, for victory. This is evident in every walk of life, and this time cricket too was no exception"

MADHAV RAO SCINDIA, BCCI PRESIDENT

"No one was willing to go out of his way. No one even dived, to stop a boundary"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN, INDIAN CAPTAIN

"I have come back with this firm opinion that north Indians are better fighters than players from other parts of the country"

MANOJ PRABHAKAR

"Whenever India faced the crunch, there was a lack of involvement, commitment"

ABBAS ALI BAIG, INDIAN MANAGER

"Whoever came through the Khyber Pass have made it straight down to Kanyakumari," said former chairman of the selection committee, Raj Singh Dungarpur, in one of those pathetic moments in an Indian's life when national pride gives way to a demeaning sense of shame.

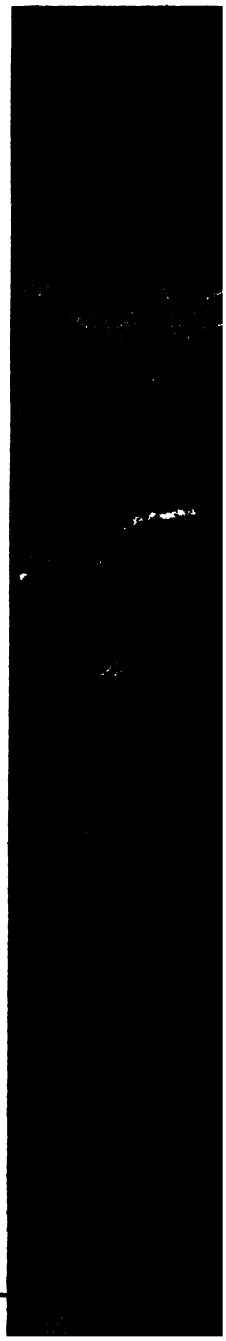
What Dungarpur meant, obviously was the characteristic, Indian unwillingness to fight for honour, something that was echoed in Madhav Rao Scindia's undiplomatic, apolitical, honest confession: "This is a national crisis that we Indians no longer want to fight for our honour, for success, for victory. This is evident in every walk of life, and this time cricket too was no exception. No one wanted to fight his heart out; there was a distinct lack of motivation, the will to win and commitment. Unfortunately, this is a trait of our national psyche. But never before was it so evident in the field of cricket as it had been in Australia."

And then comes the direct, unambiguous, and angry revelation from one of the few successful cricketers in Australia, Manoj Prabhakar: "There was no fighting spirit in the team. No involvement; we were just losing, losing, and losing, and no one sort of revolted, you know; no one got disgusted with the defeats, and vowed to turn around and fight really hard. I am happy, and, in fact, a little proud of myself that I tried my heart out. I fought, win or lose; I want to fight, and that was the spirit that was required. Kapil fought too, slogged like a horse at his age, always keen to succeed. To turn things around and win. That's an example. And I have come back with this firm opinion that north Indians are better fighters than players from other parts of the country. I hope I would not be misunderstood, because I am saying this from experience. And we should have more north Indians in the Indian team, for the country's sake, without bothering about the nonsense about regionalism and so on."

And without a doubt, this

(Right): Raj Singh Dungarpur: character is destiny

Srikkanth's ouste brings jubilation in the Pakistani camp: Azharuddin's wrong choice?



honest, whole hearted dedication to a cause, the awareness of the value of honour has its own rewards Like in the case of Manoj Prabhakar

Today Manoj Prabhakar is one of the few cricketers to have returned from Australia a completely happy man My conscience is clear I may not have emerged right on top of the list of highest wicket takers But I did well, which is what I had vowed to do before setting out for Australia And I gave my hundred per cent Not only for myself but the team So I m happy Very happy And I wish most of my teammates could return home with the same feeling of pride

Prabhakar is rightfully insinuating that mere talent is not enough—to be successful like he has, requires motivation, involvement and commitment also Mohammad Azharuddin for one would certainly agree with him 'What is this nonsense of talent potential and all that I have been hearing about, man? he asked disgustedly 'What s the use of having talent or potential whatever you may call it, if you don t have the ability and the urge to transform it into performance?I







UTPAL SONKAR

Saurav Ganguly: laid back

had been told that we have had talented players in all the major departments of the side Batting, bowling, fielding. But everywhere our performance has been bad, simply bad. Even if you give some grace marks to batting, and maybe bowling, then look at the fielding, where the attitude of the team is best reflected. Fielding was bad, very bad. People were not even willing to dive.

"Whether in Test matches or one-day cricket, there are situations when you can't just run and chase the ball to prevent runs. You have to dive. Just throw yourself into it. No one did it. So, where was the motivation? The mental urge? And if you don't have that,what's the use of talent? There should have been much more commitment than what we saw in Australia to make use of the talent."

This lack of motivation was particularly palpable when the crunch came. And manager Abbas Ali Baig did not mince words: "I won't say that the lack of motivation was there all the time But it definitely became very appallingly evident when the crunch came," he said "You may take things easy when the going is good, but in moments of crisis, the least one could expect of a professional cricketer at this level was a diehard, unrelenting attitude. But whenever India faced the crunch, there was a lack of involvement or commitment, whatever you may call it "

In other words, as admitted by the skipper, the manager and others, there was this reluctance to fight back, there was this crisis of character. And that inexorably takes us back to the Khyber Pass Syndrome, as Raj Singh Dungarpur so pathetically suggested, explaining, 'I must mention that there is something more than just talent which is required. More than just youth. There is something in the overall personality. If a guy has played around 30 Internationals, then he is no longer raw; he knows how to win matches. But then the important requisite is character, which only Sachin Tendulkar has shown. Gavaskar had it at a young age, but the rest don't have it."

The problem of attitude came into sharper focus when captain Azharuddin openly criticised the youngsters in the team for having the wrong temperament. He said the juniors did not have the will to win, neither did they show any inclination to learn from experience, or from their proximity to senior players. And some of them were even laid back.

Manager Abbas Ali Baig too made the same allegations.

Then there was this controversy, during the tour, about youngster, Saurav Ganguly being sent back unceremoniously after getting only

a semblance of an opportunity to prove himself Well, when one says semblance of an opportunity', one is immediately aware that it might trigger off a controversy, with a great many Saurav detractors taking up the cudgels in protest

But what was surprising was that even the Indian manager Abbas Ali someone who was party to the decision to send him back did concede that Saurav did not get enough opportunities And even regretted that Saurav had to be sent back And yet believe it or not, the soft spoken uncontroversial former cricketer was categorical in saying that Saurav s attitude was wrong

He was laid back Abbas Ali said His attitude was wrong He did not seem very eager to learn rather it seemed he preferred to live in his own world His fielding was bad his running between the wickets was suspect I don t think for a talented cricketer like him these are technical problems rather these are problems of the mind Saurav has to work very hard on these points

Captain Azharuddin was even more ruthless

Saurav just could not inspire any confidence in me as simple as that and that s why he was sent back Azhar said He looks talented yes Good batting technique But you know it s so difficult to explain I just could not bring myself to depend on him he just did not evoke any positive thinking in me The way he carried himself the way he did at the nets Altogether it never occurred to me that he could be useful That I could depend on him

Ironically enough when Mohammad Azharuddin talks about the general lack of motivation and commitment in his side, he almost inescapably drags himself into his own muddle of mediocre captaincy Doesn t he?



Kapil Dev: relentless aggression

CAPTAINCY

It is an accepted fact that as much as match strategy, motivating the players into a fighting force is usually the captain's responsibility

It may be true that every player must employ his own positive psychology in the application of his playing skill The good bowler must have more than pace, the spinner must aim for more than a little wavering in his trajectory; every one must reach his fullest potential and beyond For, more than the achievements of celebrated captains, the epic stories of cricket relate the sacrifices of lesser mortals who have won or saved many a battle after the great have fallen

Nevertheless, the captain's role in this game of chance and calculation is of enormous importance, especially in terms of man-management

And in this regard, when Azharuddin points a finger at others, denouncing their attitudes, doesn't it reflect sadly on his own competence—as captain?

I think we need a captain like Imran, said Manoj Prabhakar, a significant comment that in a way



Imran Khan: leadership personified

summed up the problem.

Imran Khan, yes. So rightly said. Everything this man does is marked by a natural grace, bearing an almost innate stamp of authority, confidence and reassurance. As he walks out to bat, or bowl or even field—six feet tall, lithe but with adequately wide shoulders—he almost immediately exudes authority, personifying the very concept of leadership.

And then once he is in the thick of the action, his sharp eye, his early assessment of the enemy and his own boys coupled with an uncanny sense of the intricacies of cricket, his inborn gift of timing, makes his accession to the throne automatic. It all works like a powerful catalyst performing the right chemistry.

Whether this chemistry happens in the Indian team is highly debatable.

Mohammad Azharuddin, the lean, athletic, epoch-making batting sensation of India was coronated as captain two years ago. And in the following years there were times when even experts seemed to have accepted his captaincy potential without question. Not that India conquered the world under Azhar's leadership, but, overall, the team and its young captain enjoyed smooth sail—so much so that his selection as skipper before every series, at home or abroad, became ridiculously routine.

And interestingly, even when Azharuddin's own batting went awry, his status as the leader remained almost sacrosanct, even though his selection to the team itself was not above controversy.

One remembers asking a celebrated former Indian skipper just before the Aussie tour whether Azharuddin's election as captain should be automatic. His answer was a confident yes, of course. There can be no doubt about it.

And then five months later, now, Manoj Prabhakar says, "Azhar is too mild-mannered a person. He's a nice guy, no doubt, but he can't impose his authority on the team strongly enough."

Almost as if to clarify Prabhakar's honest statement

"I think Azharuddin is being made a scapegoat. He alone should not be blamed for the team's total failure"

MADHAV RAO SCINDIA

"I always tried to be as close to the players as possible. I gave them advice, tried to resolve their problems, instructed them on various strategies. So, I should have no problems regarding man-management"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

"There is one major negative point in Azhar's captaincy style. He believes all the players in the side should motivate themselves to give their best"

ABBAS ALI BAIG

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

manager Abbas Ali explains 'There is one major negative point in Azhar's captaincy style That is, he believes all the players in the side can take care of themselves Playing at the very top level of cricket, he thinks all the boys should be able to motivate themselves to give their best They should realise their responsibilities well enough, their accountability to the nation Not necessarily should the captain have to go around goading them and pushing them like a slave driver Everyone is entitled to his own philosophy but I'm not sure whether this theory works in cricket

Mohammad Azharuddin is, indeed, a perfect gentleman, which is why he entertained all the embarrassing questions that were put before him Without offering any excuses to evade the criticisms, he candidly defended his captaincy style, saying, 'I know what I did I have tried my best always to be as close to the players as possible. I gave them advice, tried to resolve their problems, instructed them on various strategies I'm always a very easy open and simple guy So, I should have no problems regarding man-management So, what do they mean by being like Imran? Does it mean keep a boss like air about oneself, going to players on the field rebuking someone or using bad language when one makes mistakes? I think I've looked after my boys well, and I always thought I was quite popular with them So if the Pakistanis can give their life for Imran, as you are saying why can't the Indians give their life for me? And if they can't, then that's their problem, not mine After all they are not playing for me, they are playing for the country

Azharuddin's image as skipper, however, suffered a severe dent when the Ravi Shastri controversy broke Azharuddin's authority over the boys, and his decision-making ability faced a crisis

THE RAVI SHASTRI CONTROVERSY



Ravi Shastri's popularity rating nose-dived, but did he deserve such shabby treatment?

THAT vice captain Ravi Shastri was not quite fit to play after his return from India was all too palpable. Even to those who watched him play thousand of miles away on TV Azhar's problem was he persisted with Ravi Shastri even though it was against his convictions. "What could I do? The doctors in Bombay said he was fit; he himself said he was fit, and he's a senior player. What could I have done in such a situation?"

In fact, the situation eventually came to such a pass that midway through,manager Abbas Ali Baig and Azharuddin decided to dissolve the tour selection committee, of which Shastri himself was an important member.

Abbas Ali says this was done because the situation had become too "delicate", and Azhar says it was quite a sensible thing to do for smooth decision-making and avoid any problems or embarrassment.

Ravi Shastri was subsequently dropped midway through the Cup.

Whether Azharuddin wanted to drop Shastri even earlier, but could not take a tough decision against his lieutenant will never be known for sure. But what threw some interesting light on the "delicate" situation was Manoj Prabhakar's candid comment, "Azhar cannot call a spade a spade. Ravi Shastri's fitness was definitely suspect."

Whatever the problem, the issue may have been forgotten, or not even become a controversy, had Shastri not played so slowly and aimlessly against Australia. When Shastri was asked why he scored so slowly, he told David McMahon of *The Melbourne Age*, "no one gave me instructions to the contrary during the game" That seems a little naive, for Shastri has enough experience to know what is required of him in different situations. Had we won that Australia match, he may well have been kept in the side. The fact is we didn't win, and it reflects poorly on both Azhar's inability to exert authority and Shastri's penchant for indulging himself even though he probably knew he wasn't fit.

Ravi Shastri refused to speak to Sportsworld

"What could I do? The doctors in Bombay said he was fit; he himself said he was fit and he's a senior player"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

"Azhar is too mild-mannered a person. He cannot call a spade a spade.
Ravi Shastri's fitness was definitely suspect"

MANOJ PRABHAKAR

In fact, the situation eventually came to such a pass that midway through the tournament manager Abbas Ali Baig and captain Azharuddin decided to dissolve the tour selection committee, of which Shastri himself was an important member

FIELDING/PROFESSIONALISM

FOR that matter, was the general fitness standard of a large section of the team suspect too? Else, how does one explain skipper Azharuddin's downright condemnation of the Indian fielding as "bad, poor and unpardonable."

Azhar said quite a number of players were not even forthcoming to dive on the field to take a catch save a boundary. "If your reflexes are good, you cannot just let a ball go by just like that. You will automatically find yourself springing towards it, but of course, that is if you have the involvement in the game, if you have enough commitment."

There is this interesting, somewhat ironical episode told by the former chairman of the selection committee, Raj Singh Dungarpur. During one of India's recent tours he had to go around telling all the players that the laundry bills for their dirtied flannel would be picked up by him personally. Raj Singh had to say this to stimulate his boys to greater, whole-hearted, hundred per cent commitment during fielding because he had noticed that the boys were not exerting themselves as if worried not to spoil their outfits. Raj Singh perhaps would have done well if he had given this useful tip to the beleaguered Indian manger Abbas Ali.

Perhaps, as far as the issue of fitness is concerned, no one could be in a better position to judge than Kapil Dev, the man whose unwavering professionalism has now become cricket's most enduring legend.

"That ideal of high professionalism must be there in everyone, you know, the feeling that one must not be looked upon as a liability on the field. And more than batting or bowling, fielding lapses really make you look like a fool. I'd never expect that proud, young self-conscious youngsters of today would subject themselves to such a humiliation. But sadly, it happens."

Anyone who knows Kapil well will realise that these are not empty words. As a cricketer, he always strives to keep himself at the very apex of his physical prowess. Obviously, he does not want to look like a fool, and once again in Australia he did indeed emerge a hero. And understandably to a man like him, the fielding lapses were hurtful.

"It indeed is very disappointing to see such things. It does affect the morale. Whenever those who are good and fit see others mess things up on the field, they give up hope, and eventually it affects their performances too."

Ironically enough, the Indian fielding lapses seem to have pained the veterans and former cricketing stars of the country more than the younger ones. Even Sunil Gavaskar found his experience Down Under distressing, and almost sought consolation from the Pakistani fielding excellence.

"The Pakistanis set a glorious example for everyone especially us Indians to emulate. Their teamwork, gradually improving fielding standards, showed that if



you are essentially fit, you may recover your lost ground quickly, especially when you smell victory close by. Imran and his boys were fit from the very beginning. But temporarily they could not put it to use. But once they broke loose, they just wreaked havoc on everyone. That's what happens when the basic strength and athleticism is there," opined Sunil Gavaskar.

Perhaps the Indian players could have done better on the field if they had been willing to learn from better examples.

The presence of so much youth in the Indian team should surely have given India an edge on many fronts, apart from just fielding. Sadly, the youth were more in the doledrums than the veterans some of whom did not even merit selection. And the prime example of that is the failure of the Kambli-Saurav Ganguly duo, the two names that generated a lot of hope, but only in vain, highlighting so symbolically the negative, disappointing aspects of the Indian tour.

The Indian players along with manager Abbas Ali Baig fan out for a practice session: failing reflexes?



"If your reflexes are good, you cannot just let a ball go by just like that. You will automatically find yourself springing towards it"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

"That ideal of high professionalism must be there in everyone, you know, the feeling that one must not be looked upon as a liability on the field "

KAPIL DEV

There is this interesting, somewhat ironical, episode told by the former chairman of the Selection Committee, Raj Singh Dungarpur that during one of India's recent tours he had to tell all the players that the laundry bills for their dirtied flannel would be picked up by him personally

SAURAV GANGULY/ VINOD KAMBLI



Saurav Ganguly: no confidence
Vinod Kambli (right): a big head?

"Saurav and Kambli—same thing, almost parallel cases," said captain Azharuddin. I heard Saurav Ganguly was such a talented cricketer but he just could not inspire any confidence in me. Then I tried another cricketer, Kambli, whom everyone was describing as a sensational batsman. Now, look what happened."

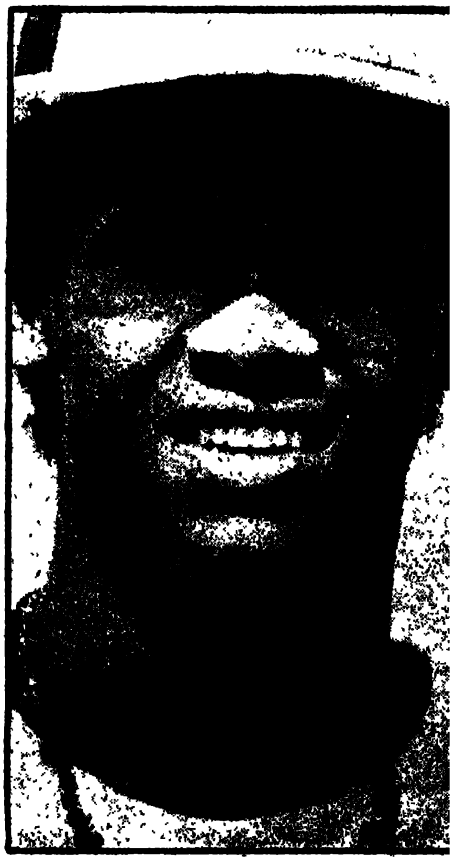
And sadly, far from being of any use to the team, Kambli seemed to have left some unpleasant impressions on teammates, who thought he overestimates himself.

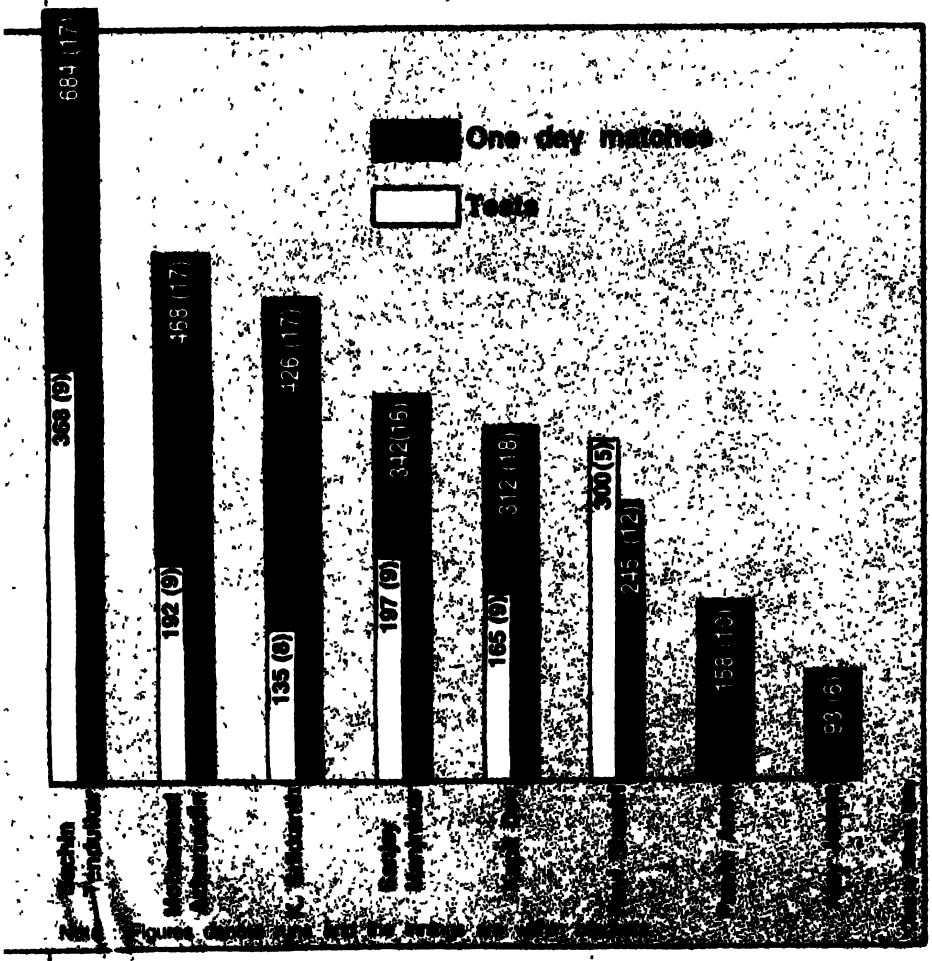
"Kambli has got such a big head, my god. He has to be more patient. You cannot think yourself to be a superstar, when you're just loitering around the wings. You have to perform and then fancy yourself as a big time guy. And he is so fun loving, it seems more than the cricket field, he would prefer a discotheque," laughs Manoj Prabhakar.

So the question remains whether the replacement of Saurav and induction of Kambli yielded any concrete results.

Well, in the opinion of skipper Azharuddin, 'no' according to Manoj Prabhakar, 'Saurav is a very talented batsman and could have been of much greater use, and by Abbas Ali Baig's own admission, "Saurav should have got some more opportunities to prove his talent."

"But you know, it happens. Bad luck sheer bad luck. Circumstances were such that we had to make some experiments, take chances, shuffle around players for better results," said Baig.





BATTING

EVEN though the failure of Saurav and Kambli in a way symbolised the inexplicable stagnation of the new generation batting talent of India, it cannot be denied that among the youth there are quite a few dashing strokemakers willing to tilt at all the bowlers of the world. Some of them are quite stylish and aggressive, but, sadly, except Sachin Tendulkar, their belligerence never really came to the fore. And coupled with it was the problem of the veterans' total failure. "There was no doubt that India's batting depth was not quite negligible, but I think the ability to put up with pressure has to be improved," said Sunil Gavaskar.

Perhaps, the only name that was for some time being uttered in the same breath as Sachin Tendulkar was Sanjay Manjrekar. Together they symbolised India's batting resurgence. But Manjrekar's indifferent performances on the tour indeed blunted the edge of the Indian attack. So, significantly Ian Chappell said that Manjrekar could not handle the rising ball and was failing to hook them properly. This was mainly because of his habit of playing on Indian wickets where there is little bounce. Australia proved a different proposition for Manjrekar, which he could not adapt himself to.

And to make matters worse, the persistence with the forgotten soldiers like Dilip Vengsarkar, Krishnamachari Srikkanth, yielded little results.

"Well, these guys are very experienced and I didn't think that their days were over yet," said Azharuddin defending his decision to persist with them.

"Look at Srikkanth's one day record. How can you ignore such a player. And during the tour there was always this possibility that he will burst into his original form. So Srikkanth was not quite supposed to be a liability. And that's true about Dilip too. You got to depend on some of your experienced players also. And I don't blame

"There was something wrong with my approach. Technically speaking, I was going too much on the front foot, and too early. It took me a little too long to realise this"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

"Kambli has got such a big head. He has to be more patient. And he is so fun-loving, it seems more than the cricket field, he would prefer a disco"

MANOJ PRABHAKAR

"Well, these guys (Vengsarkar and Srikkanth) are very experienced and I didn't think that their days were over yet"

MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN

World Cup Ready Reckoner

WORLD SERIES CUP/WORLD CUP COMBINED AVERAGES

INDIAN BATTING

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Avge	HS	C	F
Sachin Tendulkar	18	17	2	684*	45 60	84	—	7
Mohd Azharuddin	18	17	2	468	31.12	93	—	4
Krish Srikkanth	17	17	1	426	26 62	82	—	3
Subroto Banerjee	5	5	3	49	24 50	25*	—	—
Kapil Dev	18	18	5	312	24 00	42	—	—
Ajay Jadeja	6	5	1	93	23.25	46	—	—
Sanjay Manjrekar	16	16	0	342	21 37	57	—	2
Ravi Shastri	12	12	0	245	20.41	61	—	2
Praveen Amre	12	10	1	158	17 55	33	—	—
Kiran More	14	9	3	76	12.66	20	—	—
Jawagal Srinath	18	12	6	49	8 16	11	—	
Vinod Kambli	5	4	0	29	7 25	24	—	—
Manoj Prabhakar	18	12	2	70	7 00	17	—	—
Venkatpathy Raju	10	5	2	18	6.00	8	—	—

INDIAN BOWLING

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Prabhakar (17)	143 1	10	560	24	23 33	3 31
Kapil Dev (17)	146	19	526	18	29.22	4-54
Srinath (17)	139 1	11	558	19	29 36	2-23
Shastri (9)	69.5	2	283	9	31.44	5 15
Venkat Raju (10)	84	5	351	11	31 90	3 32
Banerjee (5)	37	4	182	5	36 40	3-30
Hirwani (3)	24	0	122	3	40.66	2 34
Tendulkar (16)	78.5	1	332	4	83.00	1-5

Note Figures within brackets indicate the number of matches in which the bowler bowled.

Indian Run Out Dismissals

WORLD SERIES CUP

WI	Aus	Aus	WI	Aus	WI	Aus	WI	Aus	Aus	Total/ Matches
3	1	1	—	3	1	2	—	2	1	=14/10

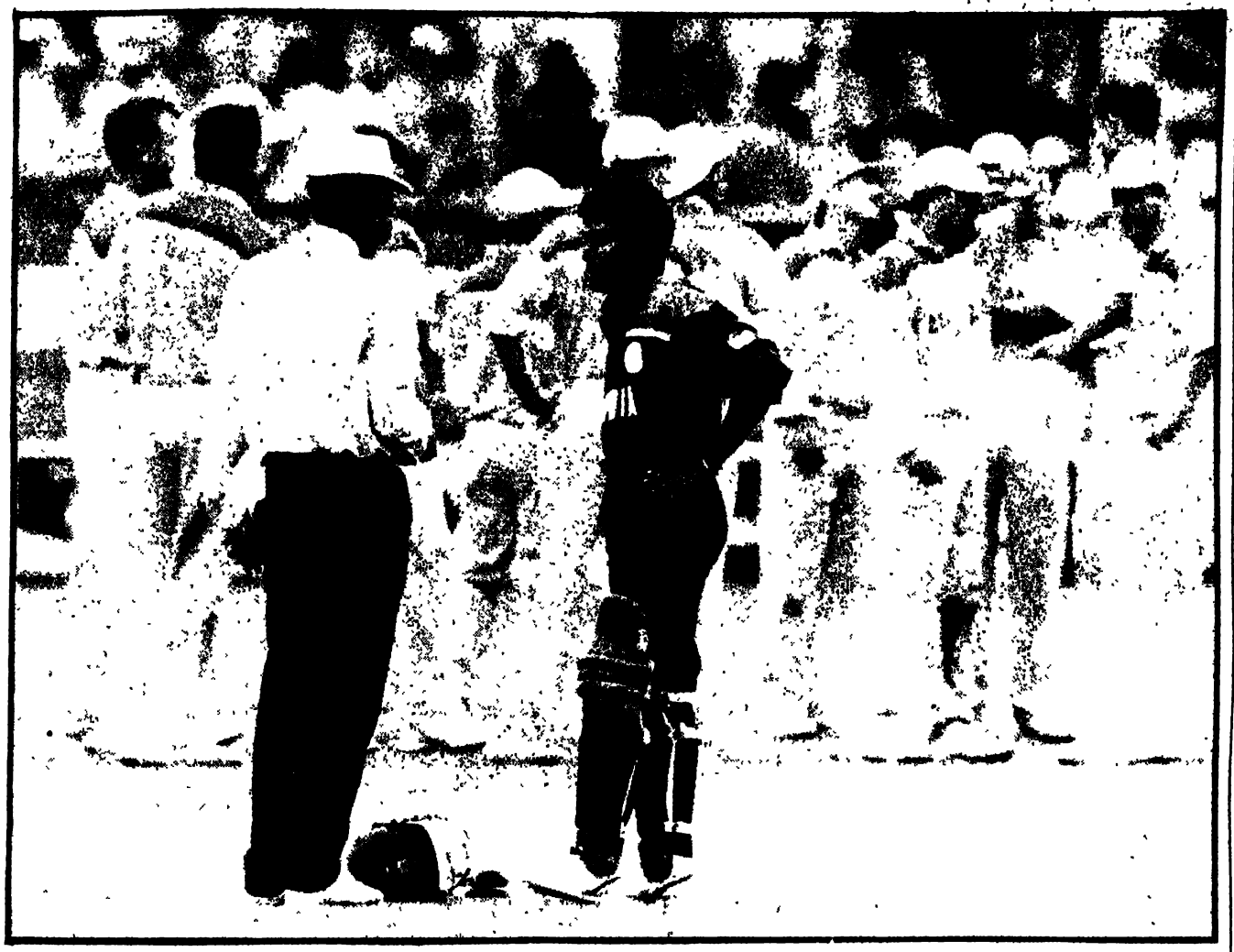
WORLD CUP

Eng	SL	Aus	Pak	Zim	WI	NZ	SA	Total/ Matches
4	—	4	1	—	2	—	1	=12/8

Players Most Times Run Out

	WS Cup	World Cup	Total
Amre	1	1	2
Prabhakar	4	1	5
Srinath	3	1	4
Manjrekar	3	2	5
Tendulkar	1	—	1
Shastri	1	1	2
More	—	2	2
Azharuddin	—	1	1
Venkat Raju	—	2	2
Kambli	—	1	1
Kapil	1	—	1
	14	12	26

RAVI KANT SRIVASTAVA



Sanjay Manjrekar: one missed opportunity to enhance his reputation

myself for counting so much on Srikkanth. He always had the possibility of clicking," explained Azhar.

But Srikkanth's failure did evoke bitter reactions from many, including a veteran like Raj Singh Dungarpur who thought his inclusion was a mere gamble that should not have been there at all.

"Unless he really got into some incredible form, it was really difficult for him to put up with the pressure. He is a creature of reflexes. So, age is a problem with such players."

Even worse, India had all along been struggling to sort out its problems regarding the opening partnership, where Ravi Shastri and Srikkanth did not prove as dependable as before. And Azhar says, "In the beginning I did not have any headache about the opening pair, but after Ravi Shastri was injured and Srikkanth's consistency was lacking, I tried to resolve this opening problem. Maybe I could have done some experiments, but then you would have called it a gamble and then later criticised me."

In fact, the issue of India's batting indifference brings Azhar's own performance and lack of form into sharp focus, and the skipper so candidly admitted the technical flaw he had developed of late much to his side's discomfiture.

"There was something wrong in my approach. Technically speaking, I was going too much on the front foot, and too early. It took me a little too long to realise this mistake, and that's the pity of it all. But once I realised it and changed my stance and style a little, going back on the backfoot more often, my form returned. It was a great relief." Pity, a trifle too late.

Pity, despite having such a rich reservoir of talent, India faced its worst cricketing crisis in years. Pity, that a young, talented,friendly person like Azharuddin could not evoke enough confidence in his boys.

True, this country has a long history of letting the conquerors of Khyber Pass push their genocide right down to Kanyakumari. But cricket, as an exception, had a long glorious heritage of world-beating excellence. Sadly, now all that glory seems to have suddenly vanished—for reasons that sometimes bordered on the ludicrous, and smacked of rank amateurism. ●

Voices

We should have gone home rather than stayed out here The tour has been going on for three months It's a long time, the longest tour I've ever been in But we know the choice. You either look after the family or play cricket You can't do both
AZHARUDDIN believes that after the Test Series the team should have come back to India for a rest.



He (Prabhakar) always gives more than 100% and that is because he had to struggle to establish himself in the Indian eleven He thus values his place in the team and does not take the Indian cap lightly. He is the kind of cricketer every captain dreams of having in the team
SUNIL GAVASKAR pays tribute to the lion-hearted Prabhakar.

All I can say is that I'm glad I'll be gone by the time he (Tendulkar) hits top gear
Even ALLAN BORDER seems mighty impressed by Sachin Tendulkar.

I thought we had a very good side I am very disappointed We kept repeating the same mistakes The younger players disappointed me, I thought they would be keener,but they were not upto the mark
AZHARUDDIN after India was eliminated from the World Cup. One thing's for sure, he's not the only one who's disappointed.

The approach to practice sessions leaves a lot to be desired The fielding sessions are still of 1947-48 vintage where a fielder has to wait as long as five minutes to get a catch Contrast this with the Australian fielding sessions where every fielder is constantly on his toes
SUNIL GAVASKAR after the first Test. But then no one paid any heed to his words.

We always begin badly We lost the first Test in the West Indies, England and New Zealand, but then came back strongly
The captain still had some hope after the first Test. But AZHARUDDIN's prophecy never came true.

I am lacking confidence, I don't want the ball and I don't want to bowl
RAVI SHASTRI at the onset of the WSC tournament.

It is not a brilliant side, but it is a good side which has the potential to become an outstanding one. The winning habit has to be cultivated. Else it becomes a game of pure chance
RICHIE BENAUD sums up the Indian team.

The boys need a re-orientation programme on the basics of the game, they have to be reminded about this Our fielding is pathetic and we run between the wickets like novices We play in fits and starts and lack the consistency that is so vital in a tournament like the World Cup

Despite the poor showing, the morale of the boys is pretty high and they are determined to fight all the way
ABBAS ALI BAIG, the Indian manager, before the World Cup.

The most decisive factor that went against us was the lack of mental strength We crumbled at the slightest pressure not only during the Test series but also during the triangular series and the World Cup We lacked that combative nature and killer instinct Perhaps the tour was too long, the true potential was never realised and the performance never matched the inherent talent
SYED KIRMANI analyses the reasons behind India's dismal failure in Australia.





The team could not settle down We did not even have a proper opening pair. We kept experimenting till the end The fourth seamer also failed to deliver the goods. Our boys did not even play according to their ability. The fielding was very poor and it showed

CHETAN CHAUHAN voices his opinions on the tour and why we fared so badly.

There is no doubt that India has suffered because it did not have a stable captain Of course I would be happy to be in charge of a side like India which has



great talent although I don't know if I could lead them to success But I don't blame Azharuddin. He's not been given enough time

IMRAN KHAN on why India could not live up to expectations.



To keep in tune with the rest of the cricket world the BCCI in India should encourage its member associations to prepare pitches with good bounce and pace After playing on slow wickets our technique was exposed on the faster ones. This is the only way our standard can improve.

DILIP VENGSARKAR offers some solutions to the problems pertaining to Indian cricket. One of the reasons attributed to the poor performance was that the Indians were not used to the bouncy pitches in Australia and New Zealand.



There is no excuse for this kind of performance We were truely outplayed The Indians need to learn from their neighbours that it is the fighting spirit that counts This indicates that mentally we are not tuned and the leadership is unimaginative specially at cruch times

SANDEEP PATIL on the Indian debacle Down Under.



I have not had a drink for so many days Today I can enjoy the champagne I wish Sunil and I can enjoy the world records at the same time These are great achievements for the Indian bowlers because we had no fast bowlers and because of that we had no experience of playing fast bowling That makes Sunil's and perhaps my achievements greater, I wish I can get to 432 before Allan Border gets to 10,123 That will make Indians proud

KAPIL DEV after he took his 400th Test wicket.

There was no discussion at all on this subject. Azharuddin was appointed captain for the Australian tour and the World Cup

NAREN TAMHANE on a possible change in captaincy before the World Cup.

He has really played well and I am very pleased There has been a lot of pressure on him, everyone was looking at him to perform well, and he has thrived on that. He is doing all the hard work for the other batsmen.

AZHARUDDIN on Tendulkar's consistent batting. ●

INDIAN CAPTAINS NEED FULL SUPPORT

BY M.A.K. PATAUDI

DILIP VENGSARKAR, now retired, will be bracketed with the many other distinguished Bombay cricketers who have been moulded and sent forth to do battle by a pretty tough system. It is about the only sports system in the country, in which theory is fully backed by practical preparation. Bombay produces some tough cricketers, as well as some selfish ones, and since personal interest and team interest rarely clash in Test matches (they do more often in a 50-over game) Bombay will continue to feed good and great players into the system.

To a great extent, Bombay is to Indian cricket what the counties are to English cricket, except that the high humidity, the enervating heat and flat wickets will discourage bowlers especially of the faster kind. Also, as Azharuddin will agree, captaining some of Bombay's cricketers, who consider themselves to be members of an exclusive club (and why not), demand that the captain earn their respect and this need not always be a rewarding experience. (The latest example of this togetherness, is Ashok Mankad's generous disclosure that he would sell the Gateway

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Azhar is a democratic captain, and if he has to be firm, the manager and Board must support him

of India to have Shastri in his team. This is, of course, easy enough to say since to the best of my knowledge neither does Ashok own a team nor the Gateway.)

During the fiasco in Australia, Abbas Ali Baig had to scrap the tour selection committee, and speak separately to the captain and vice-captain before choosing the team. One therefore presumes that Azharuddin and Shastri were at best on formal talking terms, and that instead of sidelining the problem by sidelining the player, Azharuddin preferred to close his eyes and maintain a facade. Perhaps this is a bit unfair, but this was the clear impression one got in a lengthy interview with the manager

Nowhere in India or Pakistan is the competition quite as fierce as in Bombay, be it school, college or club cricket The difference, just for the record, between the Qaid-e Azam and the Ranji Trophy is that if Vengsarkar can get 250 in the latter, I can get to a similar score in the former, providing of course that the Test players are somewhere far away

How come then, that Pakistan won this World Cup without Waqar Younis, and for all intents and purpose without



Salim Malik, when India fell so ignominiously? Well, for starters, count the number of Pakistani players who are presently playing, or in the recent past played the county circuit in England (this is still the toughest professional circuit in the game) and compare this figure with those from India. The Pakistan captain not only picks talented youngsters from the maidans of Lahore, Karachi etc., and not only does he induct them into the national side, he also ensures that they get every opportunity to play first class cricket in England. Apart from a few exceptions, the Indians have traditionally gone for the Lancashire or the lesser leagues, where the standard is

Mankad says he would sell the Gateway of India to keep Shastri in his team. Problem is, neither does he own a team nor the Gateway of India





Imran believes in one man-five posts: captain, selector, coach, guide, philosopher



lower and the commitments less demanding.

I am not even convinced that the North England leagues are helpful to those aspiring to play at the highest level. The wickets tends to be poor which deflates the batting averages and inflate the bowling figures. I have yet to come across a top class batsman who had learnt his art on bad wickets or is fascinated by the idea of playing on them. You will recall Bradman's words when he was out cheaply on a wet turner: "Do you expect Lindrum (the great Australian billiards player) to play on a bad table?"

In Pakistan, Islam which is meant to be a truly democratic religion prevails (never mind how the Kings, Sheiks, Shahs and sundry dictators interpret it) but the country is even more feudal than the most backward areas of Rajasthan and capitalism is not a dirty word. In India, there is a strong democratic element at the fore which is why an Azharuddin will captain by consensus and an Imran Khan will believe in one man-five posts and demand personal loyalty, the hallmark of feudalism. These posts are captain, selector, coach, guide, and philosopher. Only yesterday the two neighbours were one, and there really is not a great deal of difference in the character of those who inhabit the two countries.

Yet one would not like Indian captains to be tyrants, but one would like them to deal with any lack of cooperation with a heavy hand no matter where the opposition comes from, and for this the full support of the manager and the Board is a must. ●

POINTING THE WAY

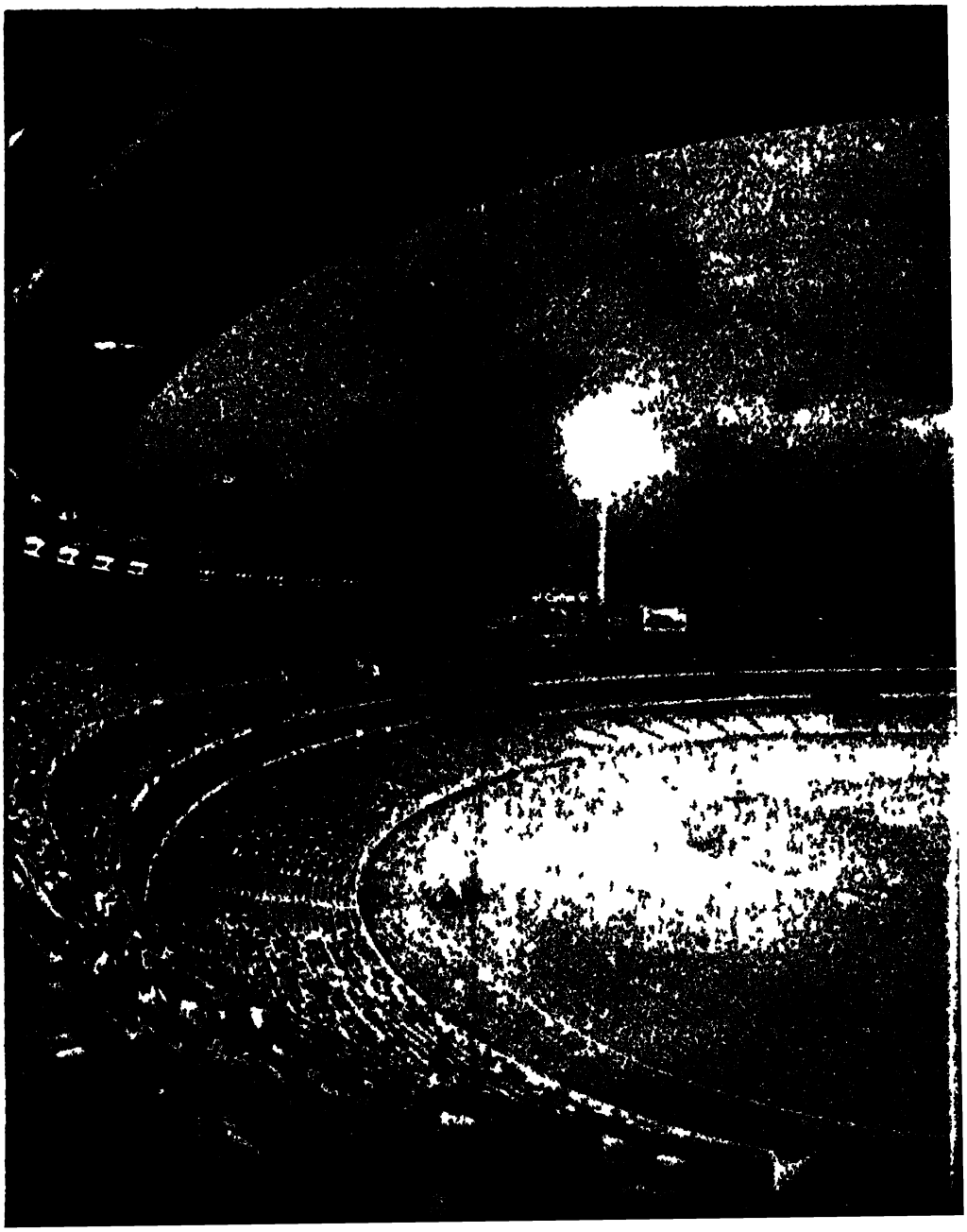
GUEST COLUMN



BY ARUN LAL

A frank assessment of what ails Indian cricket and what can be done to rectify the situation

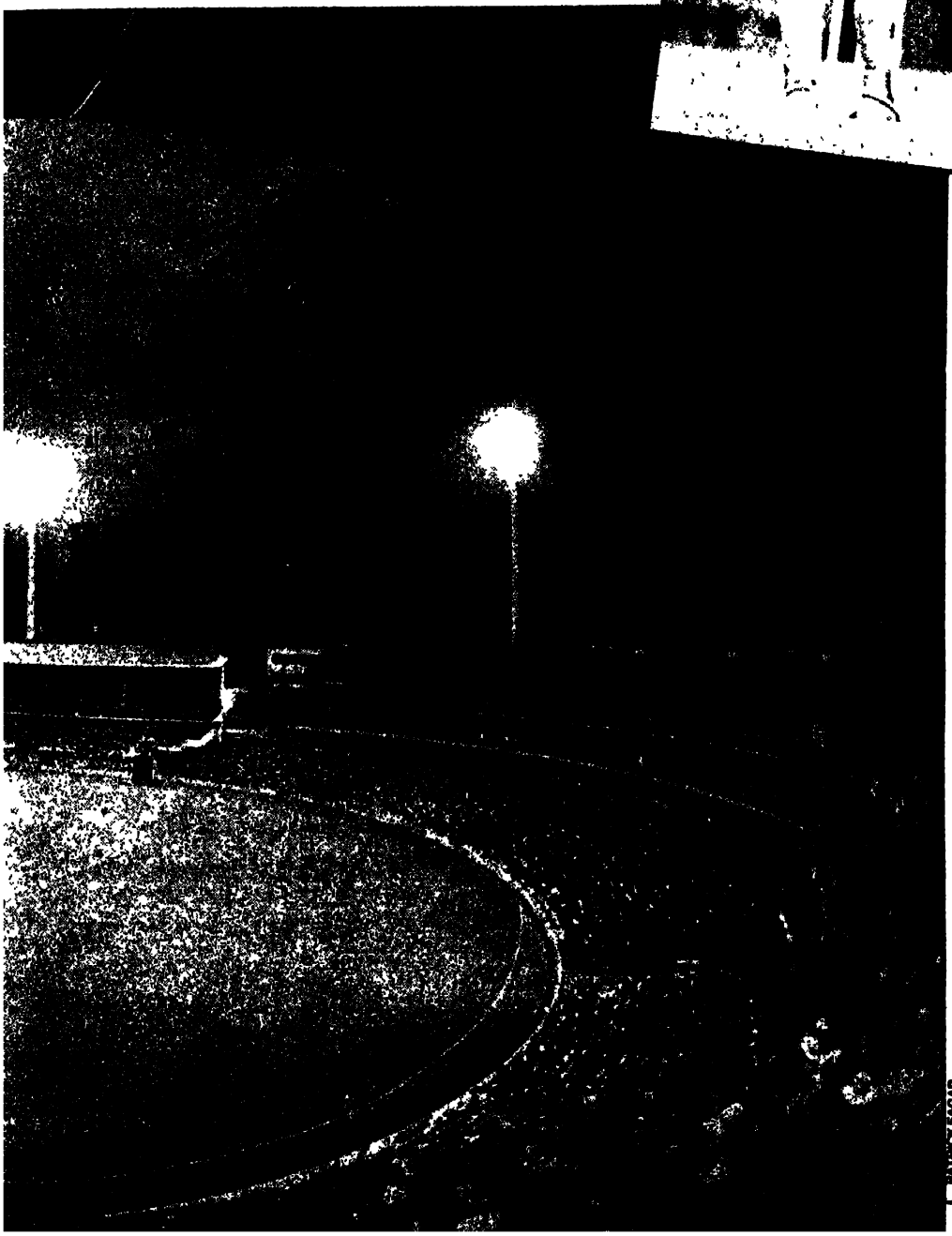
OUR cricket, and team is poised at a rather delicate juncture We appear to have hit an exasperating lack of form which is reflected in our poor showing in Australia We the people and all concerned have to view this situation with maturity and not let our frustrations dictate our



actions.

Many of us would be tempted to view our lack of performance rather simplistically and want to chop and change the the team radically. It would be rather self defeating, and it is fortunate that India does not have any international engagements in the immediate future, otherwise the axe may have fallen on many in the team. This is a time for introspection and we have to assess our weaknesses with maturity and try to come up with solutions.

Although a lot is being said about our lack of success in Australia, even the most diehard Indian fans did not really expect an Indian victory in the Test series. I suppose what has shocked many is the failure of our batting. The crux of the matter lies in our own attitudes.





PATRICK EAGAR

Whatever the occasion, wherever the ground, India failed. Only Tendulkar (inset) consistently keeping some honour intact

None of us, the Board included, was actually prepared for the Australian tour. The Board, or the factions in the Board, were falling all over each other in order to cram in the South African tour at any cost. The idea was to win laurels and fame as administrators. Consequently, the Australian tour was pushed back by a fortnight and the hurried South African tour accommodated without a thought for the players, or to their mental and physical preparation for this long and arduous tour. So much so, that the team had to leave after the match at Delhi without even time enough for their laundry. This just goes to show just how much the Board



thought about the success of the Indian team in Australia.

The selection too deserves mention. There were some glaring omissions and the team was not even balanced. This was exemplified by the fact that when opener Navjot Singh Sidhu was injured, his replacement was legspinner Narendra Hirwani. I think that speaks volumes for the attitude of the selectors. It appears that here too, an Indian victory, which should be of prime importance, took the back seat. Though the selection in our country is a thankless job, it is also a job devoid of any responsibility. Why is it that when the team loses, only the players are held responsible.

Another major flaw in our system is that the selectors are not independent of the Board, and every selector is answerable to the man in power in his region. This in effect means that the powers in the Board are in a position, if need be, to dictate who should be in the team and who should be the captain. For example, after the West Indies tour and later when the ban was lifted, Srikkanth was the surprise choice as captain as he was not among the banned players. This brings out quite clearly, the fact, that at that stage too, an Indian victory was not of prime consideration, as it is quite apparent that had the players not been banned, the captain may well have been someone else.

Moreover, at any one time, there are at least three Indian captains playing in the team. In fact, in Australia, there were five—Kapil, Vengsarkar, Shastri, Srikkanth and Azhar. The selection of the captain is not only dictated by leadership qualities, knowledge of the game, personal form and talent etc but also as I have explained, by the convenience factor.

The vagaries of selection, the frequent changes in leadership and the practice of a different manager for each series contribute to lack of continuity and consequently an insecurity bordering on almost a fear psychosis in the team. This is reflected in an attitude problem amongst the Indian players. Here too the prime consideration is not an Indian victory, but self perpetuation. One can argue that the two may be the same, as to perpetuate yourself you have to do well, and if you do well the team will win. Let me say the two are not the same. Unless you play to win you cannot bring off your best, and the only way a team can perform to its potential, is if all its members have the same goal, without regard to personal statistics. It is here that the role of

FROM APRIL 23rd WE ASK THE QUESTIONS. ANNOUNCING THE SPORTSWORLD

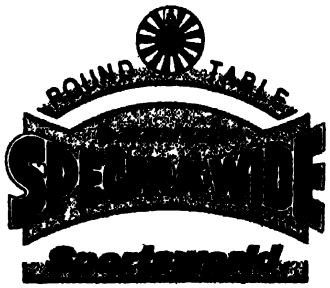


ROUND TABLE QUIZ FOR THE DUNLOP SPECTRA-WIDE

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Kambli , talented but eccentric, would do well to apply himself like Amre

captain can be of enormous importance He has to motivate his team into a fighting unit Azhar s statement that they are all playing for their country and therefore need no motivation is close to being naive and I am sure that he is also aware of this attitude problem in his team

Another contributory factor towards an insecurity among cricketers is the huge gulf in remuneration between domestic and international cricket in fact domestic cricket pays next to nothing It is therefore important to raise the remuneration



SUKHLBHATTACHARYA

level of the domestic competition, so that cricket even at this level can be a viable career and playing for India is not a make or break situation financially

It is time for all concerned to join hands and work together towards ensuring India s success in future If that means increase in the remuneration of domestic cricket or continuity in captaincy and managership or not playing too much cricket to avoid getting stale or ensuring the independence of a selection committee then so be it

It has not been my intention to criticise but to assess certain key problems and help in the beginning by pointing in the right direction ●

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2 _____ 3 _____

_____ 4 _____ (SIGNATURE) (SIGNATURE AND SEAL OF HEAD OF INSTITUTION)

THE TOUG GOING...

"WHEN the going gets tough, the tough get going", was the apt, pithy comment by victorious skipper Kirti Azad after Delhi's victory in the Charminar Challenge Ranji Trophy final. The difference between the contestants, Delhi and Tamil Nadu was mental toughness and application. In years to come when cricket historians review this final, they will conclude that these two factors made the difference.

Thrice in the match, Tamil Nadu had Delhi dangling by the rope. All skipper W.V. Raman needed was a hangman to tighten the noose. But like the proverbial slippery eel, Delhi evaded each crisis with grit and determination and of course a modicum of luck to win on a first innings lead. This was Delhi's sixth Ranji win in twelve entries in the final. That Delhi has reached the Ranji final a dozen times in the last fifteen years speaks volumes of Ranji final at the Kotla stadium. That was way back in 1976-77 when Bishen Bedi's men were eclipsed by Bombay. Since then Delhi has played in five Ranji finals at home and won all. Two finals were won on first innings lead and three outright. Kirti is the fourth Delhi skipper to win the Ranji Trophy. The other successful skippers were Bishen Bedi 1978-79 and 1979-80, Mohinder Amarnath 1981-82 and S. Madanlal in 1985-86 and 1988-89.

However, Tamil Nadu's young team will always remember this final as what might have been. Just



Ajay Sharma scored a commanding 175 in the final

H GET

Three times in the final, Tamil Nadu had Delhi dangling by the rope. But by keeping calm and playing determinedly, Delhi managed to become the champions once again

prior to lunch on the second day Delhi s aspirations for a massive first innings total had seemingly nosedived They were struggling at 305 for 7 Amongst the recognised batsmen only Ajay Sharma was at the crease on 70

Delhi s policy on winning the toss was to block block at the foot of the crease and grind their way to a six hundred plus score by the third day But spirited use of the new ball by medium pacer Diwakar Vasu had given Kirti and his team some nervous tension in the dressing room One more wicket and Delhi would have been reeling The chance came upon Ajay Sharma on 84 slashed at lanky leftarm spinner Sunil Subramanium but Raman at slip spilled the chance on his favourite left hand Probably affected by this lapse Raman s concentration wavered Then Tamil Nadu forgot to rotate the attack Off spinners Aashish Kapoor and M Venkatramana were both under bowled Robin Singh did not help the Tamil Nadu cause as he bowled 25 no balls a record of sorts in domestic cricket Ajay and Razdan thrived on these lapses and notched up an impressive 206 runs for the eighth wicket It was just 30 runs away from the Ranji Trophy record of 236 set by C T Sarwate and R P Singh for Holkar vs Delhi in 1947 As Delhi s decisive first innings lead was just 83 runs this partnership was vital After the 8th wicket fell at 511 the remaining two wickets fell for just 21 more runs So in retrospect it is obvious that the Ajay Sharma and Razdan partnership swang the match Delhi's way

Another crisis point for Delhi was when Raman and hard hitting V B Chandrasekhar were plundering the Delhi attack The pugnacious opener s thundering straight drive was reminiscent of Gordon Greenidge at his best His judgement of the ball and when to play his strokes were exemplary Similary Raman showed his silky skills Timing was his forte on a wicket which tended to be slower His strokes revealed delectable timing wrist work and confidence Maninder Singh Delhi s star bowler this year with 58 wickets was made to look ordinary by the belligerent Raman

A square drive a superbly timed on drive and two straightfield sixes spoilt Maninder s rhythm Delhi wilted under Raman and Chandrasekhar s onslaught The

Raman's hard hitting was reminiscent of Gordon Greenidge at his very best. Timing was his forte on a wicket which tended to be slower. His strokes revealed delectable timing, wrist work and confidence



DULL DRAWS

Delhi Vs. Bombay

DELHI and Tamil Nadu moved into the final in identical fashion Both teams posted big first innings scores which eventually helped them in tilting the match in their favour Technically Delhi drew with Bombay and Tamil Nadu with Haryana but by virtue of the first innings lead, they moved into the final

Delhi which was humbled by Bombay at the Feroz eshah Kotla last season in the quarterfinal, returned the compliment (and perhaps with accumulated interest) in the semifinal in mid March at the Wankhede Stadium

The heartening feature of Delhi 's victory was a fine 221 by their sheet anchor K P Bhaskar which guided the first innings total to 516 Bhaskar's 11th Ranji Trophy century and 17th in first class was timely not only for the team but also for the dashing middle order bat who did not enjoy much success barring a century against Himachal Pradesh this season in Ranji

Bombay led by Dilip Vengsarkar failed to make a match of it after opener Jayprakash Jadhav (39) and Sameer Dighe (61) added 105 for the first wicket Vengsarkar who scored (284) against Madhya Pradesh in the quarters made just six runs in the first knock and did not bat in the second innings

Not many realised that it would be the last match for the elegant stroke player who annouced his retirement from first-class and one day internationals at the end of the Ranji semifinal

Back to the match Bombay s misery was compounded by their inability to handle spinner Maninder Singh who claimed five wickets for 63 and pushed his tally in Ranji Trophy this season to 52 Later Maninder mocked Bombay s attack by building up a record 233 runs for the last wicket with Ajay



Dilip Vengsarkar: this was his last match before announcing his retirement

Sharma (259 not out) in the second innings

Delhi, having restricted Bombay to 254 in the first innings, made 574 in the second knock and left Bombay with an impossible task of scoring 837 runs for victory in the last two sessions of play plus mandatory overs

Bombay finished their second innings with a score of 182 for three with Dighe making an unbeaten 100

Tamil Nadu Vs. Haryana

The other semifinal at Faridabad between defending champions Haryana was no different in that the batsmen, rather one, W. V. Raman, dominated the five-day proceedings.

Electing to bat first on a pitch of odd-bounce, Raman combined patience with calculated aggression as he worked towards his second double century of the season in Ranji. He made 226 in Tamil Nadu s total of 507, an innings which bore the stamp of his determination to pick up the runs through fluent drives on either side of the wicket and four sixes (two to jump from 99 to 102).

The tall and wiry left-hand opener was the steadying factor and was ninth batsman out at tea on the second day but Haryana were themselves to blame for the misery They dropped Raman four times (78, 125, 154 and 197) as also all-rounder Diwakar Vasu (on three) who was the second highest scorer with 58

Haryana needed somebody who could stay long at the wicket and wait for the bad ball, but they seemed to run out of patience just when the batsmen were getting into the grove After early wickets fell cheaply, seasoned campaigner Amarjeet Kaypee and Rajesh Puri were associated in a 84-run fifth wicket stand but with Puri getting out, the innings started to disintegrate

Kaypee, who scored more than 600 runs in the national tournament this season was cruising well till he attempted to cut spinner Venkataramana only to miss the line and get bowled

That in effect ended Haryana s challenge although captain Chetan Sharma (52) and Vijay Yadav (59 not out) prolonged the battle

Tamil Nadu which got a 132-run first innings lead made merry in the second innings with captain Raman making a brisk 120 That knock made him the second player after Hanumant Singh to score a century and double century in a Ranji match Hanumant Singh scored 109 and 213 against Bombay at Bombay in 1966-67. Raman is also the fourth batsman to have scored five Ranji centuries in a season. He made 206 against Kerala, 122 against Andhra in the league and 110 against UP in the quarterfinal, for a total of 805 runs this season

However Raman did not press for an outright victory which seemed a possibility at one stage and finally Haryana ended the second innings at 233 for seven with Kaypee making 71 and Puri scoring 49.

K. P. Vasisht

bowlers failed to bowl to their fields and the fielding went to pieces. Needless appeals and tantrums revealed their frustration. Skipper Kirti was biting his nails. Raman and V.B. added 99 runs for the second wicket in just 172 balls. Tamil Nadu reached 150 in just 180 minutes and even Delhi's mammoth total of 532 seemed reachable. Then Chandrasekhar gifted his wicket by falling to a trap. He hooked a rising Wasson delivery to Bantoo at fine leg.

The third crisis point was on the fourth day. Stocky and bearded M. Senthilnathan was peaking for a big score with his straight bat display. The portly Senthilnathan, a former India under-19 years skipper resembled the late Vijay Manjrekar in his compact defence and choice of strokes. He and the attacking Vasu, 'the poor man's Sobers as he bowls both left handed pace and spin' were gradually getting on top of the bowling. Senthilnathan had knocked Kirti off the firing line with three crisp fours. Tamil Nadu reached 5 for 318 and the target was just 215 runs away. Kirti persisted with his attacking field and with Maninder. This positive attitude by Kirti paid dividends. Senthilnathan committed "harakiri" when he played a needless cross bat stroke, a sweep against Maninder and Bhaskar at slip held a neat catch. Later both Kirti and the Tamil Nadu manager D.R. Bhupathy added that Senthilnathan's dismissal was the turning point of the match. Considering that the last four wickets of Tamil Nadu added 131 runs, if Senthilnathan had stayed longer, the verdict could have been much closer.

Ultimately Delhi's greater resolution and mental strength enabled them to gain success. Maninder finished with five for 130, his seventh five-wicket haul this season. However there still remains a question mark about his ability to bowl to left handers and batsmen who attack him. When Raman was in full flow, Maninder looked as helpless as when Gooch and Gatting swept him all over the ground in the 1987 Reliance Cup semi finals. But skipper Kirti feels



Maninder Singh has been in great form this season

that "Maninder has never bowled better as he is flighting well and he has re-discovered his arm ball." His fielding is not as sprightly as of yore.

With vacancies in the Indian middle order, Delhi's Ajay Sharma and K.P. Bhaskar and Tamil Nadu's W.V. Raman staked their claims for a national call-up. Ajay scored 933 runs this season including a double century vs Bombay in the semis and a commanding 175 in the final. Bhaskar scored what many describe as the innings of the season, a double century against Bombay. Raman remained as always prolific in domestic cricket with 887 runs in just six matches. However, his fielding should also improve. Aashish Kapoor bowls accurate off breaks and maintains a nagging line and length. His batting is compact and he is an all-rounder worth watching. Aashish is well worth trying in limited-overs internationals.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Name the Sri Lankan bowler who fainted at the sight of blood after his delivery struck the batsman?

2. Who said, "Maybe if I had grown my fingernails a little longer, I would have won"?

3. What is the original name of cricket?

4. Who was the first mother to win a Wimbledon singles title?

5. Which question did the 21 year old Goran Ivanisevic say that he is asked the most?

6. In an 18 hole golf course, what is the 19th hole?

7. What is common to Davis Cup, Thomas Cup and Swaythling Cup?

8. Who is the most expensive bowler in World Cup matches?

9. Name the only manufacturer in the world whose tennis balls have been used for all four Grand Slam events?

10. Which cricketer introduced the helmet to batsman?

11. He attempted a pole vault and had the pole crack under him. He went for the long jump and strained his thigh. He eventually lost but then putting up a brave face he said, "I don't want to make excuses, but I had this little injury." Who is he?

12. Who is the first Indian to win the Asian snooker title?

13. Which great West Indian cricketer started his Test career as a wicketkeeper?

14. Who is the greatest athlete in the world according to Ivan Lendl?

15. For which organisation did Pete Sampras do his first television commercial?

ANSWERS

1 Rumesh Ratnayke
2 Matt Biondi after losing the 100m butterfly gold to Anthony Nesty in a close finish at the Seoul Olympics
3 Club ball
4 Evonne Goolagong Cawley
5 How much money do you make?'
6 The Club bar
7 All of them are international team competitions for men
8 Martin Snedden of New Zealand vs England in 1983
9 Slazenger
10 Dennis Amiss
11 Daley Thompson after losing his decathlon title in the Seoul Olympics
12 Yasin Merchant
13 Rohan Kanhai
14 Cyclist Greg Lemond
15 For the Red Cross

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

ADIT BASU
C/O GITA BASU
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SUBACHANI ALI
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ASSAM.

All answers sent in by the contributor

Photograph of the week



Konishiki, the heavyweight sumo champion, waves a paper fan to cool himself during his wedding reception at a Tokyo hotel. The 29-year-old from Hawaii married Sumiko Shioda, a former fashion model

SACHIN TENDULKAR

TOO GOOD

REMEMBER Harold Larwood? Yes, the man who put Douglas Jardine's 'leg theory' into the practice called 'bodyline' For the coal-miner from Nottingham, the infamous 1932 Ashes series was a personal battle between him and the gentleman they called the greatest batsman ever In his obsession to get even with Donald Bradman, Larwood bowled his boots off and even decided to live his retired life in a country that had come to hate the English fast bowler So intense is Larwood's passion about Bradman and the battle he lost against the great batsman, that Larwood now in his 80s and staying in Sydney still lives in that past, speaking with competitive praise for Bradman And yet, perhaps, deep in his heart Larwood is waiting for the day when another batsman will take Bradman's place at the top of the batting heap In spite of his admiration for Bradman, Larwood longs for the day when his 'enemy' will be displaced from that high pedestal And he hopes that the day will come in his lifetime—whatever is left of it

And that is the reason why this old man, who should be more concerned about whether he can make it to his front door without falling over, seems concerned about the new phenomenon called Sachin Tendulkar

Mention to him that you have seen Sachin play and he will pester you to tell him all about the young Indian He wants the information so that he can store it in his old brain and then satisfy himself whether Sachin is indeed in the Bradman class Larwood had great hope that Gavaskar would be the one to dislodge Sir Don But he has revised his opinion of Gavaskar in spite of the opener's incredible record.

"I lost faith in him when I heard he played with a helmet", he explains. Tell him that the little master in fact only played with a skull cap, and he maintains, "that's the same thing. He also had all those guards all around his body No great batsman needs all that," he says.



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Sorry to disappoint you Mr Larwood, but even Sachin wears a helmet while batting.

But Larwood's hope that Sachin will be his man to get back at Bradman is too intense. "Oh that's because he is young and is merely following the general pattern," he says. "Soon he will find out that he does not require it." And he then adds, ' tell me how tall is he? Is he stronger on his off or on side ?"

Yes, Sachin Tendulkar has not only come of age as a cricketer. He also has aroused the curiosity of the cricketing world by batting, fielding and even bowling with the brilliance only associated with geniuses

In one post-World Cup article, while forming a world one-day eleven, every 'selector' had Sachin in his side. One writer while 'manufacturing' a perfect all-rounder wrote: "For heart, there is no going past Sachin Tendulkar, the teenage cricket junkie who plays with such passion, he would

TO BE TRUE

Despite the pressure, despite the expectations, Sachin Tendulkar continues to perform and impress. So much so, that even Harold Larwood has become a fan

bat, bowl, field and keep wickets all at the same time, if only his captain would allow him

Such is the kind of popularity that Sachin has come to gain, that a journalist colleague arriving in Australia for the World Cup, when held up by the customs because he had a gift packet wrapped suspiciously, was not pestered any further when he claimed to know Sacheen Often during the World Cup, Sachin wore his blue uniform without any name printed on its back But no-one objected, because even if they couldn't recognise the Indian captain, they knew who Sachin was It was almost as if he gave his other colleagues in the team an inferiority complex The girls, the autograph hunters lined up for Sachin And in his own shy way Tendulkar soaked everything in saying, yes I guess you have to like it It's good to be popular

Yet, he has not lost his boyish ways When Sir Richard Hadlee came to the Indian team hotel in New Zealand, he particularly wanted to meet Sachin When he was taken to Tendulkar's room the young man was fast asleep, oblivious of the fact that the great bowler had come to meet him Sir Richard let him sleep on, merely patting him on the head as a father would do after putting his son to bed

Tendulkar has made such an impact on the cricket world, who had descended in force for the World Cup, that there is talk that he will be given an offer to play domestic cricket in South Africa Former South African cricketer, and now talent hunter, Peter Pollock feels He would be a hit He is so popular that he would provide a great filip to the coloured cricketers in South Africa There would be no better person If we can get him to play for any team, just any team, it would be great for cricket in South Africa Unfortunately, the South



KAMAL JUJKA

African domestic season clashes with the season in India But so great is Pollock s desire to get Tendulkar to play in South Africa that he is still hoping We will make an offer and wait for a reply he says Offers from some English counties are also a possibility in the next season

The tour Down Under has matured Tendulkar the cricketer tremendously and even he admits it But it would be sad if the entire burden of the Indian batting fell on his shoulders so early in his career As Sunil Gavaskar says his real test will come when that happens how will he cope with it is the



question At his age he doesn t feel the pressure so much so he just goes out and plays But when the pressure is on him then that will be the test

And yet in Australia it almost seemed as if he carried with him the hopes of the entire team No wonder even Sir Donald Bradman is a keen follower of Tendulkar s career But it is Larwood who is the keenest and even if Tendulkar is fortunate enough to be placed on the same level as Bradman it won t be in Larwood s lifetime Even if this old Sachin-fan lives to be a hundred, he will not be able to see the greatness of Tendulkar For Harold Larwood is completely blind No wonder he says grudgingly, No, I think Bradman will always be the best

Andy O'Brien, Australia

I HAVE NO PROBLEMS WHEN BATTING...NEVER HAVE!

In an exclusive telephonic chat from Sydney, **Sachin Tendulkar** spoke of his experiences during his rewarding tour Down Under

An Australian tour is never the easiest of tours, and specially so for an 18-year-old. How would you evaluate the Australian tour from a very personal angle?
Well, I would agree that the tour was one of the toughest that I have been for and perhaps will ever go for It was tough not just physically, but more so mentally It demanded a lot of patience, for the simple reason that there was a constant pressure on the players to perform Being one of the youngest members in the side, I tended to feel it (the pressure) a great deal It is difficult to play in Australia because the cricket in Australia is of a very high standard, and the matches involve a gruelling tour of almost all the cities in Australia, To make matters worse, the travelling has to be done within a very tight schedule There is not only a lot of travel but also a lot of practice matches thrown in. Apart from these aspects, we constantly had to prepare ourselves for the Tests, the WSC and the World Cup that was to follow immediately I was constantly trying to psyche myself up mentally, and all this at my age can be pretty tough.

Keeping in mind the disastrous performance of the team, how would you rate your performance in Australia?
I would rate it as pretty satisfactory, though I suppose that it could have been better

Why?
Well you see, I had left for Australia with a specific goal and that was to complete my 1,000 Test runs I failed to achieve it and I'm very disappointed.

Fell short by how much?
Oh, by about 20 odd runs I guess.

Which parts of the tour would you rate as your best?
The latter half of the tour. During the second Test when I got my second Test century.

Tell me a little about how you managed to stick it out at the crease, when most of the others couldn't really manage on the Australian pitches?
I guess I adjusted myself to the bounce in the pitches rather early on in the tour Moreover, I found that the wickets suited my style of play perfectly The extra bounce made the ball come on to the bat, and this helped me to time my strokes better.

Obviously it was not just your batting in Australia that made waves. You proved to be a pretty useful bowler...
I would say that I bowled pretty okay, though I must admit that I'm not too serious about my bowling at this moment. If I'm told to bowl for a period of 5-10 overs then I guess I'll give 100 per cent. But I must confess that I prefer to play as a batsman.

Apart from the cricket, what else did you do in Australia?
Well, when we were in Brisbane, we went to the Gold Coast. We visited a

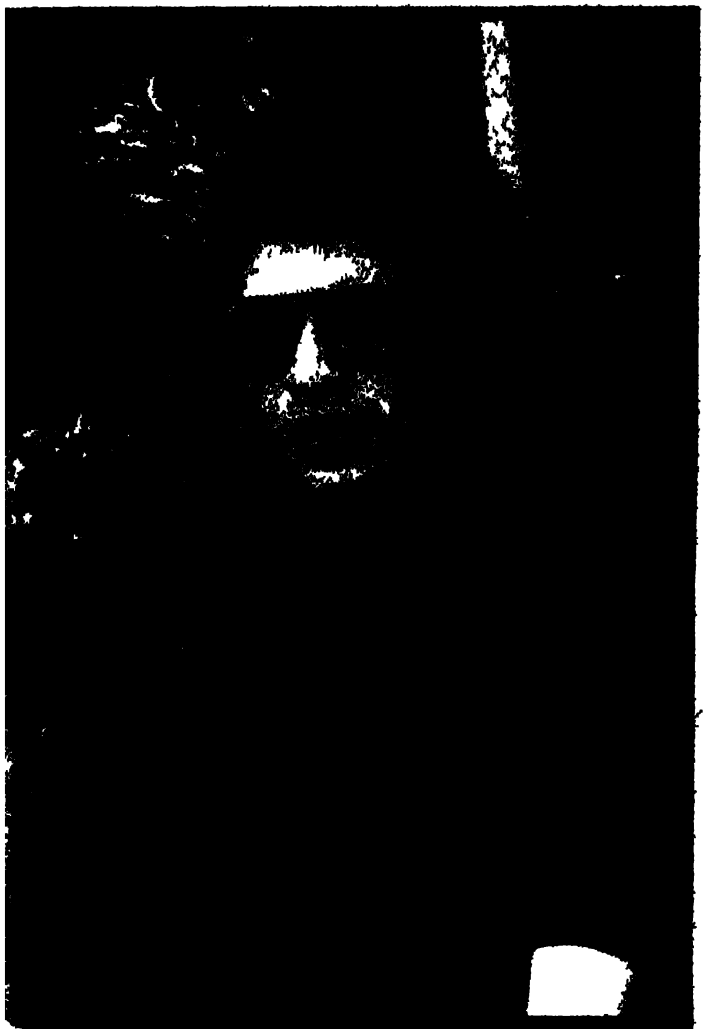
place called Sea World there. I was so excited when I was called upon to feed the dolphins. I got a little nervous but I managed. Then there was this ride on the roller coaster. It was my first ride, and it was scary but before I knew what was happening it was all over.

You certainly were a big hit with everyone Down Under. Did this constant adulation prove to be rather tiresome?
The fans were pretty okay. They would keep coming to ask me for autographs. I used to get a lot of phone calls in my hotel room from boys and girls as well.

Not just girls...
Well not exactly (laughing). It was from both of them.

Has this tour done anything for your maturity?
Definitely. It has been the best tour that I've ever been on so far. It has helped bolster my confidence and maturity enormously. I am much more confident than I perhaps ever was before. I guess I've played my toughest cricket so far.

This constant cricket must have left you drained mentally?



Well the length of my stay in Australia certainly made me homesick for a while. But I was never tired of playing cricket.

A lot of players had their families, wives etc with them. Who's the most important person you would have liked to bring across?
(laughs) All of them. Every single one of them.

Did the Aussies employ any specific tactic when you came out to bat?
Not really. It didn't look as if Border had done any homework on me. They only played according to the situation.

The best thing about Australia...
I loved the constant travelling. The country's beautiful and my favourite city is Sydney. It's more crowded you know, and I'm used to things Bombay style. Sydney's just like Bombay.

Your opinion of the Australian pace attack...
All three: McDermott, Reid and Merv Hughes are very good. I would single McDermott and Hughes in terms of being fast.

It must have been pretty tough playing in front of the Aussie crowds. They can get pretty boisterous.
I don't have any problems when I'm batting...I never have. I'm not bothered about whether the crowd is shouting or cheering. But sometimes it affects your concentration, because the crowds suddenly start screaming.

The Aussie cricketers are famous for their pressure tactics and sledging. Did you face any of this?
As a matter of fact, I did. They used to pass quite a few comments behind the wicket but I ignored them.

Anything nasty?
Well, sometimes. But I never understood what they were saying. Or let's say that sometimes I didn't try to understand. I was in my own world.

There's apparently a lot of negotiations going on between you and some English county teams. Glamorgan for instance, and one in South Africa. True?
Glamorgan did approach me, but there has not been any serious discussion as yet.

Do you want to play in South Africa?
I will not be going anywhere this year. But I'm seriously thinking of playing abroad for a season or two.

What are you going to do after you get home?
If I get a chance (sarcastically), I'll play a couple of matches for Bombay.

Any immediate plans?
I just want to have a good time and most importantly, I want to be with my family.

Interviewed by Shaila Bhattacharjee

SPORTSWORLD KODAK PHOTO FEATURE

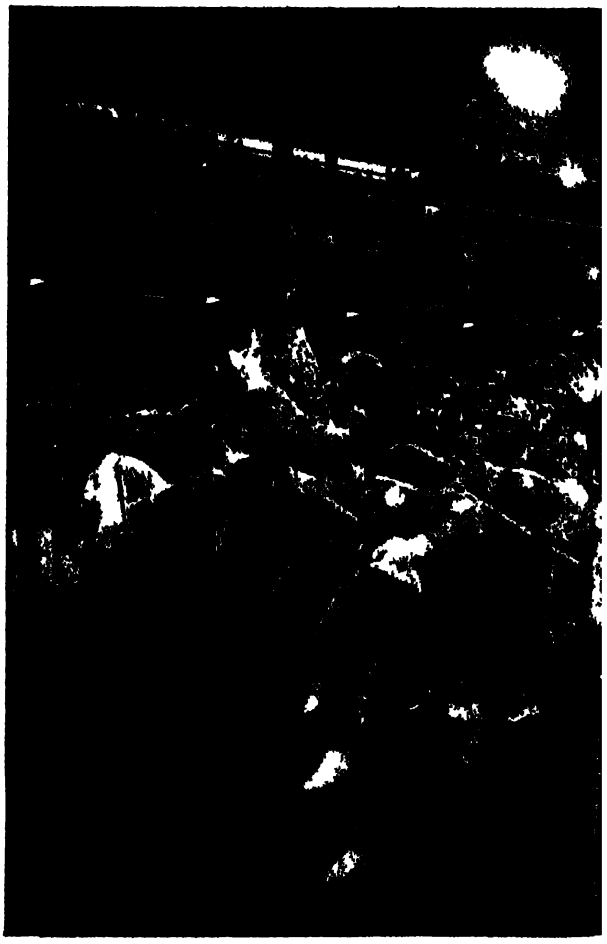


The toss over Imran shakes hands with Gooch, chooses to bat, and walks away with the match



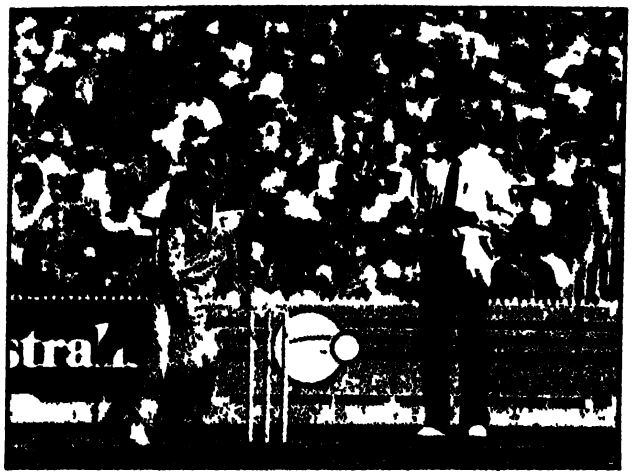
Batting sensibly, Pakistan raced from 70 in 25 overs to 249 in 50 overs

The victorious Pakistanis do a

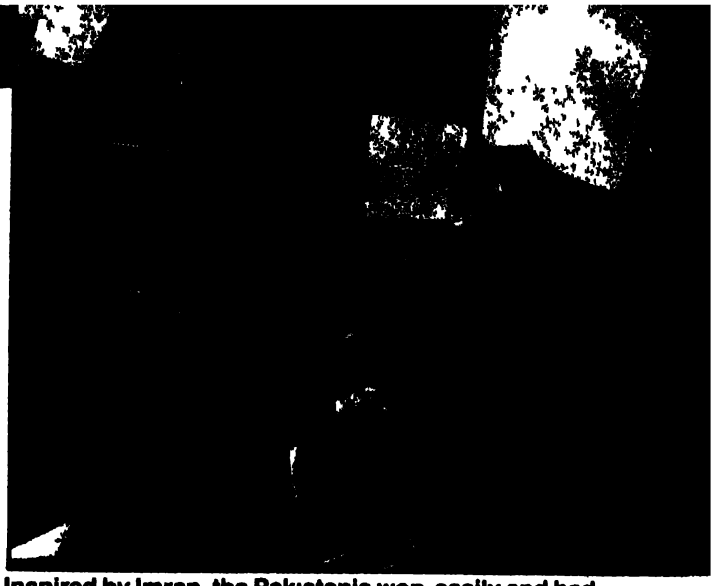


ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY KODAK

World Cup moments...

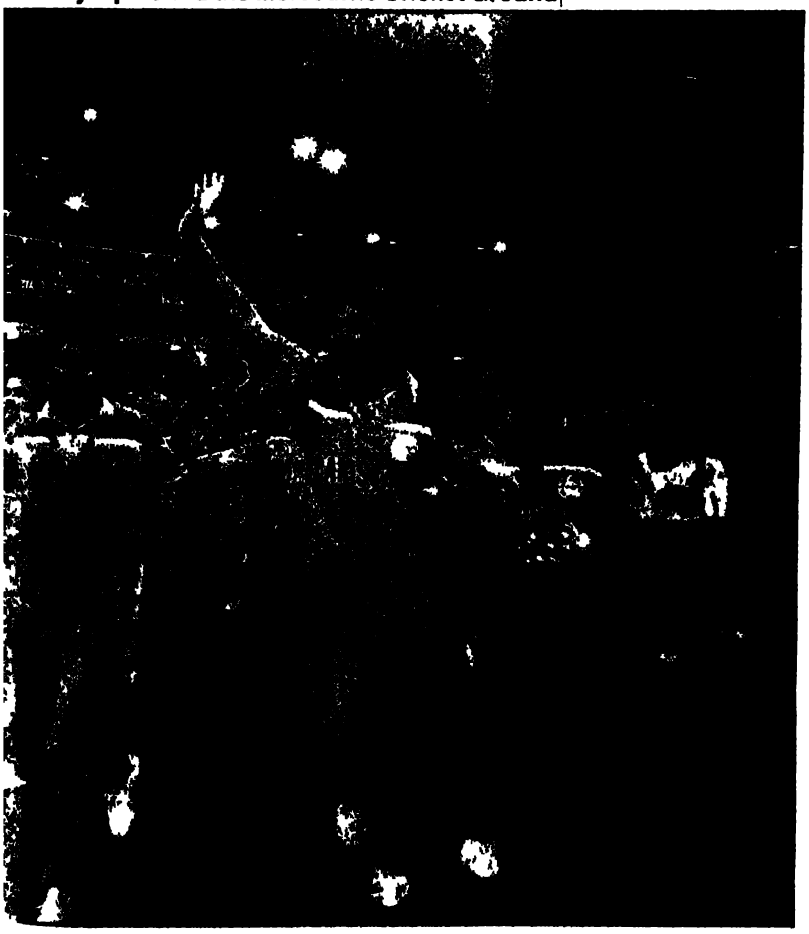


Dermot Reeve let England down with some poor bowling, giving away 22 runs in three overs



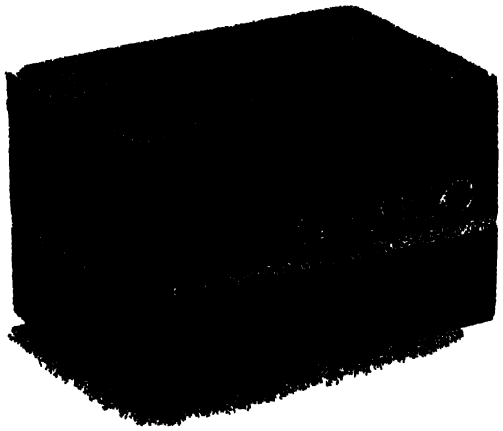
Inspired by Imran, the Pakistanis won easily and had every reason to celebrate noisily and joyously

victory lap round the Melbourne Cricket Ground





Ian Botham, one of the successes of the tournament, stretches to run-out a Pakistani batsman



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STEWART GINN

A Man Of True Grit



SANTOSH GHOSH



Top: So what if it's taken so long? Stewart Ginn and wife, Sam, after the victory

Right: American Scott Taylor on the green takes a hint or two from a local caddy

WITH the mercury level touching 38 degree celsius anyone not from the sub continent would be forgiven for thinking this was the Sahara Desert Golf Resort But it was only the Royal Calcutta Golf Club, and somewhere out on the Old Course, a veteran player of the Indian Open was trying his luck once again

The bespectacled Stewart Ginn of Australia is truly a man of true grit Although he knows the course like the back of his hand (and considers it to be the toughest course in Asia) he's never had any luck here before Compatriot Peter Thompson won the Indian Open thrice (the last one in 1976) while Brian Jones (1972 and 1977) and Ted Ball (1975) also proved

WILLS
GOLF
WILLS INDIAN OPEN
GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP 1982

their Australian might In 1976 Stewart Ginn came close to victory in the Indian Open but countryman Graham Marsh came from behind and shattered his chances Since then winning the Open had been an obsession with Ginn

Did Stewart Ginn have the intuition that he was on the verge of breaking the jinx? Did he want to show his wife Sam who had accompanied him that the moment of truth was about to unfold before her eyes? Whatever, Sam s presence was certainly a tremendous source of inspiration on his journey to fame in the recent Wills Indian Open Golf

Inspiration it was And the lady flashed a big smile when her husband had a dream first round of five under But then a junior American Scott Taylor was also dreaming of the fat purse that was up for grabs when he too carded a 68 (including an eagle) on the first day Sam nearly choked when Taylor scored three birdies on the second day but then unfortunately conceded all of them to allow the older Aussie to share the lead With both on 141 the situation looked quite dicey



and Taylor Ginn perhaps was expecting Chini to foul up somewhere and that s precisely what happened on the fourth hole.Going for an eagle Chini double bogeyed and Ginn smiled in silence

The third day wasn t Scott Taylor s as his



The 1990 champion Andrew Debusk weathers a bunker. But he was not *in form this time*

Chini meanwhile was leading the Indian challenge and looked dangerous when he *returned a two under on the* second day but that wasn t good enough to petrify Ginn

putting let him down, while Ginn was having a field day with immaculate putting with his peculiar duel grip *putt which had attracted a* great attention It was a rare sight to see Ginn using the



putt so casually and yet so perfectly. The 30-feet putt on the 14th was marvellous Surely the longest in this year's competition. That long attempt actually was the turning point of the game, for he had finally taken the lead over Taylor with a two shot edge. Not a good lead really for if Ginn made one mistake, and if Taylor came good on the final day, the Aussie would be in deep trouble.

With the 1990 champion Andrew Debusk going into oblivion, the challenge centred on Ginn and Taylor. But American Aaron Meeks who was at fifth position on the first day gradually crawled back to threaten the two players in contention. The final round saw Meeks scoring birdies and the crowd, which hadn't given much importance to Meeks chances, were now discussing a play-off. That was the moment when he was eight under on the 17th and Ginn was feeling a bit uneasy. "I hadn't thought much of Aaron Meeks till the 13th but then when he was scoring birdies, I felt the pressure," confessed Ginn. "Aaron had made a marvellous comeback. But I kept my cool."

Coming back to the final round. Eight under is quite impressive. But a two-shot lead in golf is like walking a tightrope. And Stewart Ginn had that apprehension, and he knew he couldn't afford to be rash like he'd been in previous years in the Indian leg. At all cost he had to prove something to Sam, who was equally under pressure. He had to win $22,491 for her. It was time to show his

A rare sight at the Old Course: A women caddy with American golfer John Kernohan

perseverance now.

But his dream of a victory in the Wills Indian Open began disastrously. By the seventh hole, Ginn dropped five shots and Taylor was gradually gaining ground. Ginn's wife looked nervous and at each missed putt, she bit her lower lip. "You see, golf is such a funny game," said Ginn. On the third day he was putting so well and the "way I started it looked that if I continued like this, the show would have been over. That's when I said to myself 'where's your composure?' and I began to play cool."

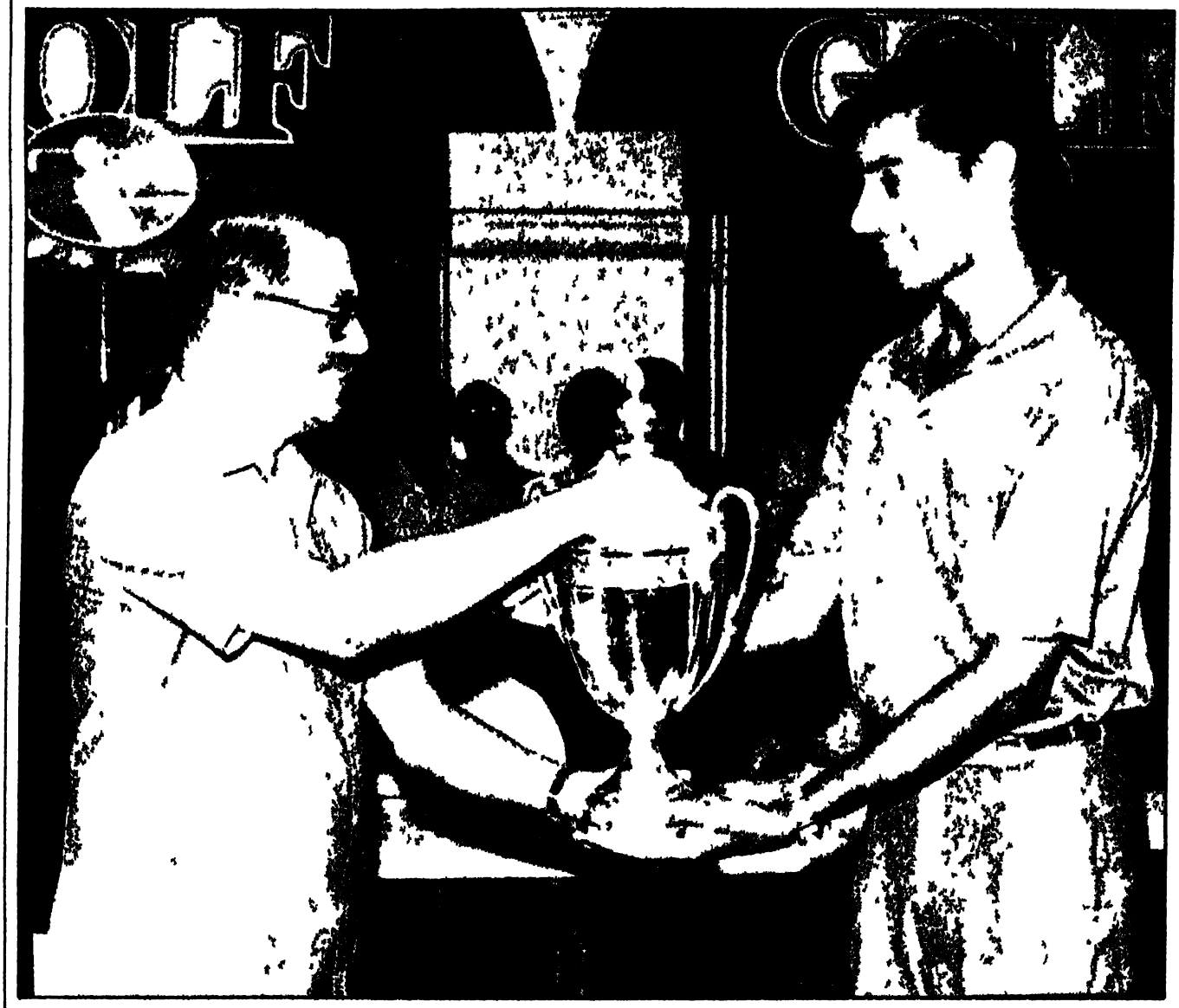
Gradually the transformation took place. His confidence renewed, the scenario changed from the 10th hole onwards, as Ginn began attacking the greens superbly. Equally resurgent was the lanky Aaron Meeks, who was trailing at fourth position after the third round, but then made a brilliant recovery especially in the latter nine.

However, it looked as though the short 13th wasn't Ginn's favourite because in the last two-rounds his drives there were awful. On the third day he landed in the bunker but weathered it perfectly. This time his drive landed in a precarious position, but years of experience saw him use a five iron to stem the rot from the foot of the tree to the left. Taylor began to feel the heat as Ginn scored a birdie and levelled while the American played one over—the show was over for Taylor, who finished joint third (with Indian Firoz Ali) at 289.

Meanwhile Meeks, who was the underdog then, had gone to eight under by the 17th hole. The 42-year-old Ginn got the news and felt uneasy, but Sam's presence in this situation was inspirational. He did not allow the pressure to engulf him and destroy his



Ginn throws the ball in jubilation after winning the Indian Open



Young Jyoti Randhawa receives the best amateur trophy from the ITC director C C. Appayya

chance for the title Two consecutive birdies saw him level with Meeks And then just as the crowd was talking about a play off Ginn learnt, before making his final tee shot that Meeks had dropped two strokes Ginn only had to par the 18th—and he did after some drama

Firoz Ali came joint third with American Scott Taylor



(68+73+71+72=284) It was a scintillating battle Suspense till the last shot And Stewart Ginn had given the Sunday crowd the entertainment it wanted

A word on the Indians Today, with so many tournaments in the Indian circuit taking place both our pros and amateurs are performing encouragingly It s been after quite some time that an amateur has done exceptionally well, taking 10th position with an accumulative total of 295 (75+73+70+73) Well done Jyoti Randhawa!

Subhash Sarcar

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SANTOSH GHOSH

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

Go into kokutsu-dachi and block the punch with a mawashi-uki block (insets). Then pull him towards you and deliver a chop to the neck region



CONTINUING our self defence techniques from *kokutsu-dachi* lean back and block a punch to the head region with a *mawashi-uki* In the same motion, grab his punching arm with your left hand and pull him towards you even as you deliver a *shuto-uchi-uchi* or an inside-to outside chop on the neck

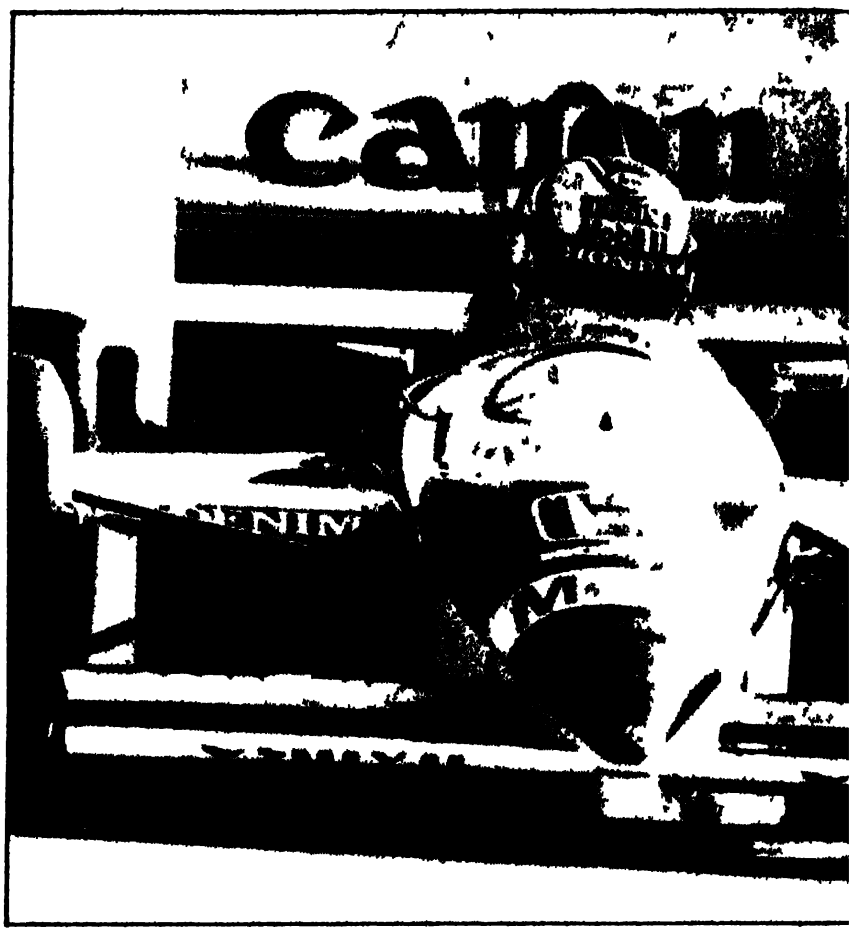
By Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushankaikan Karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Shivaji Ganguly will be conducting a special week-long camp on self-defence and fighting techniques during the third week of May at the Kyokushankaikan Karate headquarters at Harish Park. Persons with a little background in martial arts may contact the above mentioned at 136 Harish Mukherjee Road, Calcutta-25

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about...

TRIVIA

SPORTING



NO F-1 IN US

THE GOOD news is that Formula One racing probably couldn t be healthier The bad news is that for the first time in 32 years there won t be an event in the United States In 1990 and 1991 a race in Phoenix Arizona kicked off the season, but this year the season started in Kyalami, South Africa

The reason for this elimination was poor attendance at Phoenix which encouraged a re evaluation by the Formula One powers that be Phoenix meanwhile attempted to force the issue as it provided a large boost in revenue for the local merchants but the Formula One powers that be, prevailed

ANOTHER COMEBACK

THE POWER in his punches is weaker his speed is slower and his hairline higher But one thing remains the same—the famous wide toothless smile

Yes Leon Spinks is back the latest fighter to join George Foreman and Larry Holmes in pro boxing s unofficial senior tour

Spinks 38 is fighting again out of necessity Laid off from his job as greeter in a restaurant to Chicago Spinks hopes to straighten the U turn in his life that sent him from heavyweight champ to bankruptcy almost overnight

I want to be the fighting machine like I once was,' he said Spinks has also dedicated his comeback





Formula One has bid goodbye to America because of poor attendance

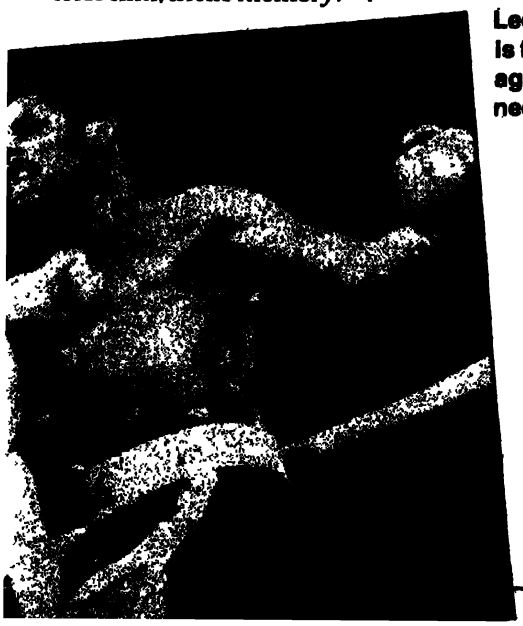
to his late son, Leon Calvin, "He wanted to win the championship for me. Now I want to win it for him, in his memory."

MICHEL PLATINI AND WINTER OLYMPICS?

WHEN International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch returned home to meet with organisers of the Summer Olympics, he was still perturbed about the choice of a former soccer player, Michel Platini, as the final torchbearer during the Opening Ceremony of the Winter Olympics.

It was bad enough that the athlete was a Summer Olympian, having competed for France in 1976 at Montreal, but Samaranch probably could have overlooked that if Platini was not a soccer player who made his name in the World Cup.

Of all the sports in the Olympic movement, the one over which the IOC has the least influence is soccer. For evidence, FIFA has restricted the Olympic football to players Under-23 so that it will not threaten the prestige of the World Cup.



Leon Spinks is fighting again out of necessity



COLORSPORT

The decision was taken in defiance of Samaranch. Need we say more!

And back to the topic of the torchbearer, the Summer Olympic final bearer's name will be sent to Samaranch a month before the event.

GRAND OLD MAN

CARL LEWIS is getting tired of being called the grand old man of track and field at 30.

"People say I'm like Jimmy Connors (39). He was a pro when I was four; now we are the same age," Lewis said.

Lewis, participating in the USA Mobil Indoor championship, came second in the long jump which was his shortest jump in three years. "I jumped well but I don't feel I was aggressive enough to jump as far as I could," he said.

But there are signs which say that Lewis is aging. Lewis retorted, "I've got a few grey hairs which will be snipped shortly."

Need one remind Lewis that 'old is gold'. ●

Carl Lewis is sick and tired of being called an old man

NALIN SOLANKI



IN 1982 a bay colt named Almanac, sporting the pink and white colours of Mr J P Goenka, came out and won the 'Indian Triple Crown' Ten years later Astonish carrying precisely the same colours kept his tryst with destiny and became the first 'Indian Triple Crown' winner in over a decade It is a feat which has no parallel in the annals of Indian racing history and trainer Behan Chenoy, owners Mr J P Goenka, D Khaitan and Ross Deas must be proud and happy for having achieved what to many must have looked a mere pipe dream

'The Triple Crown' is the ultimate test of the capability of a thoroughbred It comprises the 2000 Guineas run over the metric mile the Derby run over a mile and a half and finally the St Leger run over the gruelling distance of a mile and three quarters Winning 'The Triple Crown' in regional centres is an achievement in itself, but the Indian Triple Crown is the one that really matters and a host of all time

Astonish (extreme right), sporting the pink and white colours of Mr J.P. Goenka, won the 'Indian Triple Crown'

In 1982 Almanac won the 'Indian Triple Crown'...

TEN YEARS LATER...

Astonish became the first to win it in over a decade

by CYRUS J. MADAN

greats have missed out on this Herculean achievement. The remarkable Manitou,the legendary Royal Tern and even the mighty Commanche failed to make the grade. In fact, since 1976-77 till date, the only horses to inscribe their names in letters of gold and immortalise themselves by winning the 'Indian Triple Crown' were the all conquering Squanderer, Almanac and finally Astonish.

On Sunday, March 29, just four horses lined up to face the starter at the 2,800 meter marker. The press world billed it as a duel between Astonish and Flirting Vision. The other two acceptors in the race were supposedly also-rans. Rhythm,the Oaks winner and the only filly in the race took over the running from the time the gates opened setting a slow pace. Astonish with Aslam Kader astride moved into second spot, Flirting Vision decided to track him in third place while Desert Mirage the outsider, in four graced the rear.

They ambled around the track finally picking up from about the 1600 meter marker, but the order remained totally unchanged until, heads were turned for home. As they straightened up Vasant Shinde astride Rhythm asked the filly to quicken and she responded gamely kicking clear to go two lengths in front of Astonish while Flirting Vision was an idential distance behind in third. The outcome of the race was however already decided because although Rhythm had hit the front she was floundering under pressure, Flirting Vision did not seem to be making any headway either while Astonish and Aslam Kader were literally cantering.

With about 400 meters left to run Aslam merely shook the reins and Astonish bounced past Rhythm in a flash. Before you could even say that it was all over Astonish had rocketed away into a 7 length lead, and with half a furlong left to run Astonish was already being eased up. The official verdict between the winner and runner up still stood at a distance. Rhythm hung on tenaciously to deny second spot to Flirting Vision by a neck.

It was a magnificent performance indeed and you would run out of superlatives in trying to describe Astonish's feat. The son of Sovereign Silver or Mavardo out of Avola bred at the Poonawalla Stud and Agricultural Farms had thus given his illustrious breeders one more remarkable first to their credit. He was their first 'Indian Triple Crown winner in the last 25 years which means Astonish will always be held very close to their heart.

The man who really deserves the credit for Astonish's remarkable performance must surely be trainer Bezan Chenoy. After all to keep a horse at optimum level for any length of time is a far from easy task. Bezan had kept Astonish going from August 3, 1991 when he won his first race, the Magic Million XXX August handicap in Pune. They went on to win the Pune Derby on October 29, 1991 and then came down to Bombay where he strolled away with the McDowell Indian 2000 Guineas on December 29.

Here again, it was Chenoy's incredible confidence in the colt which permitted him to make the right decision. He rested him after the Pune Derby and that two month layoff saw a rejuvenated Astonish come dressed for battle and line up for the first leg of the 'Triple Crown' without even a prep race. After that it was on to the Indian Derby which saw Astonish prevail by the shortest of short heads.

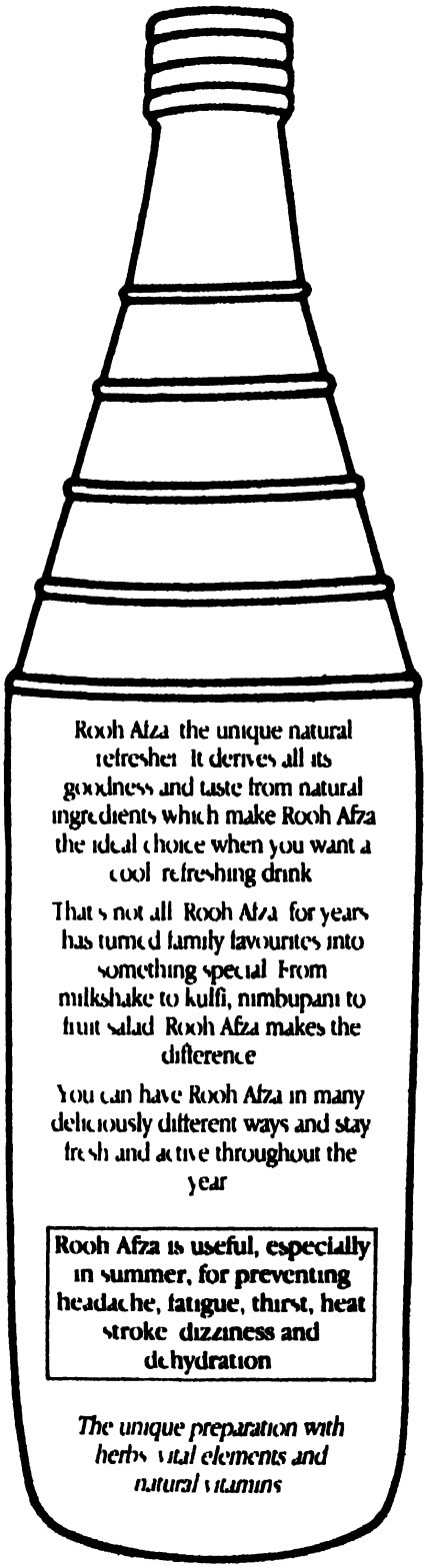
It was after this race that Astonish seemed to have become a trifle jaded. He travelled to Bangalore, but the best he could do was run fourth in the Invitation Cup. After that run most people drew a line through Astonish's chances, but then Chenoy as a trainer knew a lot more.

"When taking Astonish to Bangalore he developed a slight cough and as a result I could not work him and prepare him as well as I would have liked to for the Invitation. Since returning to Bombay Astonish seemed to be a lot happier and I was happy too with the amount of work that I managed to pump into him," said Bezan Chenoy. He said this before the race and he certainly knew what he was talking about because Astonish did not just beat the opponents,he left them struggling in his wake like a string of washing that had been left out to dry, while he went on to make history. ●

The man who deserves credit for Astonish's remarkable achievement is trainer Bezan Chenoy (left)



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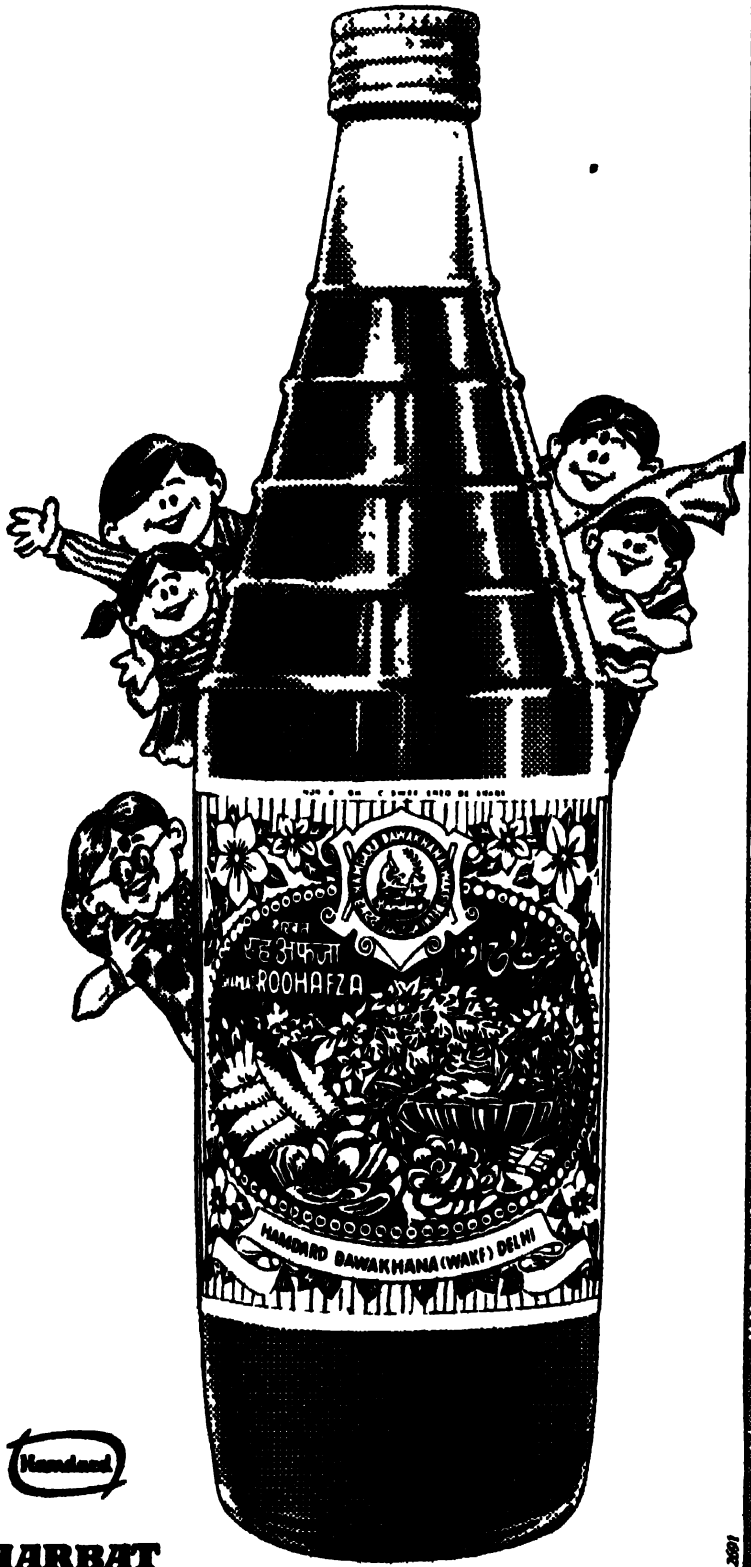
That s not all Rooh Afza for years has turned family favourites into something special From milkshake to kulfi, nimbupani to fruit salad Rooh Afza makes the difference

You can have Rooh Afza in many deliciously different ways and stay fresh and active throughout the year

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Clarion D.AVRIL 2001

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

ON **Apr 1, 1954** Gordon Howe playing for Detroit against Toronto scored a goal within nine seconds of the start of play the quickest goal in ice-hockey

ON **Apr 2, 1988** Remy Bricka of Paris started his 5636 km marathon Walk' across the Atlantic Ocean on skis He completed it in 60 days

IN one of the shortest heavyweight boxing fights in history Teddy Barker of Great Britain beat Bob Roberts of Nigeria in just ten seconds on **Apr 3, 1936** at Wales The referee then stopped the fight

ON **Apr 4, 1985** Carlo Bonomi achieved the fastest speed attained in a diesel boat He set this record at Venice travelling at 218 25 kmph in a hydroplane

JOHN WISDEN the founder of the famous Cricketer's Almanac and a good player who took 10 wickets for North Vs South at Lords in 1850, died on **Apr 5, 1994.**

THE concept of balkline billiards (a game played on a pocketless table) appeared on a championship tournament in Chicago which ended on **Apr 6, 1883.**

Indian Swimmer Mihir Sen swam the 35 Km Palk Strait between India and Sri Lanka, on **Apr 6, 1966,** in 25 hrs 36 min

IN the middleweight class (snatch) Nedelcho Kolev of Bulgaria lifted 152 5 kg on **Apr 7, 1974,** to set a world record

A.K. Sharif

MILESTONES

RETIRED: Malcolm Marshall, with 376 Test wickets to his credit, from international cricket. Marshall (34) plans to continue playing for Hampshire for another couple of years

RETIRED: Wicketkeeper Ian Smith, of New Zealand, from first class cricket

ANNOUNCED: Sachin Tendulkar as the Indian cricketer of the year. This prize scheme is based on points accumulated by each player in the Sharjah tournament, the Test series in Australia, the WSC series and the World Cup. The prize is instituted by Sungrace Mafatlal.

WON: By Arantxa Sanchez Vicario the Lipton International Players Championships. She defeated Sabatini 6-1, 6-4 in the final.



John Ngugi of Kenya, flanked by Liam Mutwol also of Kenya (left) and Fita Bayesa of Ethiopia, after he won the World Cross Country Championships

WON: By Michael Chang the men's version of the Lipton International Championships. He defeated Alberto Manchi 7-5, 7-5 in the final.

SENTENCED: Mike Tyson to 6 years in jail by Judge, Patricia Gifford of the Marion Country Circuit Court. Tyson was refused bail and was fined $30,000.

WON: By the USA, their Davis Cup tie against Czechoslovakia. They now face Sweden in the semi-final to be played in September. Brazil meet Switzerland in the other semifinal.

WON: By Martina Navratilova the US Women's Hardcourt Tennis tournament. She defeated Natalie Tauziat 6-2, 6-1 in the final for the 159th career title

The Health Column

YOU breathe, you drink and you eat. Your body then processes these ingredients, put into the system by these fundamental acts, into fuel that unleashes countless thoughts, impulses, secretions and muscle contractions Through presistant physical activity you build up your energy and work capacity, but you won't be able to explore the full depths of your stamina and vigour until you follow an equally persistant nutritional programme.

The energy cycle that starts at your mouth and climaxes with dynamic movement is exquisit.

Carbohydrates are your primary fuel. Your digestive system dismantles them into simple sugar glucose, which is carried by the blood and stored as glycogen in the muscles and the liver. Complex carbs—the ones found in whole grains, beans and vegetables—are high in fibre, while simple carbs with the simple exception of fruits, are sugars and for the most part have almost no nutritional value. To sustain heavy workouts and to delay the onset of fatigue, complex carbohydrates should provide about 70% of the calories in every meal you eat.

Beware of refined carbs. The sugar from these food are rapidly absorbed into the bloodstream and this in turn drives up the blood-glucose levels in the body. When this ' happens, the pancreas floods insulin into the system to reduce the level to normal. The resulting drop can trigger a low blood pressure reaction that is accompanied by fatigue, headaches and mood swings. These roller coaster rides of high and low-blood-sugar can deplete your energy. So it's best to avoid these rapidly absorbed sweets both before and after a workout. For a steady stream of energy, beans and some fruits, make good choices. More than half your pre-training foods should consist of these foods.

Fat at nine calories per gram has more than twice the energy potential of carbs and proteins. Fat reserves, located primarily just under the skin, around the organs and nerve fibres help fuel all aerobic activities The muscles and the liver have limited capacities for storing glycogen, and after about a couple of hours of strenuous activity, these stores of energy become depleted.

As the blood-sugar level in the system plummets, the fat that is stored in the body is put to work. The components of fat,primarily fatty acids, are pulled out of storage and dispatched to the muscles, where they are broken down and burned for energy. This 'glycogen sparing' effect is what gives you the power to endure the later stages of a tennis or soccer match.

However,this certainly is not the excuse for you to go on a binge. Most of us get more fat than we actually need from the food that we eat. In fact a high-fat meal is bound to slow down your activities, as it takes a longer time to digest. Keep your fat intake down to about 20-25% of your daily calories or less, and make sure that a majority of these are from vegetable oils and nuts. Other sources of fat include animal products such as meat, fish and diary products.

Another very important food is protein. Though it is indispensible to muscle growth and repair it is not a major energy food. In fact this type provides only 15-20% of the energy that you utilise.

But your protein intake will count a lot after your workout, as your muscles recover and rebuild themselves, which is why high-quality proteins are essential to your overall ability to live a vigorous lifestyle. The best sources are eggs, fish, meat and diary products, although beans and some other plant food also contain a fair amount of protein.

Besides keeping the right balance of carbs, fat and proteins in your diet, you can do a number of other things to ensure that you have the energy to operate at peak levels. Here are some guidelines that will help you in doing that:

- Eat breakfast even if it's just an apple and a glass of milk. Your blood sugar is very low in the morning.
- Eat often. To keep a fairly even blood-glucose level, space out your calorie intake to six or seven small meals a day. This will do far more to keep your energy high than if you sit down to two or three feeding blowouts.
- Don't overeat. Heavy meals, particularly those high in fats, condemn your system to hours of gruelling work before they are digested. And in the mean time while this is happening you tend to get sluggish. Eat until you just feel satisfied and, then stop.
- Don't indulge in a high-fat, high-protein, high-sugar meal before any kind of strenuous activity. Such a 'feast' can take up to eight hours to be digested and in the process diverts blood away from the muscles to the gastro-intestinal tract. Now you need the blood to flow into your muscles when you're pumping is on, right?





EL HE E!

● Drink about eight to 10 glasses of water a day. And when you are exercising strenuously then drink a glass of water ever 20 minutes or so to cool the system down.

● Coffee might improve your endurance. Studies show that caffeine stimulates the release of fatty acids into the bloodstream The formula seems to be one-two cups of coffee before an activity But then again be careful before you try this out because some people have adverse reactions to caffeine

● What about a candy bar or a high-sugar drink right before a workout for more energy? Don't be under the mistaken notion that this will help you pass away the gruelling hours in the gym more efficiently It's what you ate the night before that counts, not what you ate right before the workout

But then after you've started pumping if you suddenly feel weak or dizzy, it means that the sugar-level in your system might be low When this happens try a glass of glucose or a glass of fruit juice to put some sugar into the system

Finally listen to the signals that your body is sending out to you. If you feel the chronic fatigue (We'll deal with this next week), stop and leave pumping for some days Once again let us remind your that rest is an important ingredient of a vigorous lifestyle It compensates for the stresses of a hectic lifestyle and the rigours of the tough mental and physical training that you are inflicting on your system.

A dismal campaign

THE ignominous exit of the Indian team from the World Cup arena without even reaching the semi-final stage has mercifully brought an end the agony and miseries of many millions at home. In the immediate aftermath of the Down Under disaster, it is certain that the customary search for scapegoats will be vigorously pursued and the innocent as usual will be punished while the guilty go scot-free. And as has happened in the past the average Indian fan will forget these let-downs and continue to worship his heroes once they start raising mammoth scores on the lifeless pitches in the domestic tournaments in the country.

After all how can one blame a few of our cricketers for what happened in Australia. A captain is only as successful as the enthusiasm of the 11 players who rally behind him. In our case, we have players who have no national pride and are in the team to further their own self-interests.

R. VIMAL ROY.
Dinjan.

Not Shastri again

IN the post-mortem of India's World Cup fiasco a lot of things are being talked about as the reasons behind the poor performance, and many fingers are accusingly pointing towards the vice-captain, Ravi Shastri. The impression being created is that India did not reach the semi-finals because Shastri scored very slowly in the matches that he played. He scored 57 off 111 balls against England and 25 off 70 against Australia, and these scores are supposedly the reason why India fared badly.

One will just have to look at teams in the final to realise that there are also batsmen who at



times took long to score. Gooch took 91 balls to score his 51 against India and Miandad took 40 in 110 balls against us but their team still went on to the final.

And moreover what happened in the matches we played without Shastri? We did not fare too well even then. Our much rated batting line-up just tends to crumble when the pressure is turned on and the middle-order players have let us down repeatedly. And if the Indian team lost the World Cup because Shastri scored slowly then what happened in the Test series against Australia where the scoring rate does not count?

And now after the dismal performance the people's wrath is directed against Shastri and his family. This surely is the height of uncivilised and childish behaviour

A. ROY.
Barrackpur.

Give Shastri a chance

IT is sad to see that the public and also the media in some cases have made a villain out of Ravi Shastri, a man who has served the country for almost a decade. People are talking about his retirement when he has been one of India's most consistent batsmen. Though he has not been too prolific, he has been consistent throughout.

Agreed that Shastri scored slowly in the couple of the World Cup matches that he played in, but then we did not lose the game just because of that. Lady Luck also played a major role and most of our celebrated batsmen also let us down.

If the public continue their tirade against Shastri he might quit in frustration (though we hope not) and that would be a major loss to Indian cricket. Being one of the senior-most players in the team he has still a lot to contribute for the future of cricket in our country and his retirement now should be avoided at all costs.

Hence let us leave him alone and not make him a scapegoat for the team's debacle Down Under.

SHWETA.G.V.,
Bangalore.

Go for gold, Ravi

AFTER the Indian team's poor performance Down Under, Ravi Shastri has been singled out as the sole person responsible for the team's debacle. Even Tiger Pataudi in his editorial had blamed Shastri for the one-run loss that we suffered against Australia.

After the team failed to qualify for the semi-final there were demonstrations in Bombay and even his house was stoned. Ravi Shastri's portraits were garlanded with shoes. How disgraceful on our part? As Gavaskar and many other sports writers wrote, the slogan of *Ravi Shastri hai, hai* is the most popular one at all Indian stadiums.

This is certainly not the way we should be supporting our cricket team and its members. The people of other countries are always behind their cricketers even if they (the cricketers) are going through a bad phase. A player like Shastri should not be asked to opt out of the team under any

circumstances He still has a lot of cricket left in him and his opting out of the team would be an inreparable loss to Indian cricket Though he is not a very talented or stylish batsman he is one of the most gutsy and professional cricketers that we have at present

Hence we should refrain from making Shastri the scapegoat every time our team loses a match Even after we dropped him from the team we did not perform too well What we must understand at this juncture is that every player goes through a bad phase once in a while and during these times we should stand behind the player and spur him on to greater heights Only then can we regain our lost pride and prestige

YOGESH CHANDRA
New Delhi

Why cry over spilt milk?

THIS has reference to the article by Andy O Brien about the rain rule in the recently concluded World Cup But why is it that only when one s team is in a losing position courtesy the rule that people start complaining? That too when the rain rule was made well in advance and all the Boards of the participating countries have signed it before the tournament began

But rather than cribbing about the rule why doesn t someone suggest a method of doing away with the rule Like for example computing the average runs of the side batting first (divide the total runs by the total number of overs) and then reduce the runs for the second team accordingly

The provision of a miniature TV for the umpires should be another change that should be thought about seriously As it is the umpires are coming under a lot of flak because of the improvement of television technology, and hence it would only be fair if the umpires also had a chance to look closely at a controversial decision via the TV before pronouncing their judgement

AMIT A LOIWAL.
Baroda



Salutations, great Imran

CONGRATULATIONS to Imran Khan and his team on winning the World Cup This win proved to the world that the team is indeed a well knit one under the able captaincy of Imran What a personality this man has Even as the days roll by and the time for him to call it a day draws near he reiterates the point time and time again that he is an institution in himself

A great cricketer a superb captain and a master team-man—there couldn t have been a greater tribute to him from his colleagues than to win him the World Cup at the twilight of his career

PRABAL GUHA
Calcutta

Needed: national pride

THE most important thing for a group of 11 players to succeed as a team is unity among the players coupled with a perseverance to stand behind the captain in times of need It looks like the players in the team are only interested in making it to the national team Once they don an Indian cap they tend to relax and take things easy Probably this is because there is no accountability among the players and the officials. They make it seem that they are in it only for the monetary benefits and the other comforts that come along with the Indian cricket team cap

Unless and until the players and each one of them understand the meaning of national pride and infuse this trait in themselves we are not going to make headway in any walk of life

K V PRASANNA
Bangalore

A long way to go Azhar

IT was a real in form Azhar that one saw towards the end of the World Cup In short it could be referred to as excellent Don t worry Azhar even if India did not figure well in the tournament you can by your inspired performances lead it to greater heights You ve still got a long way to go Azhar and we are sure that you ll eventually come out tops

ABU NASER MUNIR
Bangladesh



CALCUTTA

Warren Open Golf

So what if Bunty Randhawa, the Kalyani Black Label champion, didn't win the ninth Warren Open Golf at the lush green Tollygunge Club course. But he looked quite relaxed after finishing fourth and continued to remain among the top pros in the current Indian circuit. He didn't mind blowing his game in the third round.. You see, this is all in the game. You have to gamble We are professionals,' said Randhawa coolly.

And a few minute later, the current circuit leader, local Basad Ali (who a few days ago had collected the Grindlays cheque at the same venue) flashed a big smile for he had done it again. "Basad is the supremo on the green and around," complimented Bunty, adding, "He's straight and sharp. Give him a small tight course and see what he does."

Basad was unmatchable. He was too good for the rest. He beat young Inderjit Bhalotia by a awesome 10 strokes. Basad's 69+68+69+70=276 was the best ever triumph in his career "My best performance earlier was in Bombay in 1984 which was a five-under win. But the victory in the Warren Open is certainly my best ever," said a proud Basad Ali.

It seems that those who take the challenge alongside Basad are not good enough to match his game. "Perhaps they are a bit paranoid about playing with me," Basad said. "The greens this year was superb and we certainly enjoyed playing on it."

Inderjit Bhalotia, son of a corporate executive, tasted his first big win and with more experience he should fare better. He led on the first day, but the more experienced Basad, who has won over 55 titles so far, led the field on the second day onwards after returning a three under and Bhalotia lost as many shots. The going was easy and Basad Ali was already thinking of the fat purse that he was going to take home. Basad had once again shown unique consistency...and the strict disciplinarian that he is summed up: 'I'm surely winning. I've paid my taxes and so I can sleep in peace."

S.S.

Basad Ali had an impressive win in the Warren Golf championships



State Kabaddi

EASTERN RAILWAY won the men's division State Kabaddi League Championship . In an all-Railway final at the West Bengal Kabaddi Association courts, Eastern outclassed South Eastern 38-12, after leading 17-6 at the breather.

But the spotlight at the State Association courts was focussed on the Waseeda University team which came from Japan to pick up precious tips from the country which is the Asian Games champions.

The Japanese University played three exhibition matches versus the Calcutta University side, the state junior girls and against the state senior women's teams. Although they finished on the losing side each time, they did not get upset. For, Japan are no kabaddi giants and Waseeda have only begun the game recently.

The Calcutta University girls beat their Japanese counterparts 36-25, the state juniors won 47-41 and the seniors put it across with a 32-28 win.

Soumitra Bose

ROURKELA

Open Boxing

SPORTS CELL of Rourkela Steel Plant recently organised the

annual Rourkela Open Boxing championship at the Ispat stadium

The two-day championship in three groups—Sub-junior, Junior and Senior—attracted around 50 new and established boxers of the city There were some keenly contested bouts in the championships S.R Rai (Sub-Junior), S P Mudali (Junior) and R.N Padhi (Senior) were declared the best boxers of the meet

Mr S K Patra, Senior Manager (Sports) gave away the prizes to the successful boxers.

Satish Sharma

NEW DELHI

Sandeep Suri Cricket

RIZWAN SHAMAHAD was the main architect of the Flex India L T D Noida team triumphed in the fourth Sandeep Suri cricket tournament played at Satyawati College New Delhi

In the final, Flex India had a 25 runs victory over local outfit Sonnet club Batting first Flex were all out for 197 runs Rizwan Shamshad (60) Wahid (50), Nitin Bahyguna (34) were the main scorers In reply Vihwajeet (50) and Baldev Singh (40) scored for Sonnet

A fine unbeaten knock by Govind Bihani helped Sonnet Club beat J N Golden by three wickets in the semi-final, while in the other semi final, deadly bowling by Vijay Walia and good batting by Rizwan Shamshed (66) helped Flex India defeat Ashok Auto by 76 runs.

Govind Behani was adjudged "the best batsman" of the tournament while the honour of being 'the best bowler' went to Vijay Walia. Rizwan was declared "the man of the tournament." Vishwajeet Singh from the runners-up team was declared 'The best all-rounder'.

Major Jai Gopal, Managing Director, Rajiv Moters distributed the prizes, while Dr K.P. Bhatt, Principal, Satyawati Co-Educational College, University of Delhi presided over the ceremony.

Suresh Kumar Lau



Manoj Sharma of Flex India receives the winner's trophy from Major Jai Gopal



MADRAS

Bank Sports Board Hockey

Mr. B.L. Chadha, chief general manager, State Bank of India presenting the Bank Sports Board hockey trophy to the captain of Canara Bank which won the Bank Sports Board (Southern region) hockey tournament

PATNA

National 'A' Chess

BOMBAY based International Master Praveen Thipsay picked up his fifth title winning the 91 92 edition of the National Chess championships this month in Patna

It was a remarkable comeback performance for the 33 year old Union Bank officer who started very badly in the 20 player round robin Thipsay was nowhere at the half way stage languishing on four points after his first 10 games

Indeed it appeared that young N Sudhakar Babu (22) would power his way to a maiden triumph Babu Bhilai Steel Plant employee played well through the first half and he was the clear leader

However Babu had the rug pulled from under his feet in a strange fashion IM Arun Vaidya and Vishal Sareen pulled out of the meet and their scores were cancelled So Babu who had picked up two vital points in his personal encounters with them suddenly found those efforts were in vain

Mithrakanth of NLC Neyveli then took over the lead before he was pegged back by a 14th round loss to Nasir Wajih of Bikaner IM Ravi Hegde had played steadily to remain in contention He and Babu were hot on Mitrakanth s heels

Thipsay had finally recovered his composure after winning a tough 11th round encounter with defending champion IM D V Prasad He won six games out of his last nine and drew three to jump into the lead and eventually clinched the title with a quick agreed draw in the final round Thipsay s final score was 11 5 points

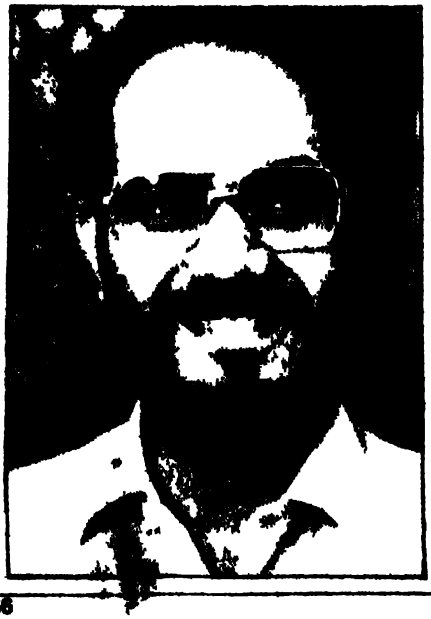
Babu was probably happy enough with his second place score of 10 5 because that fetched him a final IM norm Babu fulfilled the requirements to become India s 13th IM as well as making the national team for the Olympiad

Prasad who had a lack lustre tournament finally played himself into the squad Ravi Hegde and Lanka Ravi also produced good performances

Once again the premier Indian tournament was hard-hit by pull-outs though admittedly it was not as farcical as last year Then, at Pondicherry seven players including one GM and five IMs pulled out for assorted reasons reducing the meet to a travesty This time it was only two players—Sareen and Vaidya However it would be desirable if the Indian Chess Federation could workout ways and means of putting a stop to this practise

Devangshu Dutta

Praveen Thipsay was the winner of the National 'A' Chess championships



FF HK AHLAU



P.G.D A.V. College retained the Inter-College Football tournament

NEW DELHI

Inter-College Football

PGDAV COLLEGE retained the University of Delhi Inter College Football in which 29 colleges participated title edging out 1987 88 champions Hindu college by solitary first half goal in a stiff battle

The highlight of the match was the fine performance by Kuldeep Ekka who scored the match winners

In the play off last year s runners-up Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) secured the third spot when they defeated Zakir Hussain college 1-0

In the semi finals PGDAV defeated S R C C 4-2 in the tie breaker, while Hindu College triumphed over Zakir Hussain College 2 1

Suresh Kumar Lau

Inter-Zonal Hockey

EAST ZONE retained the 23rd edition of the FCI Inter-Zonal Hockey tournament by edging out West Zone on a better goal average

at the Shivaji Stadium

FCI dominating the match from the beginning managed to force four penalty corners against the West s one For East Zone it was former international, Thoiba Singh who was at his best showing glimpses of his past form with some fine solo dashes and deft stickwork

Rudolph Vance

Shastri Hockey

NAMDHARI XI clinched the Lal Bahadur Shastri Hockey tournament when they narrowly edged out a very gallant and unlucky Northern Railway 4 3 via the tie breaker Even after the stipulated regulation time neither of the teams could draw blood so eventually the tie breaker had to be resorted to

Sukhwinder Singh (Jr) Gurmit Singh and Bagga Singh converted for the Namdhari side while for Northern Railway only Nirmal Singh and M P Singh managed to find the mark

In the semi final earlier Northern Railway had beaten the much fancied Punjab & Sind Bank 5 2 via the tie breaker while in another semi final Namdhari XI edged out (EME) Jalandhar in the sudden death

Rudolph Vance



NEW DELHI

Book Release

Prof. Mohammad Amin, Vice-Chancellor of Hamdard University (right) releasing the book, 'Physical fitness—how to develop'. The author, Dr. A.K. Uppal is at left.

LUDHIANA

National Judo

PUNJAB emerged worthy winners in both the men s and women s categories of the 15th Senior National Judo championship held at the Multipurpose hall of the Guru Nanak Dev sports complex Ludhiana recently The star studded Punjab team accomplished the triumph by bagging five gold, one silver and six bronze medals Over 400 judokas from 28 units grappled for selection to the Indian team to participate in the Olympics, 92

There were keenly contested bouts and experienced internationals showed their class Narender Singh who is a Commonwealth Games bronze medallist and won the final beating Ranjit Singh of CRPF in the below 69 kg category

Asian bronze medallist Sandeep Byala too proved a worthy winner when he easily defeated last year s national champion Tilak Thapa of CRPF in the over 60 kg weight class



Narender Singh won the below 60 kgs title in the National Judo championships

In the open weight Cawas Billimoria of Maharashta A retained the title beating Parminder Singh of Punjab In the 50 kg final bout Naresh Kumar of Punjab retained the gold beating Dharamendra of BSF

In the women s section M N Trivemi regained the gold in the over 56 kg weight category when she managed to outscore Harikirat Kaur of Himachal Pradesh International Judoka Sumita Thakur of Karnataka retained the gold by outplaying Kanchan Anand of Indian Airlines in the open weight

Bharati Dogra of Punjab beat current All India Inter University champions Vani Swamy of Madhya Pradesh in the below 48 kg category

The Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) team was scratched due to misbehaviour by one of their players during the bouts ITBP team got one silver and two bronze

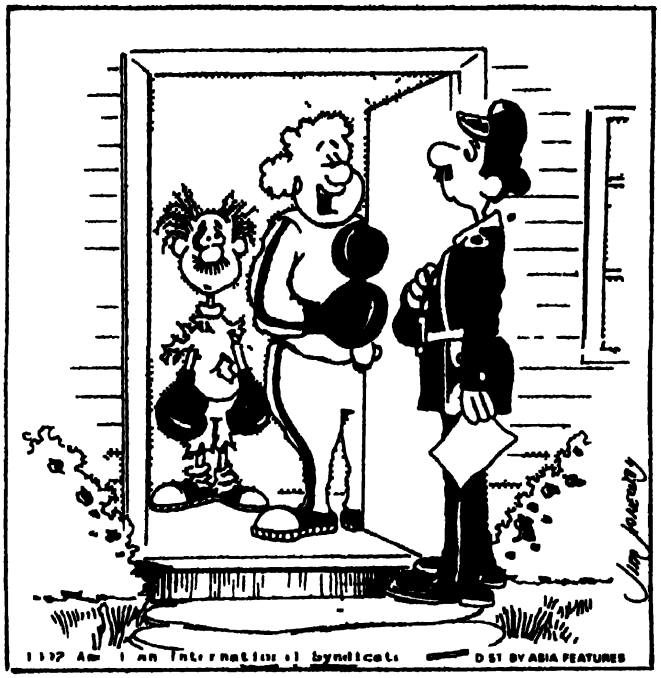
Mohinder Singh Kaypee Minister of State for sports and youth Affairs Punjab gave away the prizes

Suresh Kumar Lau

Be a Sport



"WE NEED HIM, HE'S THE STAR."



"OUR MARRIAGE COUNCELOR SAID WE COULD GET RID OF OUR PENT UP HOSTILITIES THROUGH EXERCISE."

SPORTOON



"I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO START YOU AT THE VERY BEGINNING, MR BAXTER"



"YOU CUT YOURSELF SHAVING? GREAT SCOTT! DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU FILM A SHAVING COMMERCIAL TODAY?"

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the only England batsman to score a double century against both Australia and South Africa?
2. Who is the first player to score at least 150 in both innings of the same Test match?
3. Who was the only player to score two centuries in the inaugural World Cup cricket competition?
4. Who holds the distinction of being the only cricketer to score over 10,000 runs in a completed career without scoring a century?
5. Which English County has beaten the touring Australians on a record nine occasions?
6. Who was the only England batsman to have fallen victim to Don Bradman's bowling?
7. In which Test in the mid-1970s was Gavaskar out first ball of the match?
8. Sarfraz Nawaz set bowling record in Australia What is it?
9. Which Australian player made a century against England on debut about four years before his tragic death from tuberculosis?

ANSWERS

1. Eddie Paynter (216* v. Australia at Trent Bridge in 1938 and 243 v South Africa in Durban in 1939)
2. Allan Border (150*, 153 v. Pakistan at Lahore, 1980.)
3. Glenn Turner (171* v. E Africa and 114* v. India)
4. Tony Lock 10,342 runs; highest score 89.)
5. Surrey
6. Wally Hammond (at Adelaide in 1932.)
7. Vs England (S. M. Gavaskar c Knott b Arnold 0, Birmingham, July 1974.)
8. He became in 1979 the first visiting bowler to take 9 wickets in a Test innings in Australia.
9. Archie Jackson.

CHESS

LEV ALBURT's fanatical passion for the Benko Gambit where black sacrifices the b-pawn for counterplay is well-known. Here he uses an ancestral version—the Blumenfeld C-G. A dashing miniature results—for Tony Miles is obviously not conversant with 70-year-old theory.

White: Miles Vs Black: Alburt. Philadelphia, '91.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 Nf3 b5 5 de6 fe6 6 cb5 Bb7 7 Nc3 Be7 8 e3 0-0. According to Alekhine, who wrote about this in '26 white should chuck in Bg5. Miles' alternative idea to develop the Q-side fails because of a tactical trick.

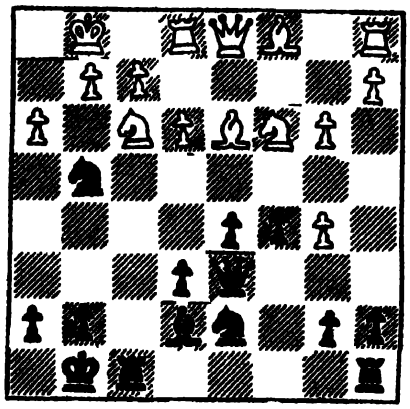
9 Bd3 d5 10 0-0 Qd6! 11 Re1 Nbd7 12 b3? Ng4! The crude threat of 13-Rf3 is combined with ideas like 13 Bc2 Nde5 14 Ne5 Qe5 15 Qg4 Qc3 winning a piece.

13 h3 (See Diagram) **Nf2! 14 Kf2 Bh4 15 Kg1 Rf3!**

White could not play 15 Kf1 Qh2 16 Ne2 Rf3! either.

16 Qf3 Be1 17 Bb2 Rf8! 18 Bh7 Kh7 19 Qh5 Kg8 20 Re1 Qg3! 21 Re2 d4! 22 ed4 Bf3! 23 Ne4 Be4 24 Re4 Rf2! 25 Qe8 Nf8 (0-1). Mate is inevitable

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

A FEW weeks ago I had presented a hand from the last Rula Trophy Open Team championship in the last nationals, featuring a lead by Jaggy Shivdasani of the winning HCL team. I had gone on to say that it was the killing lead which left declarer with no chance. International Sukha Ranjan Ghosh, better known as 'Suku' a past Bhowanipore teammate from whom I had picked up quite a few tips in the early part of my bridge career, points out that there was an error in my analysis. This was the hand:-

Dealer North — N-S vul

NORTH (dummy)
♠ 6
♥ K 10 4
♦ A K 8 7 3
♣ A K 7 2

WEST
♠ K 9 4
♥ A J 6 3
♦ J 5
♣ 10 9 6 5

EAST
♠ A 8 7 5 3
♥ 5
♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ Q J 4

SOUTH
♠ Q J 10 2
♥ Q 9 8 7 2
♦ 6 4
♣ 8 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Jaggy	P phekar	Santanu	Khare
-	1 ♠ +	1 ♠	Pass *
2 ♠	Dble	Pass	3 ♥ **
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	

\+ artificial 16+ HCP
* 0-4 pts or interest in penalising
** Lebenstention showing some values (3 4 pts)

On the normal opening lead of a low spade to East's ace and a spade continuation, West's king is ruffed out. Now even if West correctly ducks the king of hearts, declarer can and should make the hand by simply cashing the minor suit winners, ruffing a club, cashing a spade and then ruffing the last spade, giving West just two trump tricks.

Jaggy correctly placing South with some strength and length in spades for his first-round pass and subsequent forward-going move and North with shortness, led the *king* in order to protect the defence against the sort of layout of the spade suit that actually existed. I had said that after this lead declarer had no chance—he could not afford to ruff the spade continuation and ruffing would also not help.

As pointed out by Suku-da, declarer can still make the hand if he guesses to play West for 3-4-2-4 distribution. He ruffs the second spade, cashes all minor suit winners, ruffs a club, ruffs a spade, ruffs a club, (this is where he has to guess to ruff the fourth club rather than the third diamond) and ruffs his last spade, losing only two hearts and a spade. Quite right, as far as it goes, but as Suku himself admits, this detracts only from my incomplete analysis, not from Jaggy's brilliant lead.

Santanu Ghose

STEFFI GRAF

It's Never Too Late

Despite a slow start to the year, don't write off Ms.Graf. She's changing her game, altering her attitude, and is getting ready to prove that her time is not over



THE life and times of Steffi Graf is a short, short, strange story. She blew in, all blonde and leggy in 1986-87, dismissed Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert, won the Olympic gold and nine Grand Slam titles (including the Grand Slam), was ruthlessly dominant till Seles grunted in, and now is over the hill, at the end of line, or whatever people call athletes in decline. All this would appear to be nothing more than the ordinary circle that governs every athlete's life. Except.....she is just 22 years old. What better illustrates the madness, the unending precocity, of modern sport.

That Graf will never dominate like before is quietly accepted. Not so absolute though, is the contention that she is washed out, even though her start to the year has been abysmally ordinary.

A voluntary default from the Australian Open due to German measles, meant that Graf would play her first tournament in Chicago on 16 February. She won her first match 6-0, 6-0 but two rounds later, Jana Novotna, whose attacking game has consistently unbalanced Graf, took her out in three sets.

She won her next tournament at Boca Raton in March, but the signs were ominous—both Zina Garrison and Conchita Martinez taking her to three sets.

Two weeks later, in Key Biscayne, she lost in the semifinals to Gabriela Sabatini in three sets, again faltering after being up a set and a break.

If Graf's results have been disappointing (for some an understatement) then there are reasons for it, beyond the obvious excuse that she is merely getting back into gear. No, she is finally doing what everyone said she should—changing her game, altering her style.

The one dimensional, big-forehand-and-nothing-else Graf is being consigned to the dustbin—Graf is widening her perspective of the game, experimenting during matches and thus, not rattled by the odd loss. "It's difficult to be at the top of my game right now," she says, "because I am trying out so many things. The more I do it, the happier I am, but there is still some way to go".

Seles, with her two fisted, both-sided, battering game has forced Graf, albeit after much pressure, to start afresh. Long-time coach Pavel Slozil was the first casualty, and his replacement, Swiss Heinz Gunthardt, has swiftly moved her in the right direction—towards more tactically aggressive tennis, whether it be mixing up her shots or finding a new comfort at the net.

Graf's assets are her natural speed and athleticism, but more importantly a fine competitive urge and ability to apply herself completely. As he put it, "I just feel there is so much more to come from my game and I would be stupid if I didn't try to use it".

So, at 22, a legend (and she is already that) has been forced to rediscover herself and her game. Seles may well take Paris on clay, but at Wimbledon on grass, the leggy blonde from Bruhl, may be ready to kickstart her second career.

Rohit Brijnath

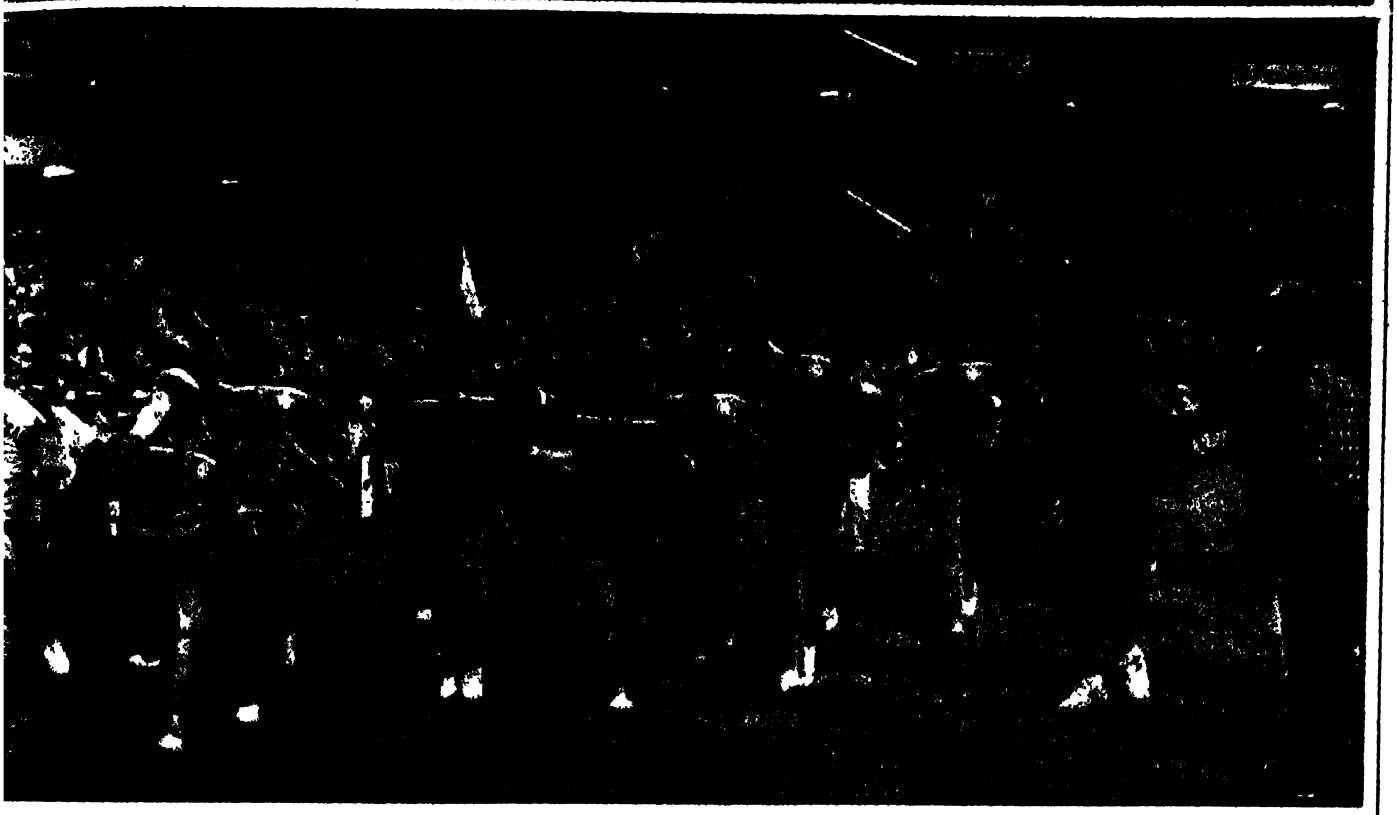


KALEIDOSCOPE

Myriad images: some dazzling, some sizzling, some shocking. Here, Nikhil Bhattacharya captures some of the wonderful final moments of World Cup '92

(Left): The colourful score-board reflects Pakistan's score and England's task—after scoring 70 in the first 25 overs who thought they could get to 249? Not England for sure

(Below): That's it. The last wicket has fallen. Richard Illingworth has been caught by Rameez Raja off the bowling of Imran Khan and it's all over





(Top): Pakistan celebrate their greatest win in international cricket—not only had Imran inspired his team, but like a true captain he led by example with a wonderfully constructed 70 runs

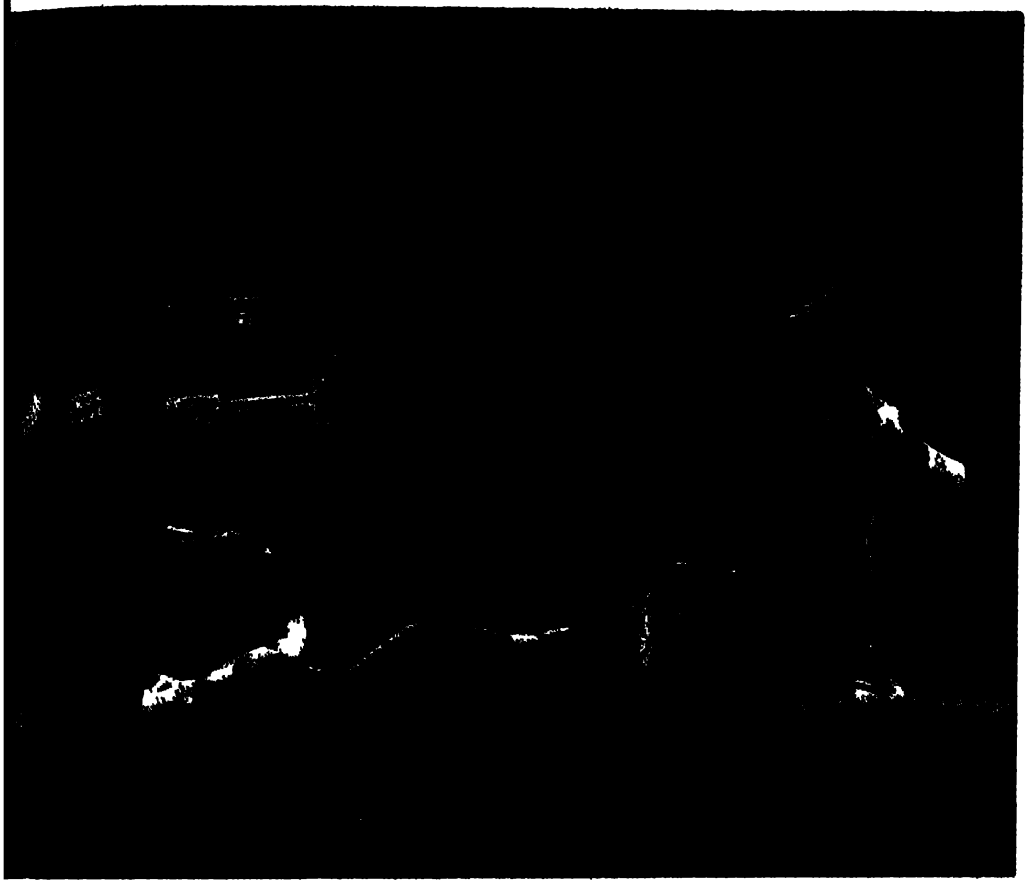
(Left): Wasim Akram, the man who almost single-mindedly won the match for Pakistan, is all smiles as he holds the crystal World Cup trophy



(Top): Pakistan celebrate the fall of yet another English wicket—this, was teamwork at its very best

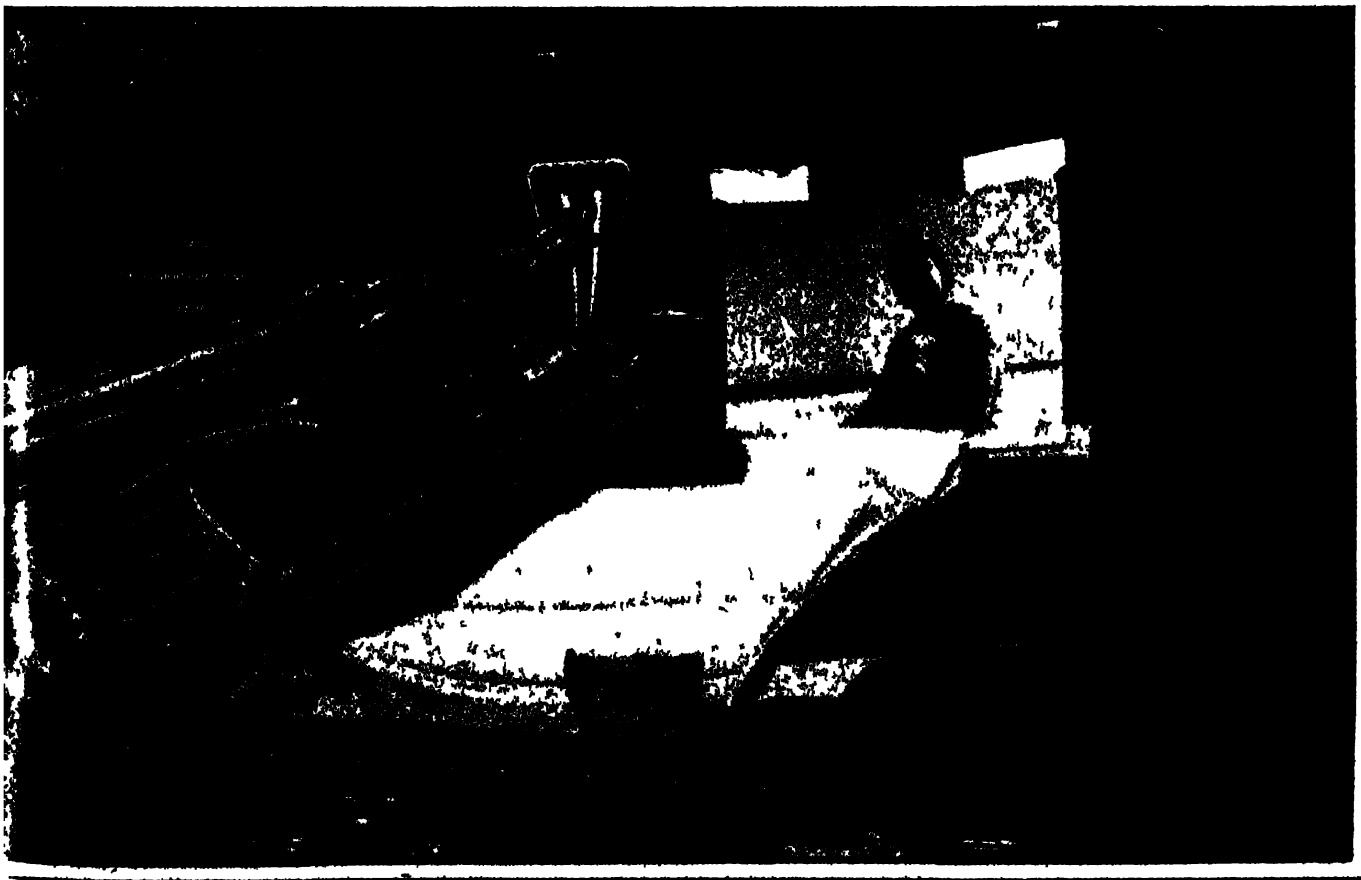


(Right): Calm and relaxed is the attitude. But both Imran Khan and Graham Gooch must be inwardly tense as they wait for the toss to take place. Pakistan won and Imran decided to bat



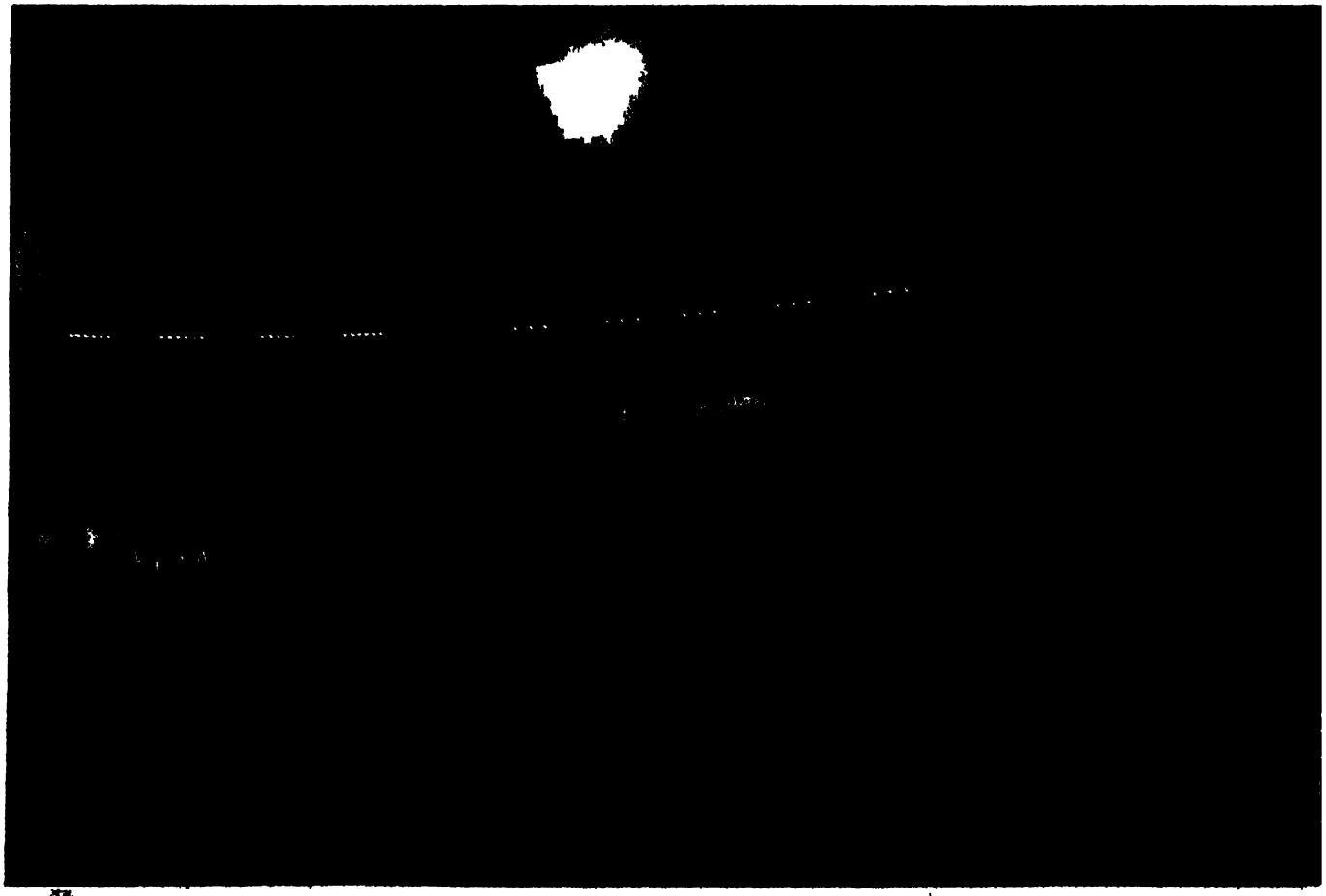
(Left): The resistance from the England camp was led by Allan Lamb (left) and Neil Fairbrother—once they were gone, so was England

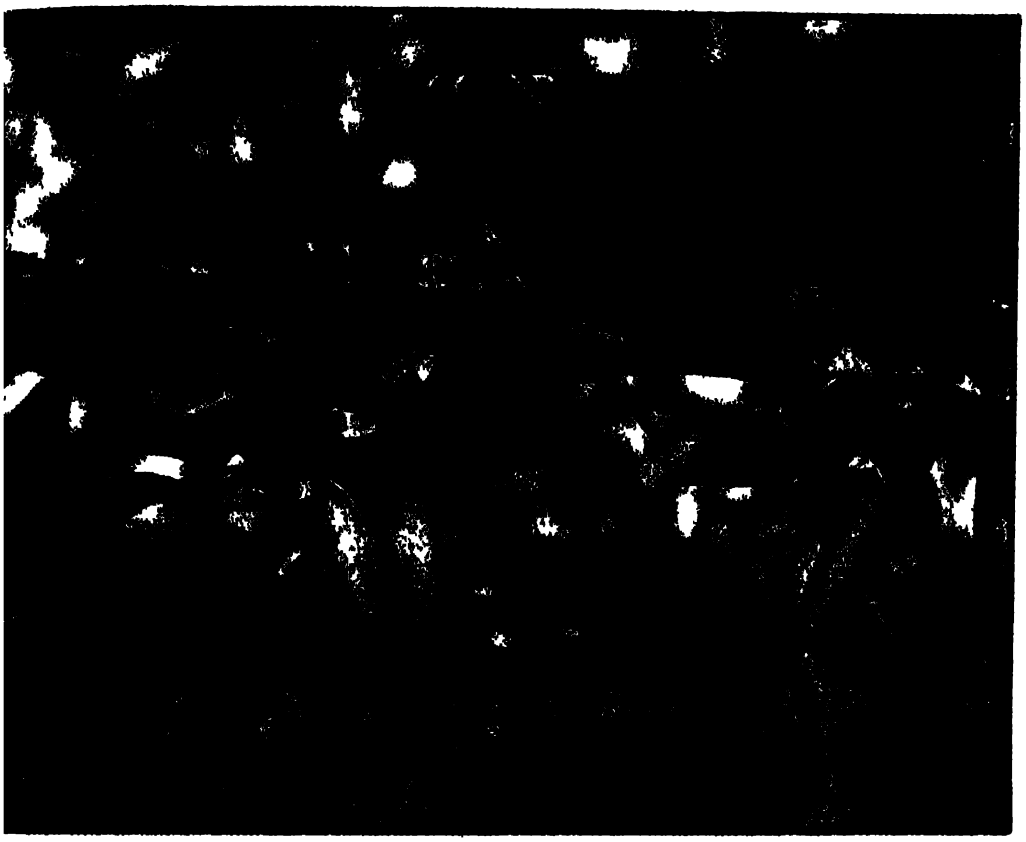
(Below): Dermot Reeve's kit bag shows that he clearly wishes to be elsewhere. Like on a beach on a sunny day with his daughter. That could have been more tranquil than facing an inspired Pakistan team in the final



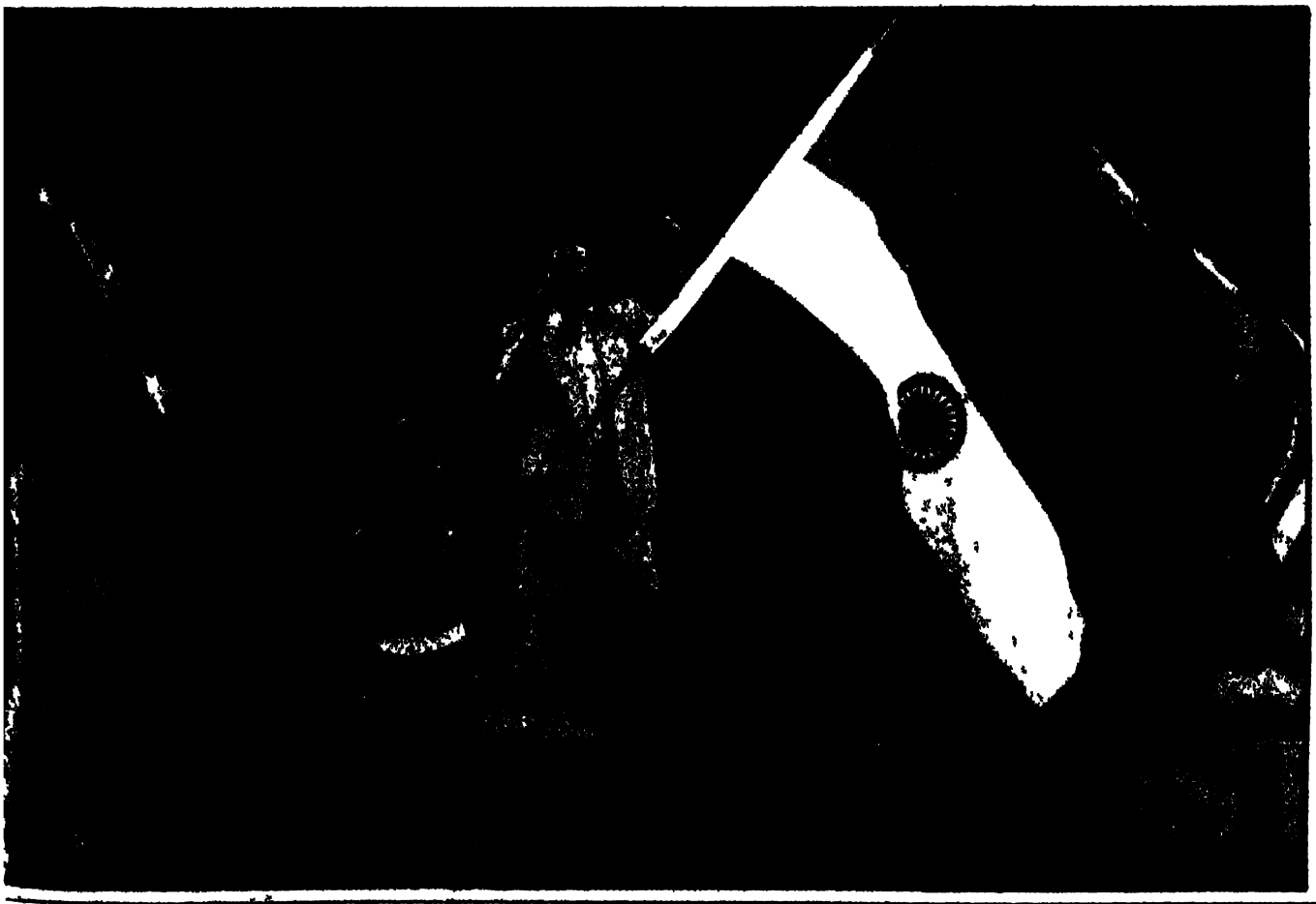


(Below): A parachutist lands on the smooth green turf of the Melbourne Cricket Ground during the impressive opening ceremony





(Left): A feast for the eyes: Dancers perform before the start of the final and (below) holding the Indian flag



South African captain Kepler Wessels receiving a massage before the semi final against England, but nothing can reduce or remove the tension



(Below): A disappointed South African team, robbed by the rain, goes for a lap of honour around the MCG—the world will remember not just their skill, but their courage







(Above): Hope and tension. South Africans in the balcony of their dressing room during the last stages of the run-chase against England, and moments before rain made it a farce of a semi final

(Left): The great Mike Proctor (second from left) and England manager Mickey Stewart (extreme right) with officials on the field discussing the likely effect that rain now had on the match. Never before has such a wonderful match ended so cruelly

PERSONALITY

Leroy Burrell

'I'M A

LEROY BURRELL has a diamond stud in his left ear is blind in one eye and with one exception runs faster than any man on earth This summer at Barcelona Burrell will be the challenger his compatriot and friend Carl Lewis most fears as the champion goes for a third consecutive gold medal in the men s 100 metres

At the 1991 World Championships in Tokyo after a season of supremacy, Burrell was pushed into second place by Lewis in what has been dubbed the fastest race of all time , the first four runners all closed the line in under 10 seconds It was two months prior to that in June that Burrell set a world record at the US Championships with a timing of 9 9 seconds In Tokyo, Lewis hit the tape in 9 86 seconds A certain Ben Johnson years back had recorded 9 79 seconds, but that was courtesy stanozolol the anabolic steroid

Burrell is the first to have emerged since the Johnson saga, and has the added burden of helping to restore prestige to arguably the most important event in athletics

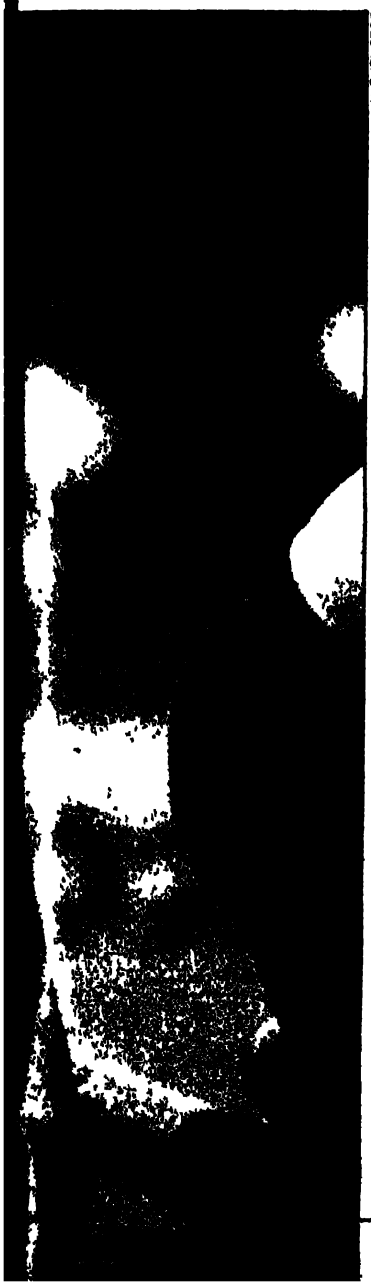
Leroy Burrell was brought up in Lansdowne, a suburb of Philadelphia He was born myopic and is



SURVIVOR...

partially blind in his right eye, a disability which ruined his first ambition: to become a baseball star. Like millions of young American boys he wanted to play ball at high school, but he could not catch one.

The ball would hit him.



COLORSPORT

But the coach noticed how fast he ran the bases, and suggested Burrell switch to the track.

The rest is history, but his first chapter was not a happy one as he fell four strides into his first race. In the second, Burrell was disqualified in the relay. But after this setback he began to learn his way round the track, winning meetings for his school single-handedly.

It was at this point of time that the comparisons with Lewis started: both grew up in Pennsylvania - they lived just 20 miles apart—both won multiple titles at state championships, and both went for the same course at the University of Houston, where they are still coached by Tom Tellez. And now both men have founded their own joint sports fashion house, Modern Men Incorporated.

Burell's greatest advantage over his rivals, who include European champion Linford Christie, is the uncanny speed of his reactions. Coupled with an ability to keep the body relaxed at times of great stress—for instance, the start—when the tension can distort and unbalance the runner. Burrell appears to have an extraordinary intution about when the starter's gun is going to fire. It took him just 0.117 seconds to respond to the signal when he set a world record—the fastest electronically recorded start.

Burell's all set to blast off from the block in the 100m at the Tokyo World Championships

The physical sensation of accelerating off the blocks with a speed of around 22 miles per hour, has been described by Burrell as, "The first 80 metres is a blank, as if someone has pressed a button and put the whole of my life on fast forward."

'Running's the easy bit', Burrell has said, admitting that he found the responsibility of being world record holder a daunting one 'People who pass you in the street know who you are. Dignitaries want you to write letters to them. The press want you all the time. At the same time I have to continue to compete well. I'm a survivor and I can adapt '

In the race in Tokyo, in a classic encounter between a hero and his understudy, Lewis ended Burrell's winning streak. The older man is the more efficient in terms of running style, but Burrell can keep up with him because he is stronger.

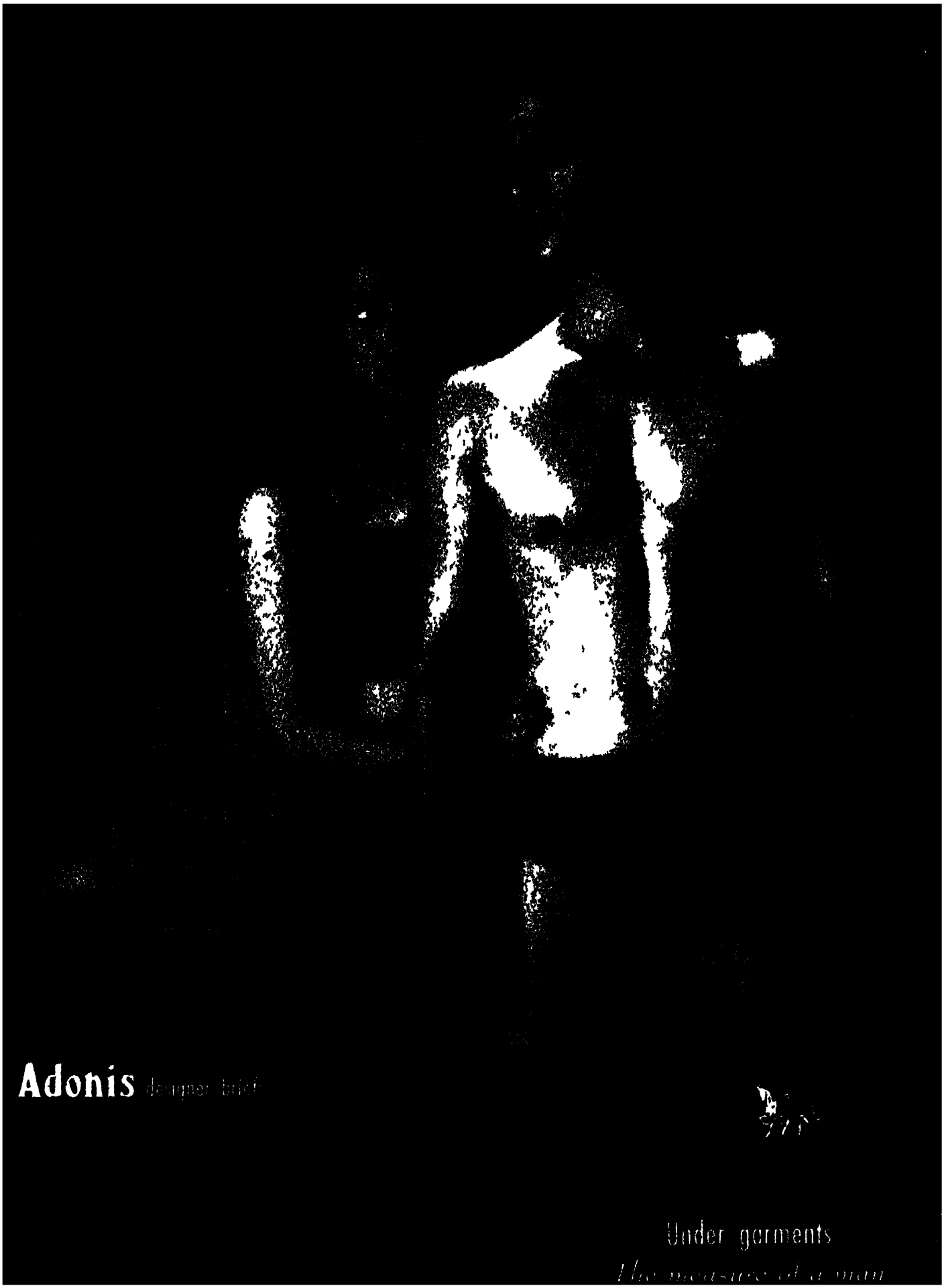
When they meet in Barcelona, this summer, the hero will be 31 and his protege will just be 25. Only time (pun intended) can now decide the eventual victor.

Harry Lansdown
ASIA FEATURES

...and I can adapt', says Leroy Burrell who has emerged from the shadows of Carl Lewis and Co. and has carved a niche for himself in the world of athletics.

fainting




Adonis designer briefs
Under garments
The measure of a man



World Champion Wayne Rainey at work

Every time World Motorcycle Champion Wayne Rainey gets on to his Castrol lubricated Yamaha YZR 500, he takes on a dual role of rider and researcher, because at Castrol, our ultimate laboratories are the racetracks where our products are tested under the most gruelling racing conditions

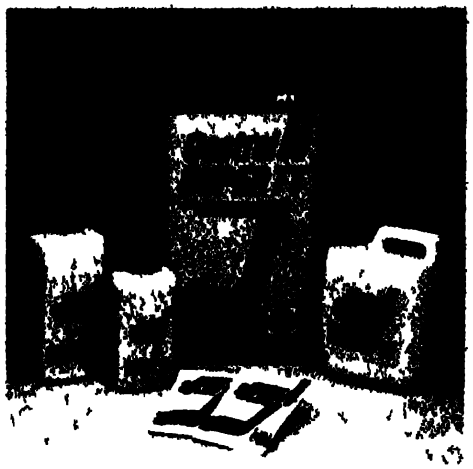
Success under stress is key to the development of new technology and the most critical input is the rider's comment of the machine's performance No computer model or wind tunnel/laboratory tests can replicate the torturous engine punishment on the track, to test the final proof of the strength or weakness of an oil

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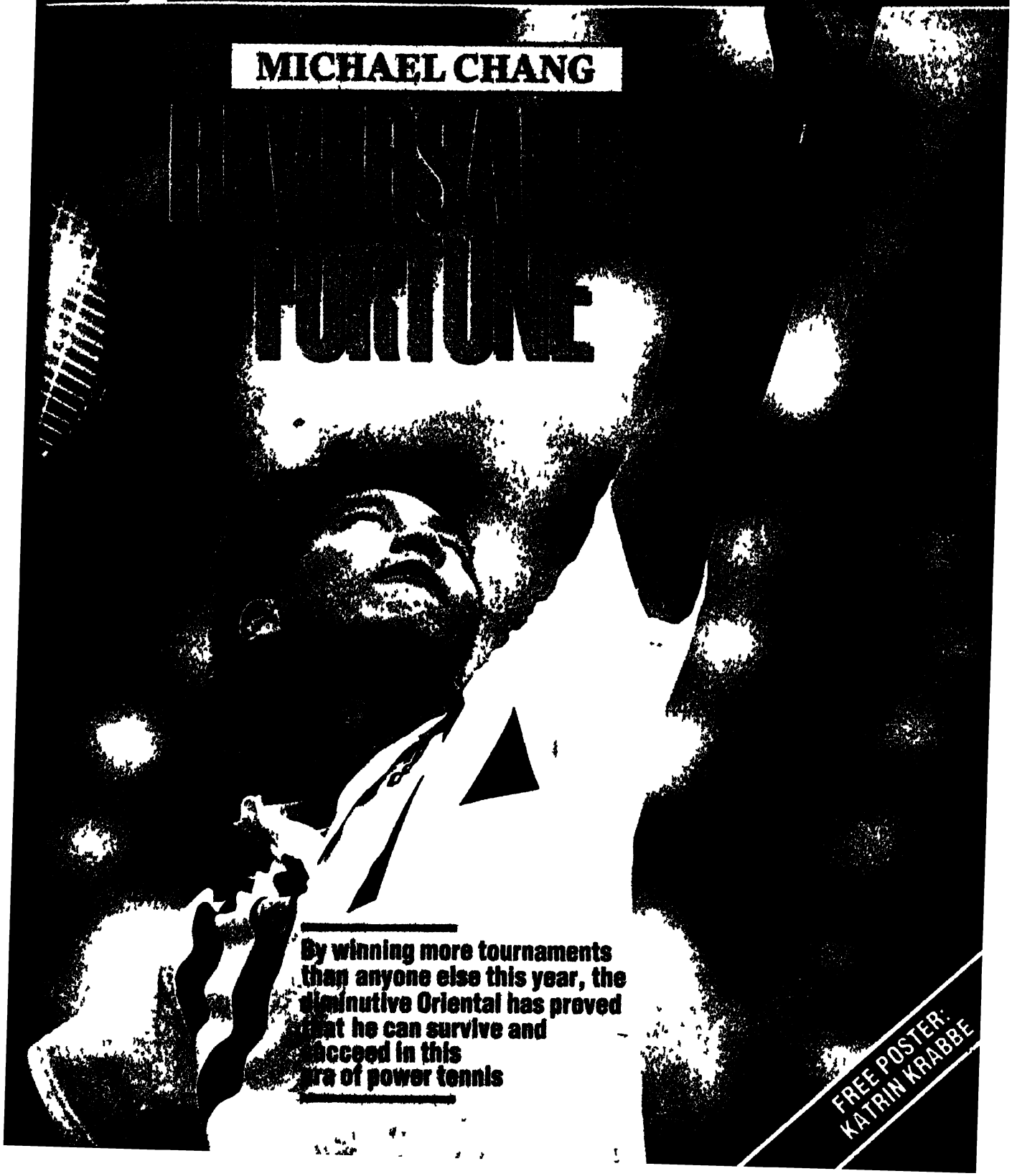
Castrol

WAQAR YOUNIS IN DANGER OF RUINING HIS CAREER

Sportsworld

MICHAEL CHANG

FORTUNE



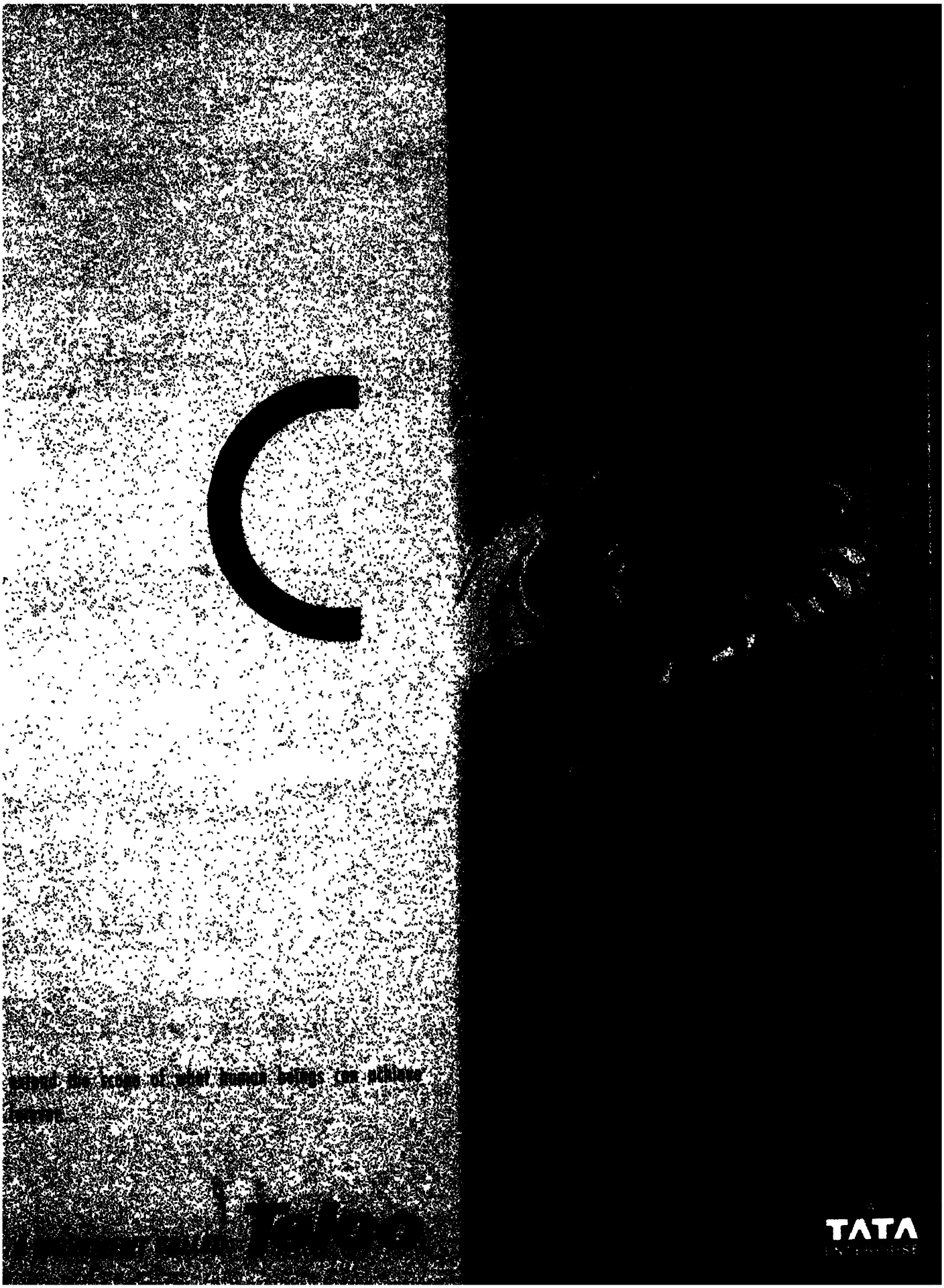
By winning more tournaments than anyone else this year, the diminutive Oriental has proved that he can survive and succeed in this era of power tennis

FREE POSTER: KATRIN KRABBE

T E L

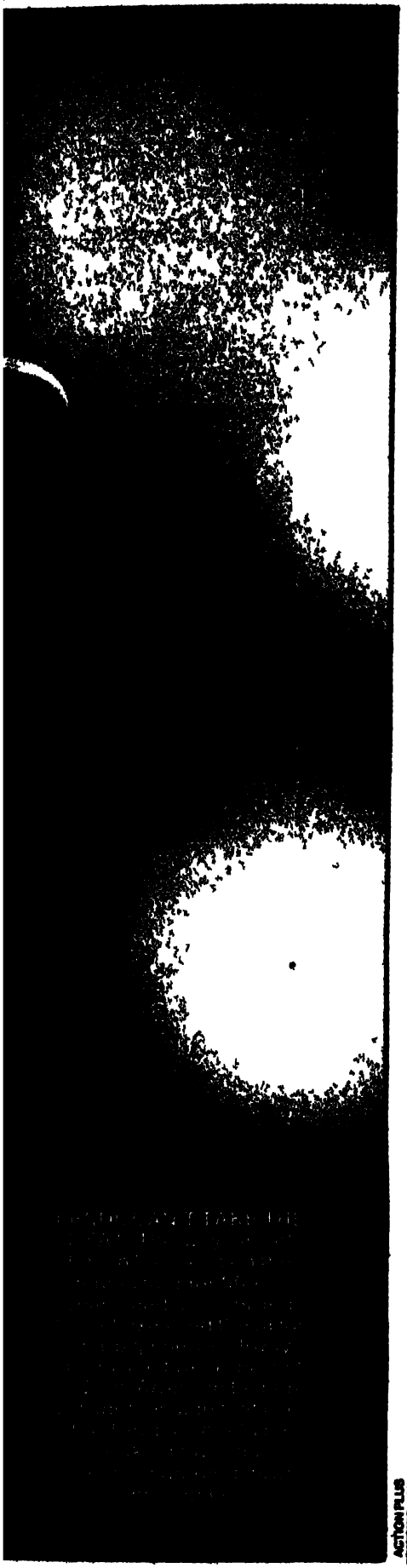
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TATA



TOMMY HINDLEY



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Poster photograph by Tommy Hindley

Cover photograph by Sports File



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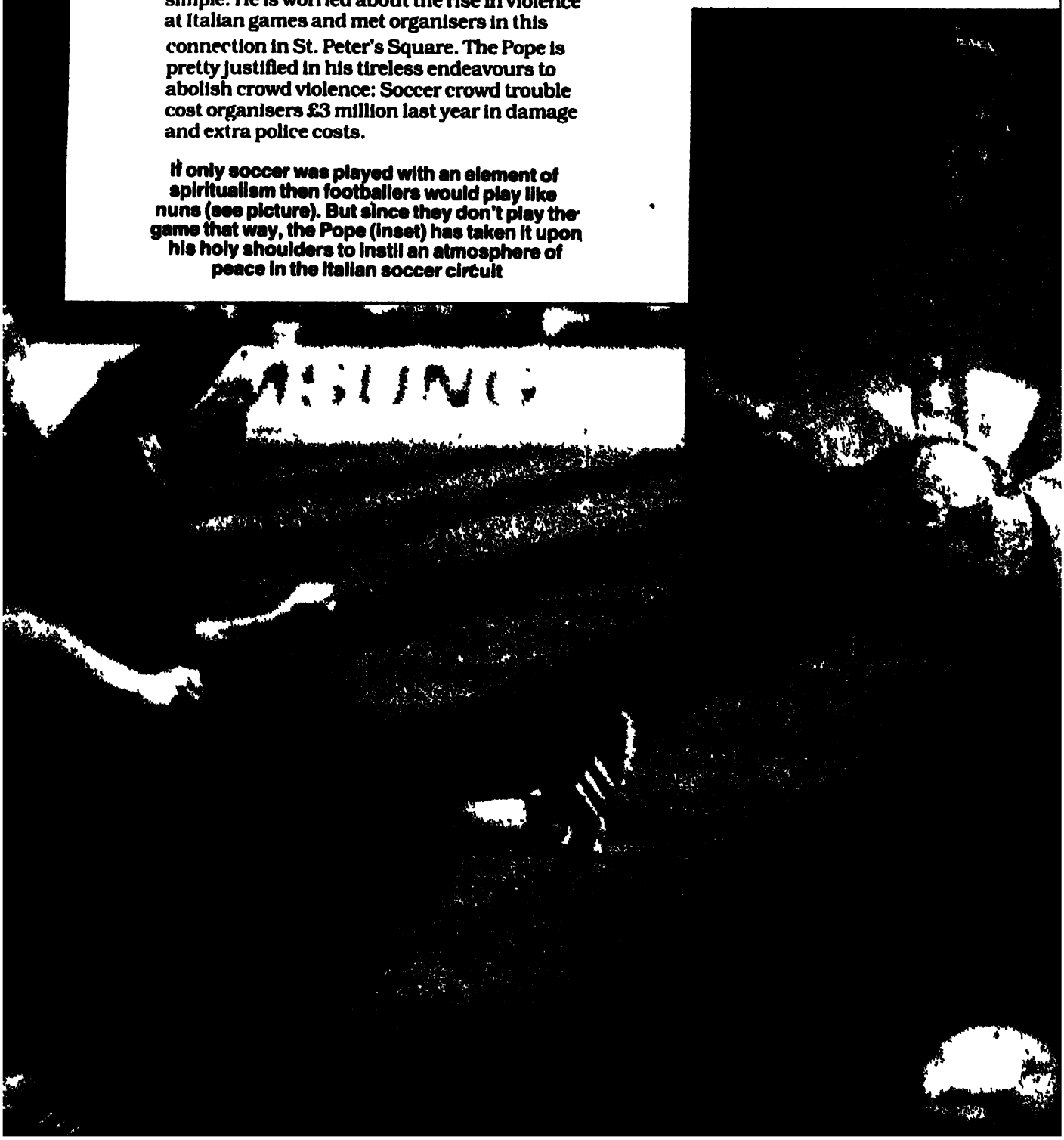
DIFFERENT STROKES

POPE V.S. HOOLIGANS: WHO'S BAD?

SOCCER violence is on the rise and guess who's unduly worried? His Holiness Pope John Paul II, that's who. The Pope is backing for plans for a 'Peace and Friendship Day' at the Italian football grounds.

The reason behind the Pope's move is pretty simple: He is worried about the rise in violence at Italian games and met organisers in this connection in St. Peter's Square. The Pope is pretty justified in his tireless endeavours to abolish crowd violence: Soccer crowd trouble cost organisers £3 million last year in damage and extra police costs.

If only soccer was played with an element of spiritualism then footballers would play like nuns (see picture). But since they don't play the game that way, the Pope (inset) has taken it upon his holy shoulders to instil an atmosphere of peace in the Italian soccer circuit



HAMMER TIME!



MC Hammer struts his stuff at the Simple Truth concert. Music can take a backseat, he's making money at the races

YOU definitely can't touch this! Just in case most of you thought that rap star MC Hammer was an onstage performer, you're wrong. He plays the ponies as well and is making quite a packet pursuing his love for horses.

Our friend Hammer has got himself a 3-year-old colt aptly called 'Dance Floor' Thanks to our fleet footed friend, Hammer happened to have a better day at Gulfstream Park than he did at the cashier's window.

Dance Floor, second to Technology in the $500,000 Florida Derby, won the $95,000 and brought pride for Daktown Stables, which is owned by Hammer and his family. Hammer, thoroughbred racings newest star, dressed fashionably in a blazing red suit for the occasion and happily signed autographs all day. He clearly was a big hit and even a fan, Myra Solomon admitted that even though she couldn't understand what he says, "I like his music."

MUCH HAIRDO ABOUT NOTHING

THE next time you happen to sight Chris Evert—though the chances are pretty remote—don't do a double take if you happen to have problems recognising her. The fact is that Chrissie has gone and chopped off her famous pony tail.

Mrs. Evert Mill agreed to do this for a multi-million dollar five-year contract with a beauty company called Matrix Essentials. "They took one look at my hair and said: 'We can't have a sophisticated lady with a ponytail,' said Evert, quoting the contract. "So off it came," she went on to add "And that was that. I really like my new hair though." Hubby Andy Mill is not very happy with the move though. His reason?" He just loved my ponytail," admitted Chris. "Now his hair is longer than mine so he can grow one of his own if he likes them so much," she concluded stubbornly.



Chris Evert: Sacrificing her ponytail for a million plus

MICHAEL CHANG

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

WHATEVER God was thinking about when he created tennis players, it turned out, as usual, perfectly. It would seem that in his scheme of things, *compensation*, was to be the key issue: what it means is that, in all fairness, he would not endow any particular player with everything. Where there were gifts to be bestowed, so too there must be flaws.

And it was up to the player to balance the two. (Some managed, some didn't).

So John McEnroe was given shotmaking genius, but also an unruly temperament; Ivan Lendl was denied natural skills, but given an admirable work ethic; Boris Becker was given magic, yet also a soulful, distractive mind. And then, came Michael Chang. He was made short at 5'8" and he was made frail, but God compensated for this by giving him wings on his feet and a computer chip as a brain. And one thing's for sure, Michael De Pei Chang has not spurned his gifts. No one is quicker or smarter on a tennis court than him and moreso it's finally paying off.

When this year began, and quiet debates started on which young player would be most likely to dominate the season, Michael Chang's name was at the bottom of the list. Everyone talked of Jim Courier and Pete Sampras and Goran Ivanisevic, but rarely Chang. And there were good, rational reasons for this, as ever since the impassive, young Oriental won the French Open in 1989 when just 17 years old, nothing has gone right.

A hip injury in late 1989 effectively curtailed his career for months, and through 1990-91 he would win only one tournament each year, his ranking gradually plummeting from an all-time high of No.5 in 1989 to a record low of No. 15 in end 1991.

The problem, of course, was disarmingly simple: the diminutive Chang was a misfit in an era where muscle power was the primary requisite for success. The equation was all too plain: winning necessitated both a huge serve and, at least, one lethal stroke (be it forehand or backhand) and since Chang had neither, he was quickly dismissed as a no-hoper, a player whose skills may have been more suited to an earlier generation.

All this wisdom and wonderful truths now make little sense, for how does one explain Chang's rocketing rise to No. 6 by virtue of winning three tournaments this year—more than any other player. He is, quite simply, the hottest, winningest, most in-form player on the tour.

Chang's reversal of fortune, his ability to not only survive, but succeed, despite his limitations, can be traced back to something he did, and said, at last year's French Open. Beaten by Becker in three decisive sets, he astonished everyone by actually playing serve and volley on a few points, something hardly expected from a clay court, baseline bore. Never verbose, in fact frequently contemplative, in the post-match interview he would give only a subtle hint of what transition his game was going through: "I'm kind of training ahead, looking to my best years. I've had to change my mentality—I know you have to have an aggressive attitude out there".

> By winning three tournaments this year—more than anyone else—the diminutive Oriental has proved that he can survive and succeed in this era of power tennis



Whatever God was thinking about when he created tennis players, it turned out, as usual, perfectly. It would seem that in his scheme of things, compensation would be the key issue: what it means, is that in all fairness, he would not endow any player with everything. Where there were gifts to be bestowed, so too there must be flaws



Chang's experimentation with a new style—whether hitting the ball flatter or attacking the net more frequently—meant he would initially lose matches, but sensibly he was looking at long term goals. Having been coached by Jose Higueras and then Brian Gottfried, it was Australian Phil Dent who really began transforming Chang, and his message was clear: don't just rely on your natural strengths—speed and precise passes—but create new ones. Add that extra dimension to become an all-round, all-court player.

Dent has since left and Chang's elder brother Carl has assumed

the role of full time coach But the strategy has not changed.

The choice of Carl as coach may have been odd, for his credentials begin and end with playing college tennis. Yet, he appears to understand both the game and his brother's ability to adapt, something best illustrated by an incident during America's Davis Cup semi final against Austria in late 1990. With the tie at 2-2, Chang found himself playing the deciding match against Horst Skoff, who, buoyed by a rabid Viennese crowd, stormed to a two sets to love lead Chang, tenacious as ever, then scraped through the third set 6-4 and with time running out, the final two sets were deferred to the next day, Monday. In the middle of that night, Michael called his brother Carl at Berkeley, California, who instructed him to move wide into the alley, and kick his serve wide on the ad court to Skoff's backhand. Junior Chang did exactly that, and Skoff, startled by this constant attack on his brittle backhand, disintegrated and lost the last two sets 4-6, 3-6.

Further evidence that the Chang team is constantly thinking, planning, and managing to exploit the game to every possible advantage, came again at Key Biscayne last fortnight, where Michael unsettled his opponents,

TOMMY HINDLEY



again subtly, by varying his service speed all the way from 60 mph to 112 mph, thus never allowing them any stroke rhythm.

Chang's last two tournament wins, at Indian Wells and Key Biscayne, gain even more credence when you note some of the talent he brusquely dealt with: Richard Krajicek, Andrei Chesnokov, Marc Rosset, Pete Sampras, Jim Courier and Alberto Mancini. Unlike Chang, most of them carry powerful serves, but here again we see that compensation, for Chang's returning prowess is incredible. So much so, that on the ATP's MatchFacts statistical listings this year, Chang at present, is second in three categories—points won returning first serves (39%); points won returning second serves (58%); and return games won (41%).

Last year, Jim Courier won Indian Wells and Key Biscayne and then went on to win the French Open: question is, can Chang hold his form and confidence and translate it into another Grand Slam title? Clay surprisingly may not be his favourite surface anymore, for hardcourts (on which he has won all his three titles this year) adds that extra, necessary speed to his serve and groundstrokes. Nevertheless, he has moved back from pretender to contender and left an army of critics totally confused by his sudden resurgence.

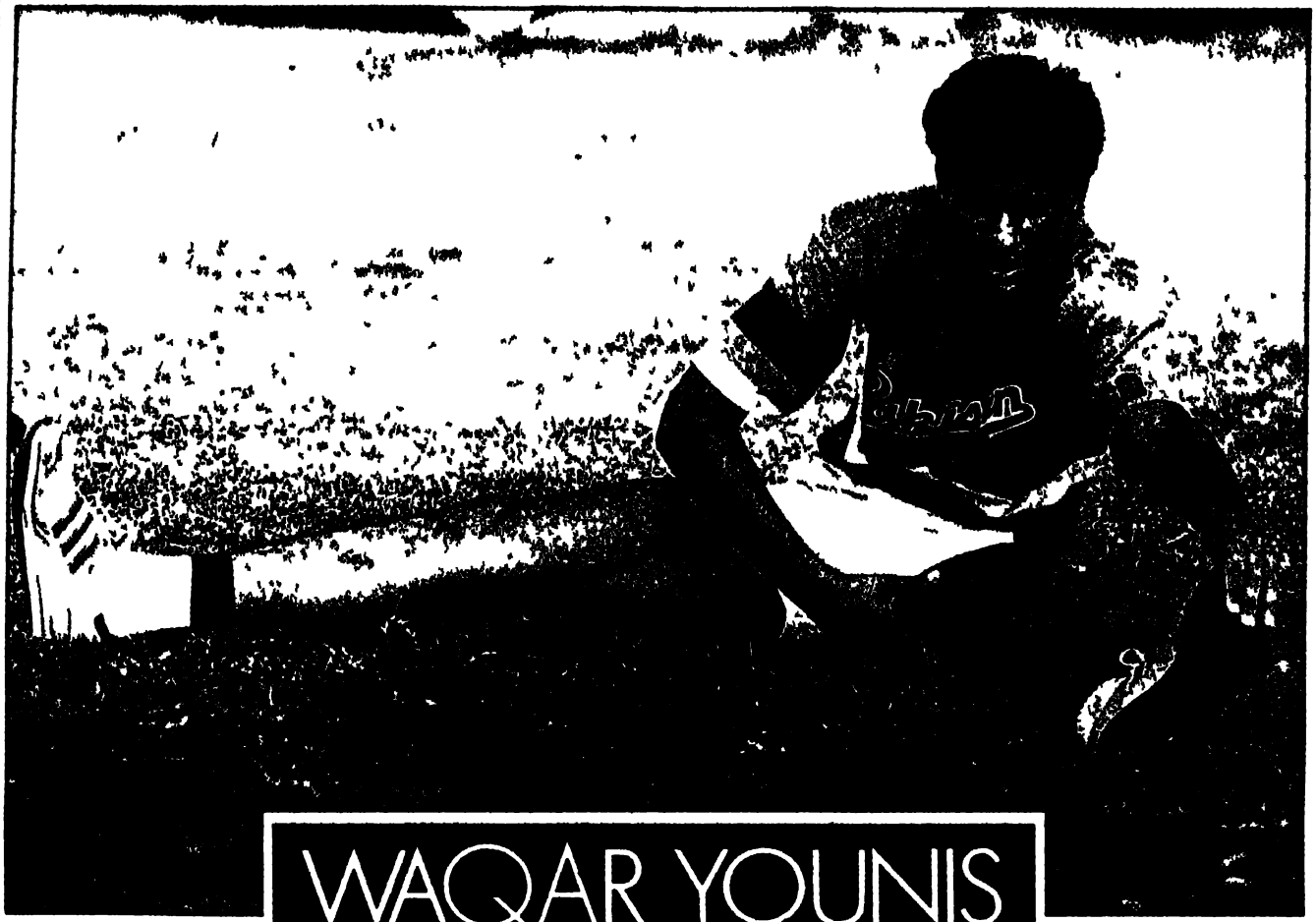




There is obviously much more to Michael Chang than anyone knew. Perhaps it is that Oriental inscrutability. Whatever, Michael's not telling. He's just doing. And, most importantly, proving that the name of the game is not only power

There is obviously much more to Michael Chang than anyone knew. Perhaps it is that Oriental inscrutability. Whatever, Michael's not telling. He's just doing. And most importantly, proving that the name of the game is not only power. ●

SAVE



WAQAR YOUNIS

THE career of Waqar Younis lies in the balance The problem is simple if he returns too soon from his back injury, his cricket career will be ruined

I feel well qualified to comment on this subject I am not just a cricket journalist, but also a practising member of the medical profession Waqar is one of many contemporary cricketers to suffer from this problem and he must learn from the experiences of others

The case of Ian Bishop is particularly relevant for young Waqar At the age of 23, Bishop, the West Indian equivalent of Waqar, fell victim to back pains on tour in Pakistan The cause, primarily, was too much cricket The injury, like Waqar's flared up in December Bishop then rested until July when he began to bowl in England (although not on the West Indies tour

If Pakistan's fast bowling sensation returns to cricket without letting his injury heal, the result may be fatal—he may never play again

there). In October and November, Bishop played several one-day internationals in Sharjah and Pakistan.

The result was fatal. Bishop's injuries had never fully healed—a doctor cannot tell from an x-ray and, by bowling again before his back was ready, he made his injuries more serious than ever. Without surgery he faces no future whatsoever; he has been told to change his bowling action but that would destroy what made him so uniquely dangerous. He will lose both pace and swing.

Bruce Reid has had similar problems. After two years away from international cricket he has returned and, despite an inferior bowling action, had destroyed the Indian and English batting on one occasion each. All very well, but when it really mattered last year in the West Indies, Reid was no longer able to bowl menacingly; his new action just didn't work under pressure.

England's Chris Lewis was lucky with his stress fracture of the back. As soon as he felt pain early in 1991 he stopped bowling and rested and within six months was ready to bowl again. But Lewis was intelligent enough to start gently, to stop when he felt pain and above all, not to over-exert himself too soon. Others, like Ian Bishop, Bruce Reid and England's Richard Ellcock tried too much too soon and they will regret that for as long as they live.

So, you may ask, what will Waqar himself experience? I despaired



when I read that a doctor, who evidently doesn't fully understand the mechanics of fast bowling, suggested that by improving his stomach muscles Waqar will soon be ready to bowl flat out. This is, at the very least, dangerous rubbish. Absolute nonsense! Waqar is human like Reid, like Bishop and like Ellcock. There is only one way to avoid surgery—complete rest. Depending on the severity of the injury it might take four months, it might take a year. But there is no short cut, no miracle. The time is not wasted, it is invested—invested in a lengthy career.

My own personal opinion is that Waqar shouldn't even try to make the England tour. It would put him—and his back—under unnecessary strain and endanger his health. Perhaps he would do well there but he would risk making his injury worse. Remember at just 20 years of age, he should be able to tour there two or three more times anyway. And there are far more important series coming up in 1993—to South Africa and the West Indies. If his injury flares up in England he could miss those vital tours altogether.

Yes, Pakistan could use a fit Waqar Younis in England but his loss is not the end of the world—England don't have a Waqar either! Wasim Akram, Aaqib Javed and Salim Jaffer backed up by a leg-spinner, Mushtaq Mohammed or even Imran Khan provide an attack at least as good as England's. And the selectors must not leave a door open for Waqar to join the tour of England half-way through—he would probably aggravate the injury by trying too hard to be ready.

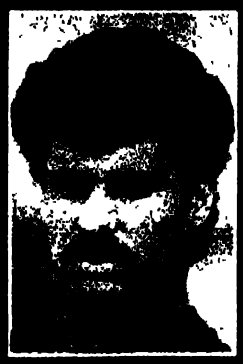
The other nightmare scenario is of Waqar being called up near the end of the series to try to save a losing team. I can picture it now: a grand return in August at The Oval, his home ground, for the Fifth Test. It might even be successful but the damage would only be known months later. They have to think of the long-term implications—a poor series in England would be worthwhile if it allowed Waqar to regain his fitness for the other fifteen Test series this decade. A small price to pay.

When Waqar does bowl again, whether or not he is fully recovered, he will feel pain in his back. That is the fiendish thing about this injury—x-rays don't tell you whether or not you're ready and neither does your pain. Because of this, the sensible player will risk resting for too long (which just causes boredom and frustration) rather than returning too early (which destroys his career). Having said that, cricketers don't in general take enough notice of pain. Pain is the body's way of saying that it is injured (or about to

be) and persistent pain is a good reason to take a break. Imran Khan tried to ignore it and was punished by losing two years of his career. Wasim Akram tried to ignore it and consequently now carries a chronic groin injury which makes him miss half of his matches. The lesson is clear—nobody is above nature's law so when your body tells you to stop you should stop!

The next problem is this: how can Waqar, after his return, prevent a recurrence of his problem? From now on the answer is simple Waqar must be ruthlessly selfish with his health. Every twelve months, Waqar must budget to play 50 days of first-class cricket (including Tests) and 15 days of one-day cricket. County cricket in England would, now that two fast bowlers can't alternate at each county, be just too demanding for a man with a full winter schedule. So too would domestic cricket in Pakistan where dead wickets would cause Waqar "to bend his back". And if Waqar bends his back as we have seen, he breaks it!

In conclusion, I would, as a doctor, like to say five things to Waqar Younis. Firstly, take a nice long break from cricket. Further your education or travel—do what you want but forget about cricket and let your back heal. Secondly, don't feel obliged to rush back too soon if Pakistan aren't winning. It isn't worth it. Thirdly when you do come back do it slowly and gradually—preferably, like Imran, on helpful wickets in Australia or South Africa. Fourthly, stop playing too much cricket. Ask Surrey to release you and stop playing irrelevant cricket on harmful dead wickets in Pakistan. Finally, take it easy! You have fifteen years of cricket ahead of you if, like Hadlee, you pace yourself and avoid unnecessary effort. Don't wreck your career by trying too much too soon.



My own personal opinion is that Waqar shouldn't even try to make the England tour. It would put him and his back under unnecessary strain and endanger his health

David Furrows
Courtesy The Cricketer, Pakistan



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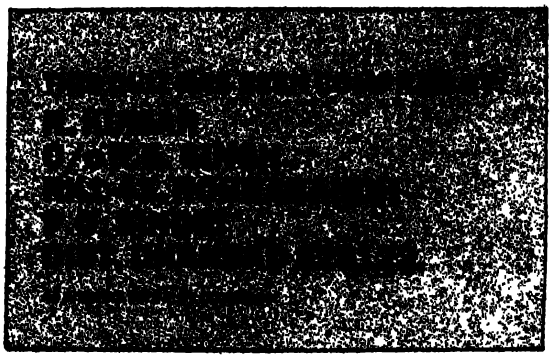
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READERS' QUIZ

ANSWERS

1. M.A.K. Pataudi lost as many as 19 Tests for India.
2. Never
3. Jim Laker, his membership was later restored.
4. Clyde Walcott.
5. Yes, he dismissed Colin Cowdrey of England at Kanpur in 1963-64.
6. 309 by Don Bradman in the Leeds Test of 1930 against England.
7. The Trophy awarded to the best Olympic boxer.
8. Badminton.
9. Herb Elliot.
10. Valerie Brisco-Hooks (1984).
11. For 'not giving of his best'. He was finally awarded his silver medal in 1981.
12. Philip Noel-Baker (Britain); he won a silver in the 1500 m. in 1920 and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1959.
13. Vladimir Salnikov who did it in 14: 58.27 sec in the Moscow Olympics.
14. Ezzard Charles against whom Marciano had to fight 15 rounds in the title bout on June 17, 1954.
15. Judo.



KISHORE ROYCHOWDHURY



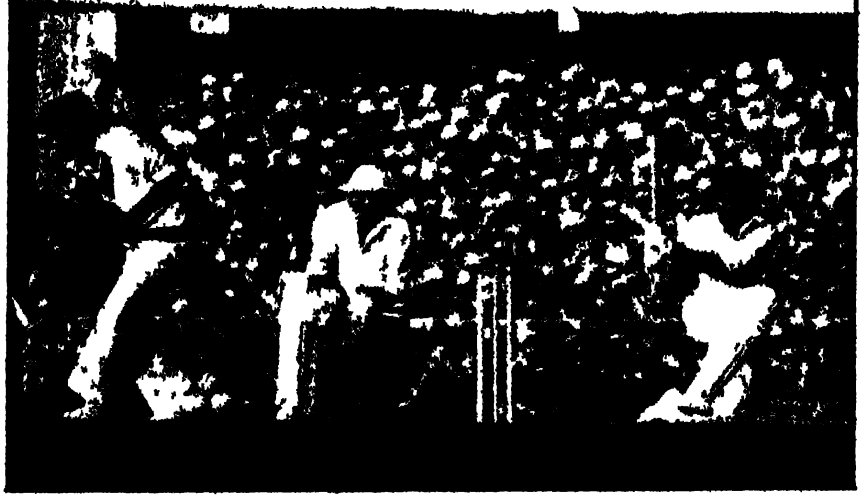
Alvin Kallicharan during a visit to Calcutta

AGE IS JUST NUMBERS

He provided an elegant touch to a batting lineup that was all cut and thrust. While Fredericks, Greenidge, Lloyd, Richards and Rowe batted as if to hit the cover off the ball, Alvin Isaac Kallicharran seemed to caress the ball away from the fielders with his silken touch. The artistic left-hander was an important member of the all conquering West Indies team of the Seventies as his 66 Test caps, 4399 runs and 12 hundreds will convey. In Madras last week, to visit his

Forty-three-year-old Alvin Kallicharran defies age and still plays cricket in England. Recently, on a visit to India, he spoke about his life away from cricket, the sojourn in South Africa, and of his times as one of the world's most elegant batsmen

successful men sm



adopted mother country, to pay his respects to the Saibaba, and to play three charity games at Thana, Baroda and Silchar, "Kalli" talked to Sportsworld *about various aspects of the game.*

SPORTSWORLD: What is the purpose of your current visit to India?

ALVIN KALLICHARRAN. Well, I love coming back to my adopted home country and that is precisely what India is My ancestors hailed from here. Also, I am a devotee of Saibaba ever since I first met him in 1979 and so will be going to Puttapoarthi to meet him. So when my good friend, Bharath Reddy (the former Indian wicket keeper) invited me to come to India to play some charity games, I seized the opportunity I was actually playing cricket in Kuala Lumpur when Bharath came over to invite me and here I am.

Are you still in touch with the game?

Well, I maybe 43 but then what is age? Age is just numbers. I still love the game and play cricket regularly in the Lancashire league in England. And I certainly keep in touch with what is happening in the game around the world.

As one who led the rebel West Indian tour to South Africa in the Eighties, you must have been familiar with South African cricket during their period of isolation. Did you expect such a good showing from them in the World Cup?

Certainly. I wasn't surprised at all. In fact, they did better than I expected by reaching the semi-finals Twice, I played with the West Indian tourists and five seasons playing provincial cricket for Transvaal and Orange Free State I played alongside Graeme Pollock, Rice, Cook, Barry Richards, Proctor and Kirsten and found their cricketing ability to be phenomenal

Did you expect them to be back so suddenly in international cricket after their prolonged period of isolation?

Always a favourite with the crowd



Kallicharan: a most elegant left-hander

During the time I was there, it was obvious that the administrators were working very hard to bring about multi-racial sport in the country and I knew it would be a matter of time before their period of isolation came to an end The return came about earlier than I thought, however. For even though the right steps were being taken there, with the International Cricket Conference one really does not know what they are up to

Do you have any regrets about participating in the two rebel tours?

Not at all In fact, I like to think that the rebel tours probably helped promote the game in South Africa during their period of isolation. When the locals saw the black people beat the white people in the matches, the blacks over there were probably encouraged Yes, it did hurt when people back home accused us of taking "blood money" But my conscience is clear in terms of my profession In life you can't win everything. I mean I gave up a lot too At 31 or 32, I was probably at the peak of my career when my official cricketing career came to an end

The West Indian team is currently going through a period of transition. How long do you think the rebuilding process will last?

Every team goes through this transition period, the up and down

AMIT DUTTA

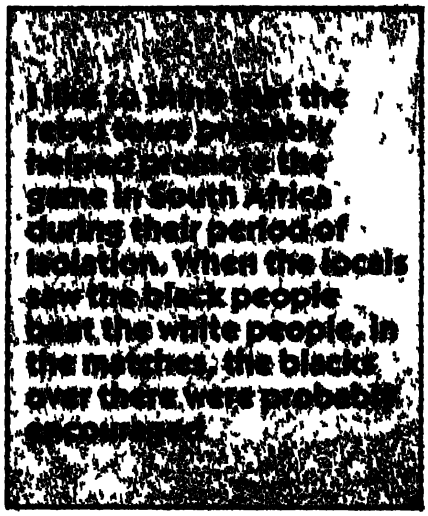


Clowning with Sachin Tendulkar on a recent visit to India

phase The Caribbeans obviously have found it difficult to replace players like Greenidge Richards, Dujon and Marshall all of whom have left the scene in quick succession over the past year or so I feel the bowling will still pull the side through but the batting is a problem About the only lad with a future is Brian Lara He has a lot of potential and I predict that he will be the future king of West Indian batting like your Sachin Tendulkar will be the king of Indian batting Here, one must say that Richards should have been selected for the World Cup He would have been an asset

You were part of the squad when the West Indian cricketing powers were at its zenith. Can it be said that Clive Lloyd had an easy task in leading the side during that period?
There can be no two opinions about that It was not at all difficult to lead that side and Lloyd had his job made easy He had the batsmen to run up big scores and the fast bowlers to run through a side There was little he had to do as captain

What memories do you have of your two tours to India?
Mostly happy memories I reckon the best of my Test hundreds was the 124 at Bangalore in 1974 on a wet wicket and against Prasanna, Chandra and Venkat Then the highest score of my Test career, 187, was made at Bombay in 1978 I enjoyed a good rapport with the fans in India And playing the four top spinners was always a challenge Obviously, these were bowlers you did not want to face everyday Bishen with his enormous variety, Prasanna with his accuracy and spin, Venkat who kept a nagging length all the time and Chandra who was a very awkward customer In a way, facing them was like facing four West Indian fast bowlers It was an equally difficult task either way Overall, in fact, I would place Chandra as the most difficult spin bowler I encountered



What about the best fast bowlers you faced?
"Thommo" (Jeff Thomson) was easily the fastest and most lethal bowler I faced It was an awkward proposition to face him Then there was Lillee and Snow and I would also put Richard Hadlee in that bracket

What is your opinion on neutral umpires?
I think, they are a must for the game If they can be deployed in rugby, football and other games, why not in cricket too? I think it would really work

Interviewed by Partab Ramchand

LET THE LET RULE STAY



The recent suggestion that the let rule in tennis be abolished, to make the game more free-flowing, is absolutely ridiculous

THE current, healthy debate about how the men's game can and and should best reverse its trend towards boring, ultra-powerful, quick-point, one-dimensional tennis has already produced its first blunder.

The International Tennis Federation Rules of Tennis Committee recently recommended to the Committee of Management that the let rule on serves be abolished, effective January 1, 1993. If the Committee of Management accepts this ill-advised proposal, it will be placed before the ITF Annual General Meeting in September, where it will need a two-thirds majority to become a new rule.

Why eliminate the service let rule which has stood the test of time so fairly and efficiently?

What follows are the major arguments and rebuttals used in debating the abolition of the service let rule.

ARGUMENT 1

Tennis should be speeded up because there is already too much "non-playing" time between points and during changeovers. Arguments between players and officials further delay play. A greater percentage of "playing" time to actual total court time would be more entertaining to fans and fairer to competitors. Thus, eliminating the re-playing of service lets is one *means* to achieve this desirable *end*.

REBUTTAL 1

Both actual surveys—such as the one taken during the 1982 U.S Open that revealed there were only 1.83 let serves per hour of

play—and empirical estimation indicate that service lets simply do not occur that often Therefore, it's fair to conclude that eliminating the service let would have little appreciable effect in speeding up tennis The best way to speed up tennis is to enforce (and even reduce) the present time limits between points, during changeovers and whenever arguments and other delays threaten to violate the "play must be continuous rule

ARGUMENT 2

Since the proposed rule change presumably would neither favour the server or the receiver—a marginally relevant and arguable point anyway—then why not make this rule change

REBUTTAL 2

The correct argument is *not* "why not make this (or any) rule change but rather "why ' As one who has practiced with the proposed rule change against a variety of opponents' serves differing nets and tensions, and different surfaces, I can attest that the beneficiaries of the rule change would be the mediocre server and the mediocre receiver

Why? How? The two criteria for evaluating a serve are quality—power, depth, accuracy, effective spins and variety—and consistency Allowing the flukish rebounds—balls that dribble meekly over the net, pop straight up or carrom erratically after hitting the top of the net—of service lets would diminish quality as well as inadvertently and wrongly increase consistency.

Further, by diminishing the serve (and penalising the excellent server), the considered rule change would de-emphasize the importance of a sound and effective return of serve and thus further encourage mediocrity.

Watching Jimmy Connors pound back Boris Becker's bullet serve excites and awes me. Watching Connors deal with a legalized let serve that dribbles meekly ove the net or pops straight up carroms erratically



TOMMY HINDLEY

most definitely does not. And on a set or match point? Heavens, no!

ARGUMENT 3

Since service lets are often unpredictable and even bizarre, legalising this element of luck would add spice to the sport

REBUTTAL 3

Tournament tennis is a wonderful test of skill and will. The present rules—with the possible exception of allowing certain super-powerful rackets—offer a fair test of superiority, a *sine qua non* of any athletic competition The odds are excellent that the more skillful and strong-willed player will eventually prevail.

That is not to say, luck plays no role either. Net cords, mis-hits, bad bounces, bad line calls and bad weather can all make things rather interesting without materially (except rarely) affecting the outcome

However, any rule change as drastic as abolishing the service let would clearly debase the game's intent, beauty, quality and fairness.

ARGUMENT 4

Since play continues after net cords (when the ball ticks the top of the net and then lands in the court) *during* the point, why not continue play after service lets that *start* the point? What is the difference anyway?

REBUTTAL 4

Here, a baseball analogy and a Ralph Waldo Emerson maxim are appropriate to sort things out "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds.. , Emerson wrote The baseball analogy is the foul ball, an integral part of the duel between the pitcher and batter An unplayable (not caught on the fly) foul ball counts for the first two strikes, but *not* for the third strike *unless* it's an (unsuccessful) bunt attempt Baseball people do not consider this inconsistent but rather a brilliant piece of rules-making and also a time-tested and beneficial tradition. It's hard to imagine baseball's lords ever doing away with the foul ball—which, incidentally, often adds to the tension—merely to "speed" up the game."

I believe that "knowledgeable" tennis people would say the same about the time-tested service let. Moreover, while both the net cord and service let balls tick the net and land safely in the court, the fact that one occurrence *starts* the point and the other happens



during the point makes the two situations appreciably different in that important sense.

ARGUMENT 5

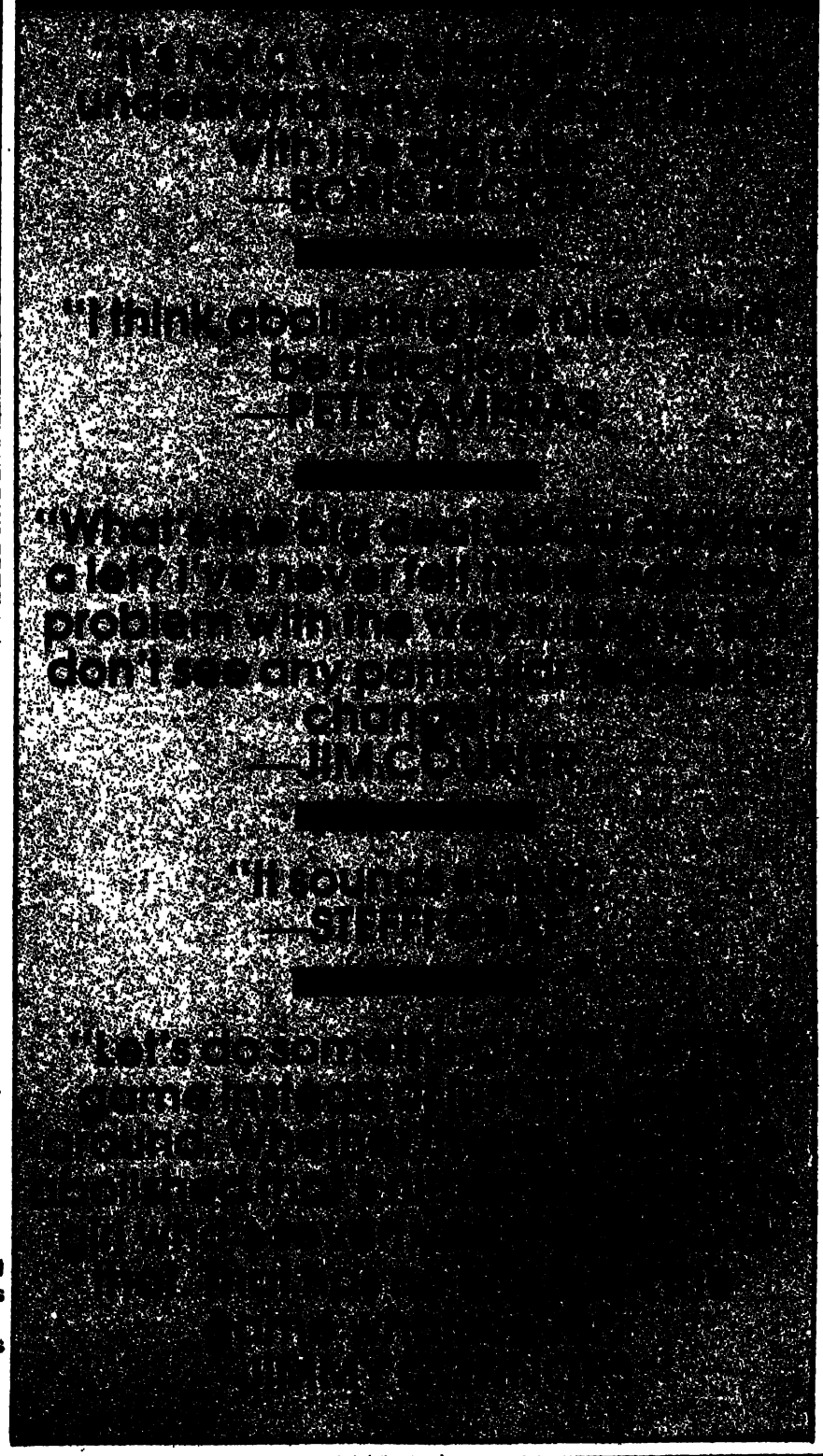
Some service let abolitionists claim that disputes between players and officials about whether service lets did or did not actually occur are a significant problem facing officials today. So let's do away with this problem by eliminating service lets.

REBUTTAL 5

When a dispute does occur, it should be noted that a net judge has a huge sensory advantage in that he or she is touching the net, looking at it and listening to it quite well and from a distance typically closer than that of the player. The player also has his judgment and senses (and perhaps objectivity) adversely affected by his concentration being focused on playing hard and winning the point. Thus, the net judge typically has an exceeedingly strong case. Granted, the umpire high up in the chair may prove to be right slighly less often, but still much more often than the player. Nevertheless, anyone who watches tennis will again agree that service lets are infrequent and disputes

Paul Fein

WHAT THE PLAYERS THINK



SANJAY MANJREKAR

"MAYBE THE FAII

Imagine this scene! As the flight carrying the battle weary and much travelled members of the Indian cricket team soars gracefully into the Sydney sky (a month ago), team captain Mohammad Azharuddin looks like a man who shouldn t have made it past the metal detector It might have reacted to his sensitive state of mind

His men are relaxing in the plush aircraft seats, probably relishing the thought of going home but perhaps not the hostile reception that awaits them Suddenly Azhar, unable to contain his frustration lets himself go "What happened to you guys on this tour—how did you manage to ruin those wonderful reputations?"

No whines of protest Not a peep from anyone, including Sanjay Manjrekar, who is trying desperately to rifle in a cassette of Mehdi Hassan into his Walkman, just so that he can cut out the drone of his captain's tongue-lashing

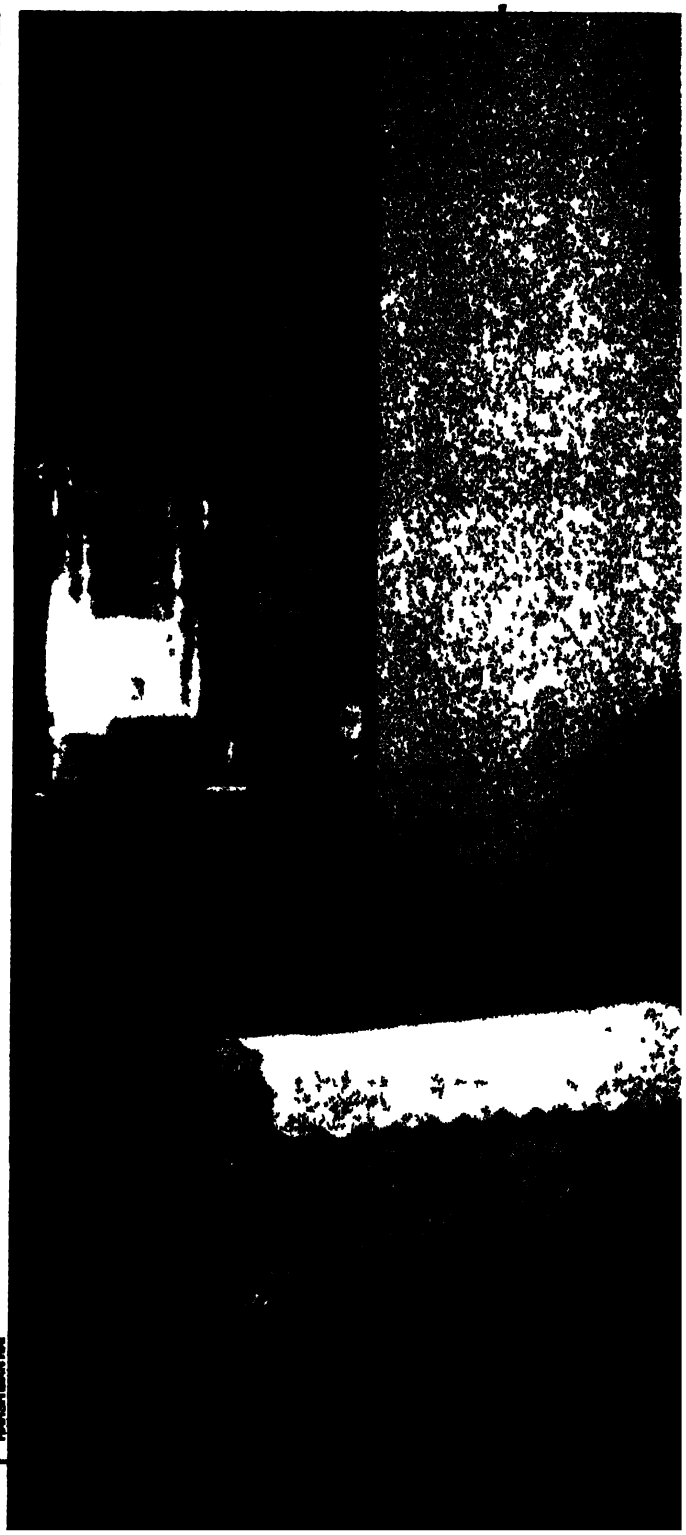
The imagination works in strange ways, but chances are, that if this scene had actually taken place then Manjrekar would have reacted in exactly the same way For Manjukar, both decent man and wonderful batsman would have already known that personal pride be damned, he had let his country down His time will come surely, but the pain of failure remains

Six months ago, Mr Consistent—or rather Manjrekar might well have been the most prolific number three batsman in the world But if you said this in public now, you may well get the kind of look that is usually reserved for men with limited faculties But give the people their due, because Manjrekar s Australian report card and his own admission to his failures vindicates this attitude

Manjrekar s overall Test scores in Australia were were something that a tail-ender would have been proud off for they read like a baby s numbers book 25, 30, 34, 2, 45 31, and 8 His scores in the WSC were in comparison nice Not thrilling but nice 15, 2, 57 55, 12, 1, 16 2, 18, 47 and 0 And all this, from someone who admittedly, couldn't have gone to Australia in a better frame of mind?

Manjrekar reiterated this when I met him in

Sanjay Manjrekar, both decent man and wonderful batsman knows that personal pride be damned, he has let his country down. His time will surely come but the pain of failure remains



URES WILL HELP"



For Manjrekar, his career as a professional cricketer has come full circle. It has also shown that international cricket can be very tough

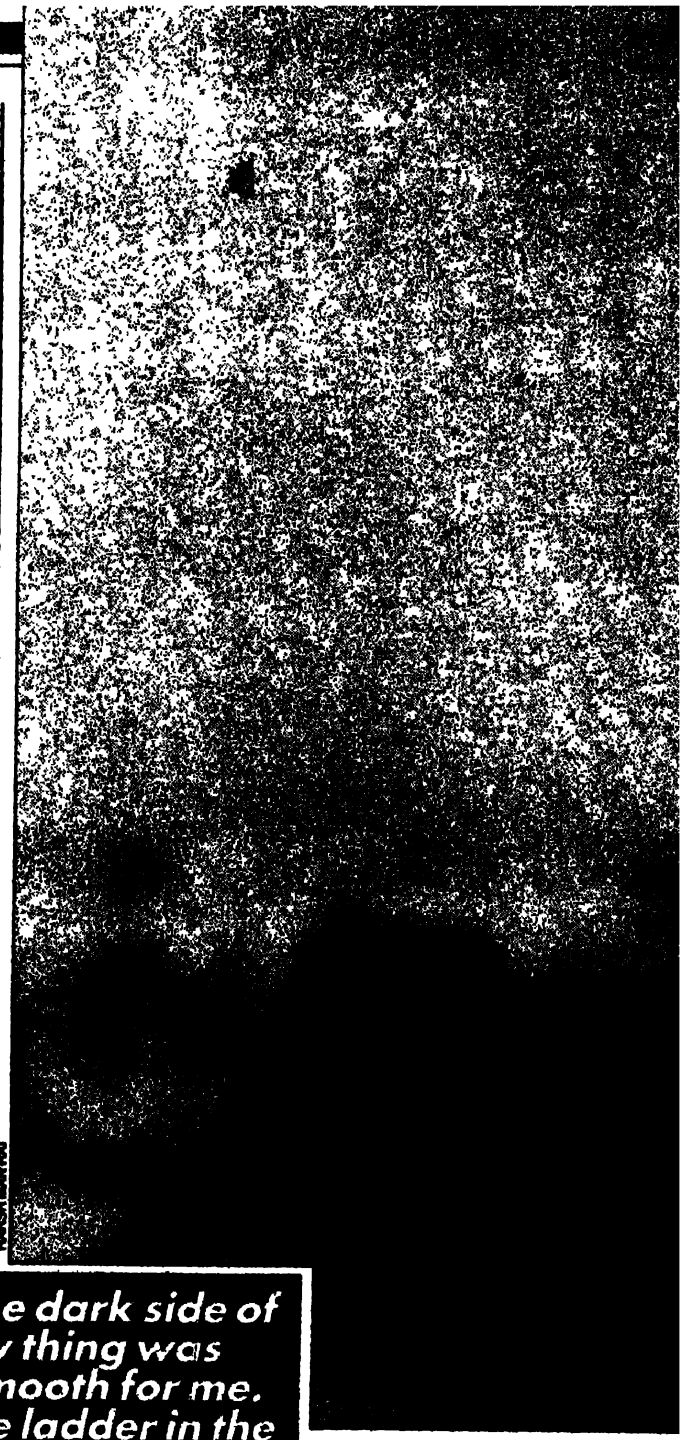
Bombay last fortnight: "I couldn't have asked for a better frame of mind when I went to Australia. I was really flying high and very confident. Now that I'm back, I'm very disappointed with myself. Very disappointed."

Hallelujah!

But wait! He's not finished yet: "The team many a time needed a good knock from me, but I couldn't deliver the goods," he confessed. "I feel particularly bad about it. We lost most of our matches and the Test series. However, the scoreline does not do justice to our performance. It reads 4-0, but it could have been better."

Like 4-1 perhaps?

But the technique? What happened to that so-called immaculate technique? Wasn't he supposed to be the guy who could have taught the 'sometimes permanent' residents of the Indian dressing room, a lesson or three about 'the art of presenting the straight bat'? Manjrekar seemed, or so we believed, well qualified to write a long and exhaustive thesis on the subject. The little body, you see, lodged a mighty mind. Straight bat. No loose shots. Cut out all the unnecessary frills and you're cruising. He was not the fellow who had problems with the moving ball outside the off stump; he never swished his bat like some fly swatting master; he would not lose his concentration—but it all happened and perhaps we expected too much.



HARSH MANTRI

Now in retrospect, with time to analyse he has found some semblance of an answer to all that: "The conclusion that I have reached is that the Australians had studied me well. They had analysed my strong points and cut out those areas where I score a lot. This made life difficult for me and I couldn't get runs. What I was disappointed with, was that in such cases—specially when luck is not with you one has to work hard mentally. I also felt that there was a lapse in concentration every time I got out. And because of this, I was not confident in the next innings. If you get a big score then you go out feeling confident. But if you get a low one, then you have to start from scratch."

"I have seen the dark side of things. Every thing was going super smooth for me. I've climbed the ladder in the past three years. I've realised now that I've come down a few notches. Maybe the failures are going to help."

The Manjrekar batting technique is very basic, but it is also very effective in equal measure. Short and compact of build and possessing commendable footwork, he seems relaxed to every incoming ball, treating it with a nonchalant elegance. And to every ball that was pitched outside or was moving away from the off-stump, he had learnt to employ the square-cut. It was not so much a brutal blow, as it was a silken caress that culminated in a 'cracking' sound, as when an animal trainer flicks his whip. Eulogies over, it is



time to come back to reality: the square cut didnt happen. Why?

"They (the Aussies) had decided that they were not going to give me any room for the square cut, which I love to play. This shot comes easily on the Australian wickets, the moment you get into the groove. But the moment Border found that I was getting a little confident, he would block off all the areas making life a lot difficult. The Aussies were not experimenting or gambling when I came out to bat. They just played a slow, safe game. To add to this, fielding was excellent. For a batsman like me who is not a freestroking player, the overall workload became that much more harder," he concluded, frustration writ large on his face.

It was Manjrekar's performance in Tests that prompted the *pundits* to label him as one of the most technically sound batsmen in the world. But it was ironical that, when he left for Australia, his reputation as a one-day batsman preceded him. For someone who has never previously so much as given an honest estimation of himself as a one-day player, Manjrekar had two Man of the Series awards tucked away in his touring kit bag. And one of them happened to come in the highly charged and equally competitive atmosphere of Sharjah. For such a dedicated purist, Manjrekar had earned rave reviews for his highly unobtrusive but effective style of one-day play. He had put his style of batting—which is so full of clinical precision—to

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"The team many a time needed a good knock from me, but I couldn't deliver the goods. I feel particularly bad about it. We lost most of our matches and the Test series. However, the scoreline does not do justice to our performance. It reads 4-0, but it could have been better."

effective use in a series of very delicate operations on the field. A nudge here. A push there. A gentle tap. An occasional cut and before you could say 'Scindia', the fielding set up was cut to ribbons. It could be compared in most cases to a subtle switchblade mugging.

But the Manjrekar that we saw in Australia, was in total contrast to all this. His previous run-a-ball essays were sadly lacking. They were being replaced instead by a dime-a dozen run outs. The efficacy of his batting there too was being nullified. The accused when charged, succumbed to the accusations, saying, "Yes I got run-out in as many as six to seven outings. My scores were also not so good. You see, playing in one-dayers is more challenging. But I messed it all up by running myself out."

Why this dangerous addiction?

"Well I could ignore one or two run outs. But six! In retrospect, I think that I was perhaps too keen to take the run and I should have said 'no'. I wanted to add another run to the scoreboard. I tried to please my partner." And all this led to him being unceremoniously dropped from the side for India's first two games of the World Cup. Not a very pleasant experience for someone who perhaps hasn't been dropped for three years...for someone who has for so long been the backbone of India's batting. Manjrekar is frank enough to testify...

"Personally it was not the most pleasant of times. Because as I've said, if I'm out of form, I would have liked to get back in the middle with the team. That is perhaps the only way that one can get back into form. It's not by sitting outside. I was keen to play. However, I feel that from the team's point of view, they felt that a rest would do me good."

The rest did help for when Manjrekar returned in the match against Australia, (his World Cup debut) he carved out a deliciously improvised 47. It was a knock of immense skill, helped by a brain that refused to crack under pressure and a overdose of guts. And if India had won that match, it would have as Manjrekar admitted, "Been one of the high



Manjrekar discussing the finer points of his technique with M.L. Jaisimha. The lack of touch was evident in Australia

points of the tour for me." The accolades that came as a result of that knock soon turned to criticism when Manjrekar went on to drop his first ever catch in one-day internationals. Playing New Zealand in a match that was dominated as much by swirling winds and bad weather, as it was by a certain Mr Mark Greatbatch, Manjrekar made the cardinal error of dropping him. It was the sort of catch, which if taken, could have turned the face of the match. And he knows it. "Maybe it was the weather but a fielder can't say that it was windy. He has to adjust himself to the playing conditions," he admitted, his look one of intense guilt.

To be fair to Manjrekar, it must be said in his defense that he has quickly and with great dignity accepted his failure. And this considering that a host of players have used a lot of 'ifs' and 'buts' in defence of their own substandard performances. For Manjrekar the Australian outing was only a 'first' in terms of disappointment. In the end it may well have been educative if he is to go full circle as a professional cricketer. And he himself admits: "I have seen the dark side of things. Everything was going super smooth for me. I've climbed the ladder in the last three years. This tour has only shown me that there are times when international cricket can be very tough. I've realised that I've come down a few notches. Maybe the failures are going to help...It's weird," he said shaking his head

Isn't it?

Robin Chatterjee, Bombay



PHOTO FEATURE

NEWS IN

(LEFT) The clock said 2:29:14 and it was a winning time for sure. Aurora Cunha, who has often run in the shadow of her better known Portuguese compatriot, Rosa Mota, refused to settle for second best this time, and ran a marvellous race to win the annual Rotterdam marathon

(BELOW) In England everything sporting has something traditional about it. The Oxford vs Cambridge University Boat Race, for example, celebrated its 136th year recently, as Oxford (left), despite a whipping wind, held off their rivals by a mere length-and-a-half



(RIGHT) Mike Tyson's in jail but boxing goes on. Larry Holmes (right), yet another comeback hopeful, poses with reigning heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield, who he will fight on June 19, and where else but Las Vegas

PICTURES



(BELOW) Is this man making up for lost time? Nigel Mansell has never won the Formula One Driver's World Championship, bad luck often being the reason. But this year he's ready. He has won all three races held this year, the latest being the Brazilian Grand Prix which he is seen celebrating here



AT WIMBLEDON... IS HEIGHT THE KEY?

ARTHUR ASHE ignited a spirited debate last year by averring that no man under 6 feet tall would ever win Wimbledon again.

No doubt observing power hitters 6"4' Michael Stich, 6"3' Boris Becker, 6"2' Stefan Edberg and 6"4' David Wheaton steamroll to the Big W semifinals prompted such a bold prediction. Clearly, height is might, and might is right when it comes to domination on fast grass, deduced Ashe, the 1975 Wimbledon king.

Is it really sayonara, finis, curtains henceforth for medium-sized and short guys at Wimbledon?

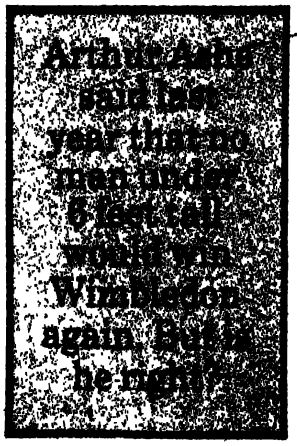
No way, rejoins Rod Laver, a muscular 5"9' dynamo dubbed "Rocket," who exploded for four Wimbledon singles titles in the 1960s and amazingly beat 6"1' Ashe 18 consecutive times in one stretch.

"I think he's wrong," says Laver. "Remember that 5"11' is not small. Someone talented coming along at 5"10', 5"11' isn't going to be deprived of being able to win Wimbledon. If Edberg were 5"11', he would be exactly as good as he is at 6"2'. Because footwork and manoeuvrability are going to make up for a lot of height and maybe being a little slower. Having balance on grass is much more important than having a big body running around."

Height isn't everything, maintains Laver, in terms of generating power either, as he certainly proved by capturing an alltime record two Grand Slams. "You don't have to be 6"2' to be strong, look at (brawny 5"11' slugger) Lew Hoad." Or look at Laver's own massive left forearm—bigger than heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano's. Ashe quipped that it was "a two by four with freckles."

"I think Arthur is just looking at a tall guy serving aces, and he sees that now no one is able to match a Becker or a Sampras or a Wheaton," says Laver. "But you won't see the big person being the only star out there year after year. I'm sure someone under 6 feet will win Wimbledon. It will happen."

If fairly recent history is any future guide, Laver will be proven right. From 1974 to 1984, tennis' greatest





Wheaton, at 6"4' inches, stormed into the quarter finals at Wimbledon last year

BY PAUL FEIN

"I think Ashe is wrong...if Edberg were 5'11', he would be exactly as good as he is at 6'2'. Having balance on grass is much more important that having a big body running around"
—ROD LAVER



TOMMY HINDLEY

stars—Bjorn Borg, Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe and Guillermo Vilas—ranged from 5"10' to 5"11'1/2 in height. On the other hand, the giants of previous decades, like 6"1'1/2 'Big Bill' Tilden, 6"3' Don Budge, 6"1' Jack Kramer and 6"3' Pancho Gonzales, did tower over and impose their high-powered games on their foes.

Today's ball bashers are sprouting taller than ever Michael Chang, only 5"8', understandably worries about bullet-serving skyscrapers such as 6"4' Goran Ivanisevic, 6"4' Wimbledon champion Stich, 6"5' Richard Krajicek (who upset Stich and Chang at the 1992 Australian Open), 6"5' Markus Zoecke, who whacked the tour's fastest recorded second serve last year at 121 miles per hour, and 6"5' Marc Rosset, producer of a 1991 circuit-high 134 m p.h. serve

"I saw Marc Rosset the other day—he's something like 6"7' (sic) and still growing The guys are getting so much taller, it s unbelievable," says Chang. "Maybe I'll invent some new shoes that will make me five inches taller It is becoming more and more difficult to win, day in, day out."

The good big man does usually defeat the good little man, especially given today's ultra-powerful, high-tech rackets If bigger is better, does that mean a man 6"6' or 6"8' or even 7" tall can and will be a tennis champion? Or put differently, how tall is too tall?

Nick Saviano, a USTA national coach and former world top 50 player, believes that what constitutes "too tall" has yet to be determined "Too much depends on an individual and his physical skills,' says Saviano "If an athlete, such as a (6"6') Michael Jordan, started playing tennis at a young age and developed into a champion, one has to think he would adjust to the disadvantages of being very tall and maximize the advantages

'Once a player gets so tall that he has extreme difficulty moving, or he lacks adequate agility to cover the net, or doesn't react quickly enough to deal with pace that is required for a serve and volleyer, then it becomes a detriment," explains the 5"11' Saviano, who twice gained the Wimbledon round of 16

A comment that a player under 6 feet will never win Wimbledon has little merit," asserts Saviano "It's like saying nobody broke the 4-minute mile, therefore, it's never going to be done Those are perceptions whereby people put limitations on other people And I don't accept that " ●

NO UPPER LIMITS

The Bangalore Turf Club, host to the prestigious Invitation Weekend, have had a great winter season...

THE CURTAIN finally came down on the Bangalore winter season 1991-92, and for "the Garden City" it must surely have been its finest season yet. The Bangalore Turf Club Ltd. who had played host to the Invitational Weekend over the first week of March outdid themselves and under the able leadership of Mr P.G. Bellappa they should in future be reaching even greater heights.

Bestriding the season like a colossus was India's champion trainer, Rashid Byramji. He ended the season with 51 winners to his credit, and for him this must have been like a trip down memory lane.

There is no question about the fact that Byramji is one of the greatest trainers Indian racing has seen in the last couple of decades, but in the last few years he was going through a far from purple patch. Of course, he was still winning races, but to put it in racing parlance, he just did not seem to be firing on all cylinders. The winter of 1991-92 saw Rashid Byramji emerge from what I would only describe as a kind of professional hibernation, and he emerged firing on all cylinders to eventually end up with 51 winners to his credit. It was a distinct case of Byramji first and the rest nowhere.

United Racing and Bloodstock Breeders Pvt. Ltd. represented by (right to left) Raghuvendra Singh, Vijay Mallya, Bugs Bunny, Yadvendra Singh and Rashid Byramji

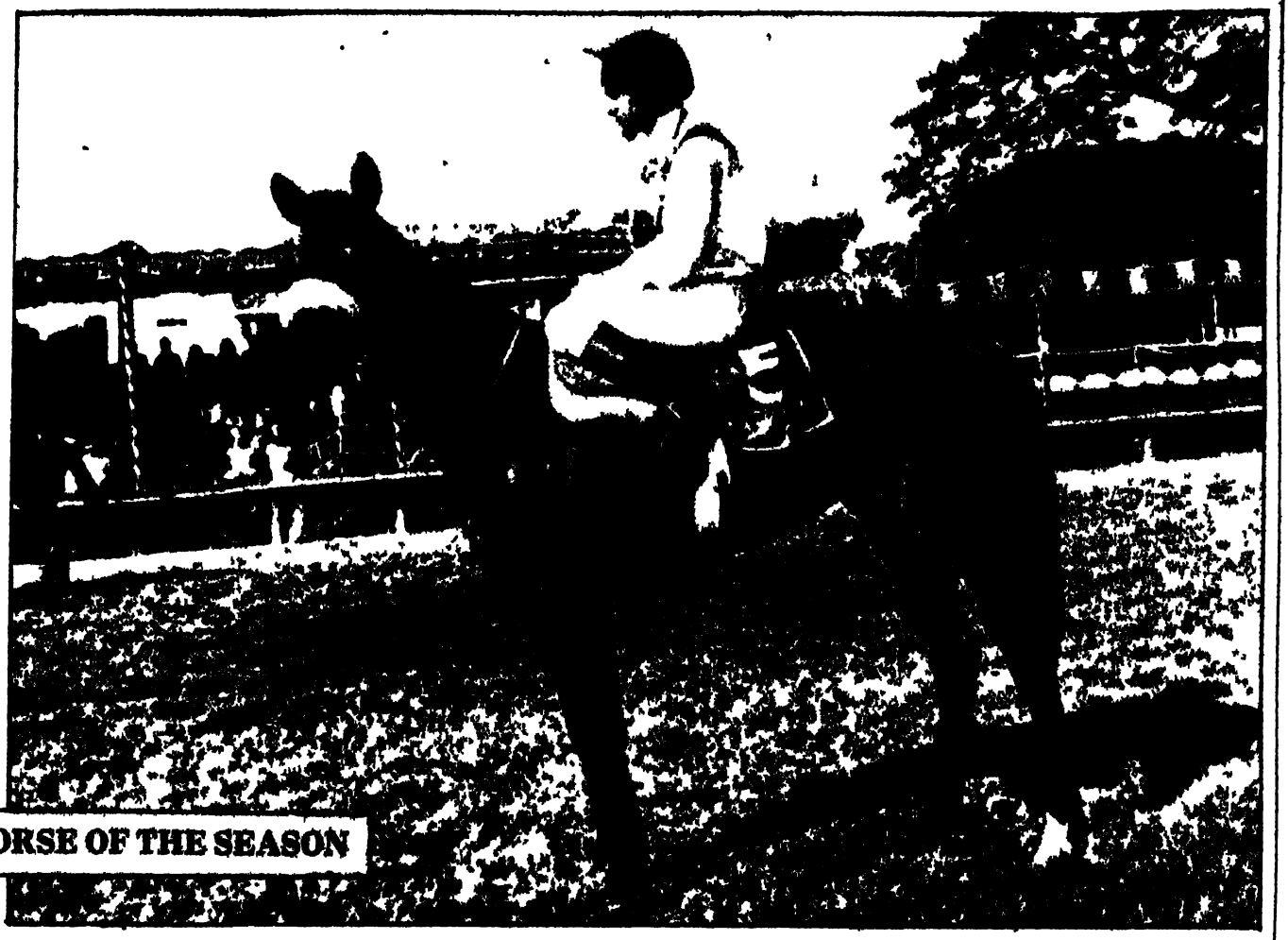


It was not only in terms of quantity that Byramji led the field. In terms of quality he was even further ahead. His wonder filly Bugs Bunny picked up three out of the five Classics that winter, and to round it off she came out and won the Invitation Cup too. Trailing Byramji, a faraway second was Sydney Moses who finished off with 27. In short Byramji was almost double the number of winners that the runner-up had saddled.

Of course, if you compare his feat to that of the erstwhile Robert Foley of Madras fame it would look pale in comparison. After all, the record books would show that Robert Foley saddled over 100 winners in the course of the Madras season, but if Foley had moved to Bangalore with the same string of horses currently under his training at Madras, my money would most certainly be on Byramji to emerge the victor, and it would probably be a comfortable victory too.

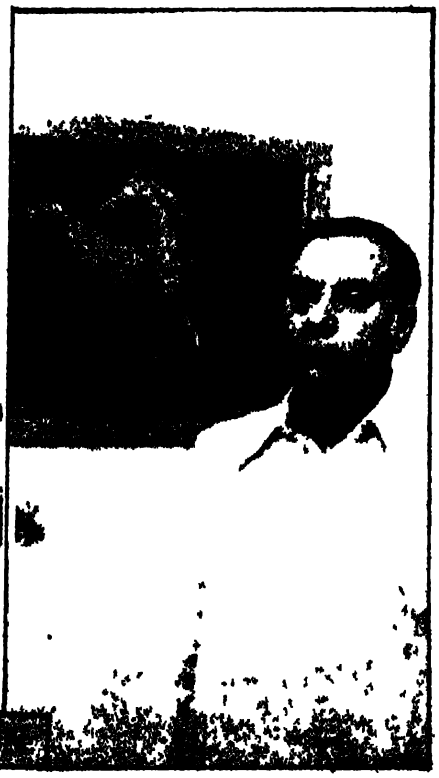
For the first time in the history of

by CYRUS J. MADAN



HORSE OF THE SEASON

Bugs Bunny won five out of six starts



Trainer Rashid Byramji had 51 winners this season

the Bangalore Turf Club a private limited company named United Racing and Bloodstock Breeders Pvt. Ltd emerged as the leading "individual owner " It came as some kind of a surprise to see a corporate concern being declared an individual winner but even here the victory was by no means an easy one. By the time the Farewell Plate had been run United Racing and Bloodstock Breeders Pvt. Ltd. were just Rs 55,000 ahead in stake money earned as compared to the baron of Indian racing, Dr M.A.M. Ramaswamy.

The leading joint owners of the season saw United Racing and Bloodstock Breeding Pvt. Ltd.,— represented by Mr Vijay Mallya, Mr Raghuvendra Singh and Mr Yadavendra Singh—corner the glory thanks to their champion horse of the season Bugs Bunny. The combination earned a mind-boggling sum of Rs 17.75 lakhs by way of stake money.

The horse of the season was undoubtedly Bugs Bunny. Trained by none other than Rashid Byramji, she raced six times in the course of the season and she came out on top on five occasions. Rashid kept her tuned to win the 2000 Guineas, the Bangalore Derby, the Bangalore Oaks and finally the piece-de-resistance, the Invitation Cup. To keep a filly going at optimum level throughout the season is a herculean task in itself and although Rashid deserves a pat on the back for the magnificent job that he did, Bugs Bunny herself had to have it in her, and she must be one hell of a filly to have produced the sort of results she did

PHOTOGRAPHS P DESIKAN (RAJAN)

SPECIAL FEATURE

KATRIN KRABBE

THE SCANDAL THAT WON'T GO AWAY

Despite the ban being lifted by the German Sports Federation, Katrin Krabbe is still under the shadow of suspicion. And the DAAF is yet to decide whether it will allow her to represent the country at the Olympics



KATRIN KRABBE. The enduring image of Katrin Krabbe is of her flying—long-limbed, her golden hair flowing behind, and so splendidly defeating Merlene Ottey in the 100m and 200m at the World Athletics Championships at Tokyo.

The World Champion.

But, even at that time, there were murmurs of discontent. People whispered that she was on drugs. People said that her win was not an authentic one. And Krabbe denied it. She said that she had passed numerous drug tests and so, she was innocent.

Yes, she was.

Till, of course, in January, 1992 when the whole thing blew up in her face. During a routine drug test [illegible] on Katrin Krabbe and Grit Breuer, and Silke Möller in South Africa, where they were training, it was discovered that all the samples had come from one person. Clearly, it was a case of [illegible] and according to [illegible] it was a serious [illegible] offence of failing a drug test. Subsequently, the German Athletics Federation, on February 15th, banned all the three athletes from

years.

Krabbe was shocked. She immediately said that it appeared they were all three of them innocent. And she suggested that perhaps people are out to malign them because they were part of the former East German sports set-up.

She strongly suggested sabotage at some point of the long journey of the drug samples from South Africa to a laboratory in Cologne, in West Germany.

Then the story gets murkier. In the first week of April, Krabbe was invited alongwith the other two athletes to testify in front of the legal commission of the German Athletics Federation. A day before, in press interviews, both the German Athletics Federation and Krabbe's lawyer hinted that there was little chance of the ban being lifted 'as there was little or no new medical evidence' to buttress Krabbe's case.

The hearing took place on April 4, in Bonn. Krabbe reiterated what she said before. That they were innocent and the samples were tampered with. The hearing was hampered by the absence of a key witness. Herr [illegible]



Katrin Krabbe with her lawyer

not disappointed over the decision. The [illegible]

The question is whom to look up to now? Will athletics, already smarting from a huge body blow by Ben Johnson, be able to recover from the Krabbe scandal? Only time can provide the right answer

goes, where there is smoke, there must be a fire. Even if the IAAF do eventually agree to lift the ban on Krabbe, it will leave a bitter aftertaste. Once again, a [illegible] athlete is [illegible] than [illegible]

[illegible] is whom [illegible] to look up to now? Will athletics, already [illegible] huge body blow by Ben [illegible] be able to recover from the Krabbe scandal? Only time can provide the right answer.

GETTING IT OFF HIS CHESS

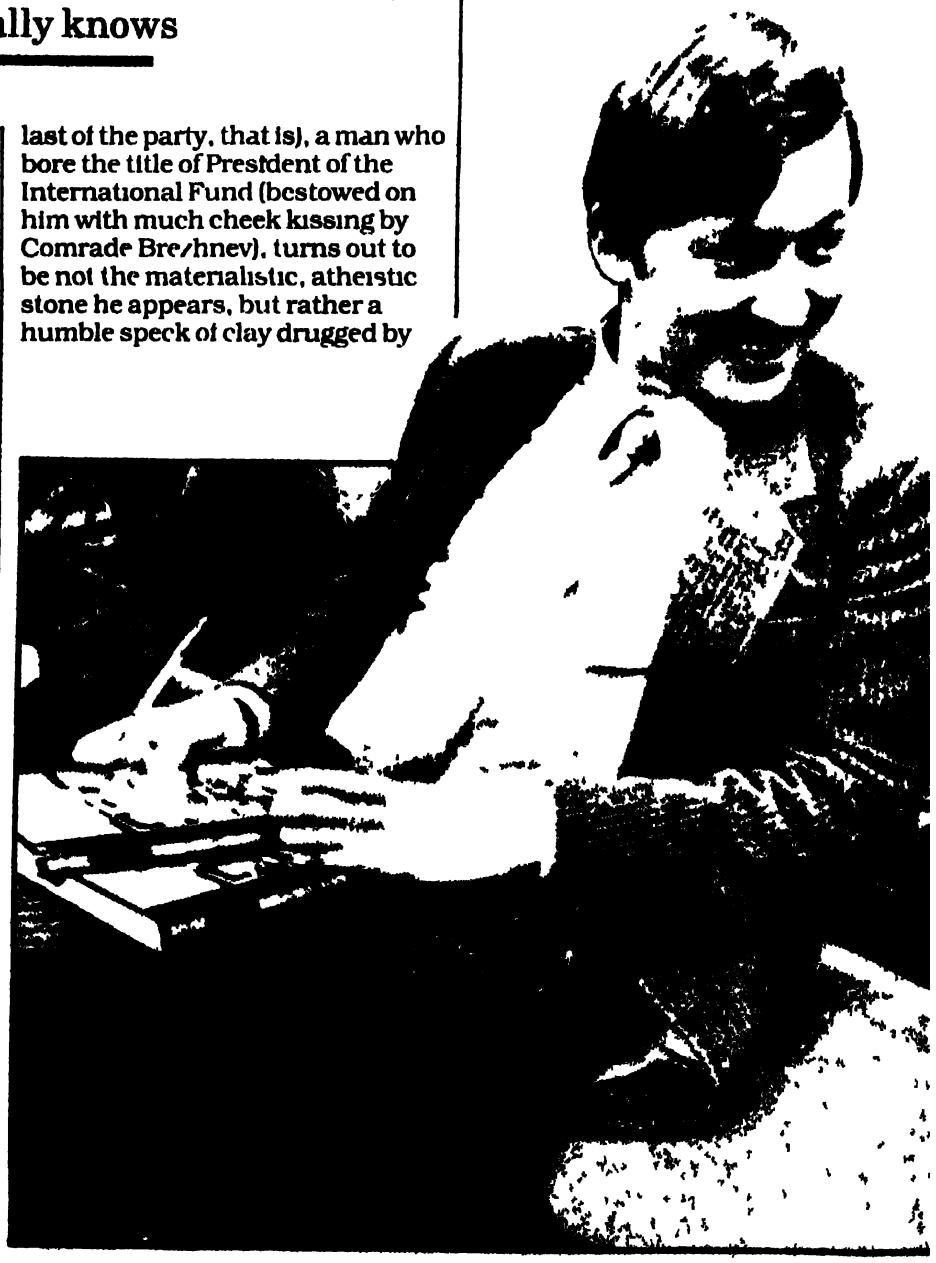
In his autobiography, *'Karpov On Karpov'* the former world champion reveals a side of himself no one really knows

WHAT a pleasant surprise to find that from the very first pages of "Karpov on Karpov," the author employs a poetic sort of tone not customary in a chess player Poetic, that is, except when he is talking about those who are his opponents and consequent enemies—Viktor Korchnoi, Tigran Petrosian and Gary Kasparov But we are surprised most of all by his acerbic criticisms of the 'ridiculous system" of "stagnation and hypocrisy" that ruled the Soviet Union, when all of us, unenlightened fans that we were, believed that Anatoly Karpov symbolised and even perhaps incarnated its triumphant *nomenklatura*—the Nation of the Radiant Future

Mr Karpov tells us that in 1953, as an infant, he witnessed the police bursting into his house in search of his father "I could distinguish good from evil .I remember the white down floating through the room and the two bayonets flashing in the corners .To this day I still do not know who wrote the denunciation against my father."

●●●

As if this were not enough, Mr. Karpov, a member of the Communist Party to the last (the last of the party, that is), a man who bore the title of President of the International Fund (bestowed on him with much cheek kissing by Comrade Brezhnev), turns out to be not the materialistic, atheistic stone he appears, but rather a humble speck of clay drugged by



the "opiate of the masses." He never ceases to invoke the Supreme Being: "Thank God...Swear to God...As God is my witness." Hewing to this religious, almost mystical line (and in the face of what would have been the rage of Lenin, whose mummy must be turning in his glass tomb), Mr Karpov relates an incident from his childhood. near death from whooping cough, the bambino was baptised, under the aegis of his two grandmothers ("pious and resolute women"), with near-freezing water. The reader, even more dumbstruck than the participants in this scene, then witnesses the future champion's miraculous recovery In fact, the Karpov family has been privileged to be cured almost systematically by supernatural means Anatoly's mother cured his father's fevers with a mixture of tea, jam and vin de Cahors

During the first years of Anatoly's life in the southern Urals, the Karpovs curled up with other miserable families "We lived in a five-room communal apartment on the fourth floor The number of rooms defined the number of families." In the chess world it was often thought that Mr Karpov was the regime's fair-haired child, but in words geared to instruct, not to say indoctrinate us, he fiercely declares that the people of our circle were not ashamed of their poverty, on the contrary, they used it as an argument for self-justification: 'My pockets are empty, but my conscience is clear

With what restrained fury he attacks the privileged members of his country, and especially the Numero Uno among them (who also happens to be the man who replaced Mr. Karpov as Numero Uno of chess). "Kasparov and I have nothing in common. .Elitism became an essential part of his world." Elsewhere, Mr. Karpov says of his rival. "I know of no other Grandmaster in our country, or the world, who has received such all-encompassing, massive support from the authorities." The paragraphs Mr. Karpov dedicates to Mr. Kasparov are surely the least original of the book; Mr. Kasparov could as easily have written them about Mr Karpov





We lived in a five room communal apartment on the fourth floor...The number of rooms defined the number of families.

Karpov on his childhood.

This ugly duckling of chess, sheltering a world champion swan deep inside, was not, we are told, accepted by the bigwigs of the game, nor by its Numero Uno for more than 20 years, the legendary Mikhail Botvinnik. He "never understood my strategy," Mr. Karpov says, and he recalls Botvinnik's pronouncements with as much delight as irritation: "The boy doesn't have a clue about chess, and there's no future at all for him in this profession." Sick and tired at last of this lack of understanding, Mr Karpov "tuned out his sermons."

MR. KARPOV felt himself something of a misfit in the world of chess. He reports that Viktor Korchnoi, his longtime opponent for the world championship, told him one day that "you're the first Grandmaster I've ever met who doesn't dash

straightaway to a store, but to a museum." With almost the same words Mr. Karpov himself hammers away at that nail: "I have never met a chess player who would agree to join me for a visit to an art gallery." And then he finishes driving it in by telling us that Tigran Petrosian reproached him with these words: "Why do we need the Louvre when the stores are much more interesting?" These examples show, among other things, that, against all likelihood, Mr Karpov and I have not known the same Grandmasters.

The best pages of the book are dedicated to three men he worships his father, his coach Semyon Abramovich Furman and (yet another surprise) Bobby Fischer.

'My father was wonderfully talented," he writes "From him I inherited my memory, my intuition for creative solutions in difficult situations, my love for stability, precision and harmony." Nostalgically Mr. Karpov evokes the first games of chess he ever saw played "My place was on my father's knees." His "second father," Furman, inspires tender pages culminating in the evocation of the death of his trainer and friend Their "joint destiny" began in 1968; for Mr. Karpov, when Furman "entered my life" it was a "turning point." In 1978, the death of his idolised friend "killed something in me," he says.

Many chess aficionados believe that Mr Karpov, backed by the Soviet and International Chess Federations, stole the world championship title in 1975 from Mr. Fischer. By eliminating the unbeatable anarchist from Brooklyn through technicalities, Mr. Karpov was raised to the highest peak of the chess Olympus without winning a single game against the genius Fischer.

Who could have imagined that the victim of this alleged high-level mugging was actually Mr. Karpov? That, at least, is what he tells us—in all sincerity, we presume, since we have never known Mr. Karpov to be a comedian. "There would be no match with Fischer. It was a great loss...I realised that what could have been the brightest event in my life was not going to happen." Because of the International Chess Federation's "machinations" and the deceit of the Soviet authorities, he was prevented from playing "the most memorable [match] of my life," in which "perhaps I would have learned my true depth."



With Furman and his father dead, we learn to our amazement that Mr. Karpov's idol is now Mr. Fischer, who, Mr. Karpov says, announced the arrival of a completely different kind of chess. On the four occasions he met Mr Fischer (in San Antonio, Cordoba, Tokyo and Washington) Mr Karpov unfortunately saw his idol for only a short time. "I had studied him and been fascinated by him." Ah, how happy it made Mr. Karpov to stroll with Mr. Fischer along the streets of Tokyo. "I didn't see any severity in him, but rather a sort of gentleness and patience." If, as a player, Mr. Fischer "surpassed all the former and currently living Grandmasters," as a human being, Mr. Karpov assures us, "Fischer's integrity was evident."

Bobby Fischer: one of Karpov's idols



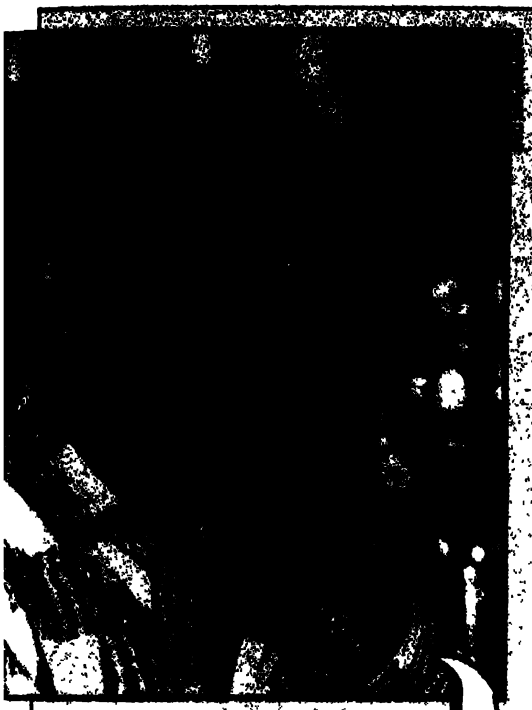
When we close this remarkable book, perplexity overwhelms our critical sense. This man who seemed to incarnate the diligent, punctual apparatchik of the Brezhnev era describes himself as a person with infinite respect for the precision of the chessboard, and perhaps for the harmony of the stars as well. At the same time, his memories inflate exact moments of happiness to grandiosity, and consign superfluous calamities to oblivion.

Fernando Arrabal

KARPOV ON KARPOV

Memoirs of a Chess World Champion
By Anatoly Karpov
Translated by Todd Bludeau.
Illustrated 288 pp. New York
Atheneum. $24.95.

Voices



Look at Allan Border and Graham Gooch. They were captains of losing sides when they began but the selectors showed faith and their faith has been rewarded. The Indian selectors have invested two years in Azhar and if they hang him now it will be a waste of those years, for Azhar's best years as captain and batsman are just ahead of him.
SUNIL GAVASKAR feels that Azharuddin should be retained as captain of the Indian team.

We happened to be underdogs going into the finals of that event (French Open '89), we happened to be sponsored by the same clothing company, we happened to be 17 years old, and both matches were very tight, going the distance. Since then Arantxa and I just kind of look at each other and we just kind of smile at each other. We don't say anything, but it's like 'French Open '89 .
MICHAEL CHANG draws the comparison, between him and Arantxa Sanchez, after they won the men's and women's titles at the Liptons Championships recently held at Key Biscayne.



The public don't know if a car is two or three seconds faster, so it makes no difference to the show. The priority for the public is the drivers championship and not the constructors championship. That is why we are not paid badly.
AYRTON SENNA on Formula One motor racing today.

After he got to jail and done time, there's one thing I've wondered about, Letharque. He can come out and be a different guy, with a chip on his shoulder, and he won't do nothing but hate.
EVANDER HOLYFIELD [illegible]

EXTRAS

Interesting and funny news from the cricketing world...

● A newly-married man in Surat, Gujarat, hanged himself in 'total despair and frustration' after India were beaten by Australia by one run in the World Cup match at Brisbane.

● *Australia's Ashes tour of England next year will feature six Test matches (Old Trafford, Lord's, Trent Bridge, Headingley, Edgbaston and The Oval) and three one-day internationals.*

● The Prince of Wales, Charles, has agreed to continue as Glamorgan's patron for a further five years.

● *South Africa will make their comeback to Test cricket on April 18, when they take the field at Bridgetown, Barbados for their first official Test match against West Indies. BSKYB will broadcast live coverage of the match in England. The tour will also include one-day internationals in Jamaica (April 7) and Trinidad (April 11 and 12). Former England batsman Raman Subba Row, until recently the chairman of the TCCB, will be the ICC referee for these historic matches.*

● When the Sri Lankans returned to New Zealand after travelling to Mackay for their rain-ruined World Cup match against India, they were delayed by customs officials who insisted they dust off their cricket boots because of the possibility of bringing in cattle disease from northern Queensland.

● *Britannic Assurance have agreed to sponsor the County Championship for a further three seasons to 1995, in a deal thought to be worth £1.4 million.*

● For the first time, MCC has given permission for a replica of the famous Ashes urn to be produced and marketed. The replica is to be made by Sportlink Promotions.

● *Former England captain Chris Cowdrey, who was released by Kent at the end of last season, will play for Glamorgan in one-day matches in 1992. Cowdrey, 34, captained Kent from 1985-90 and won five Test caps in India in 1984-85, and another when briefly installed as captain against West Indies in 1988. Although he has been signed primarily for his expertise in one-day cricket, he will stand by for first-class matches if required.*



PATRICK EAGAR

Despite having David Gower as one of their figureheads, Crickathon Charity have gone under

● Gloucestershire reported a pre-tax loss of £25,450 for 1991 but had feared a worse result. The accounts were swelled by the best-ever financial return from the county's Cheltenham festival, and by the annual handout from the TCCB, which this time amounted to £326,603.

● *Former Surrey, Leicestershire, Western Australia and England spin bowler Tony Lock, now 62, has been charged with the aggravated indecent assault of a 15-year-old girl five years ago. Lock, a naturalised Australian, allegedly committed the offence in his Parkerville, WA home while giving the girl cricket coaching. He was released on a personal surety pending appearance in a Perth Magistrates Court.*

● Denise Annetts (148 not out) and Lyn Larsen (86) set a women's world Test record for the fourth wicket with a stand of 222 in the match against England at North Sydney Oval. This beat the 163 made by Betty Wilson and Una Paisley for Australia against New Zealand at Wellington in 1948. Australia went on to an innings victory, dismissing England for 146 and 115 either side of their own 346 for 4 dec in what had been scheduled as the first-ever five-day women's Test. Rain began to fall immediately after England's last wicket fell: Debra Maybury scored 4 from 106 balls in the second innings England had earlier defeated New Zealand 1-0 in a three-match series, wicketkeeper Lisa Nye making a women's record eight dismissals (6 ct, 2st) in the first innings of the drawn final Test, at New Plymouth

● *Twenty-four letters written by Sir George 'Gubby' Allen to his parents during the 1932-33 'Bodyline' tour were sold for £10,000 by auction in Newbury, Berkshire on March 4. The buyers were the University of New South Wales.*

● Jamaica have won the Red Stripe Cup, West Indies' domestic first-class competition. Courtney Walsh's side beat Windward Islands by an innings in their final match to clinch the title.

● *The Crickathon Charity, which staged the first-ever cricket match at Wembley Stadium last year, has gone into liquidation, £1 million in debt. With its aim being to raise £10 million over three years for disaster relief, the charity had David Gower and Graeme Hick among its promotional figureheads.*

● An economic-impact study carried out by business consultants Coopers & Lybrand for the Australian Cricket Board predicts that around $A 70 million will be injected into the economy as a result of the World Cup. The assessment takes in the revenue from over 15,000 visiting cricket fans, TV income worldwide, and mostly from a general rise in tourism following the month-long international media coverage.



NEIL CHATTERTON

According to Coopers and Lybrand, the Australian economy will gain from the earnings made from the concluded World Cup

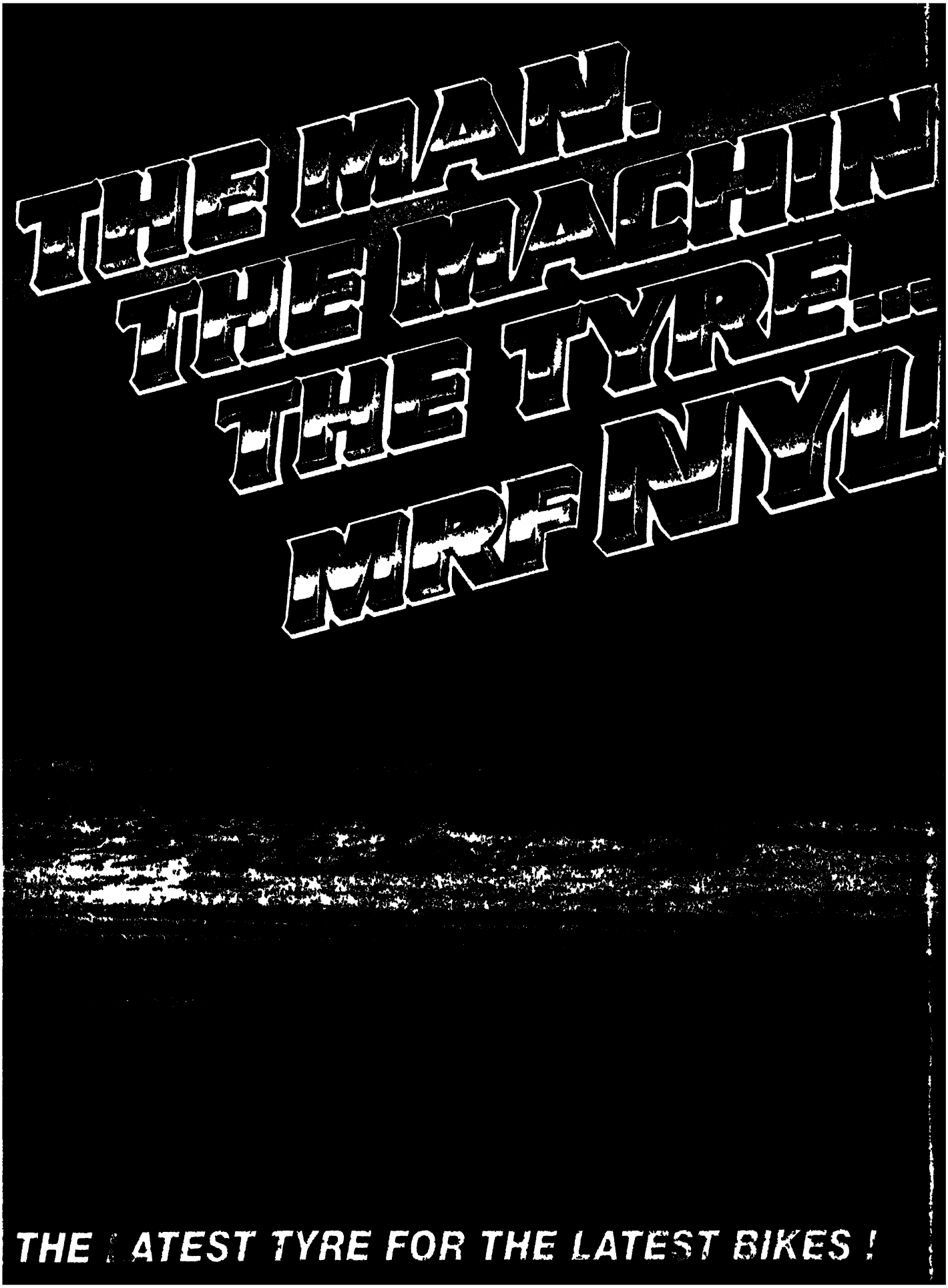


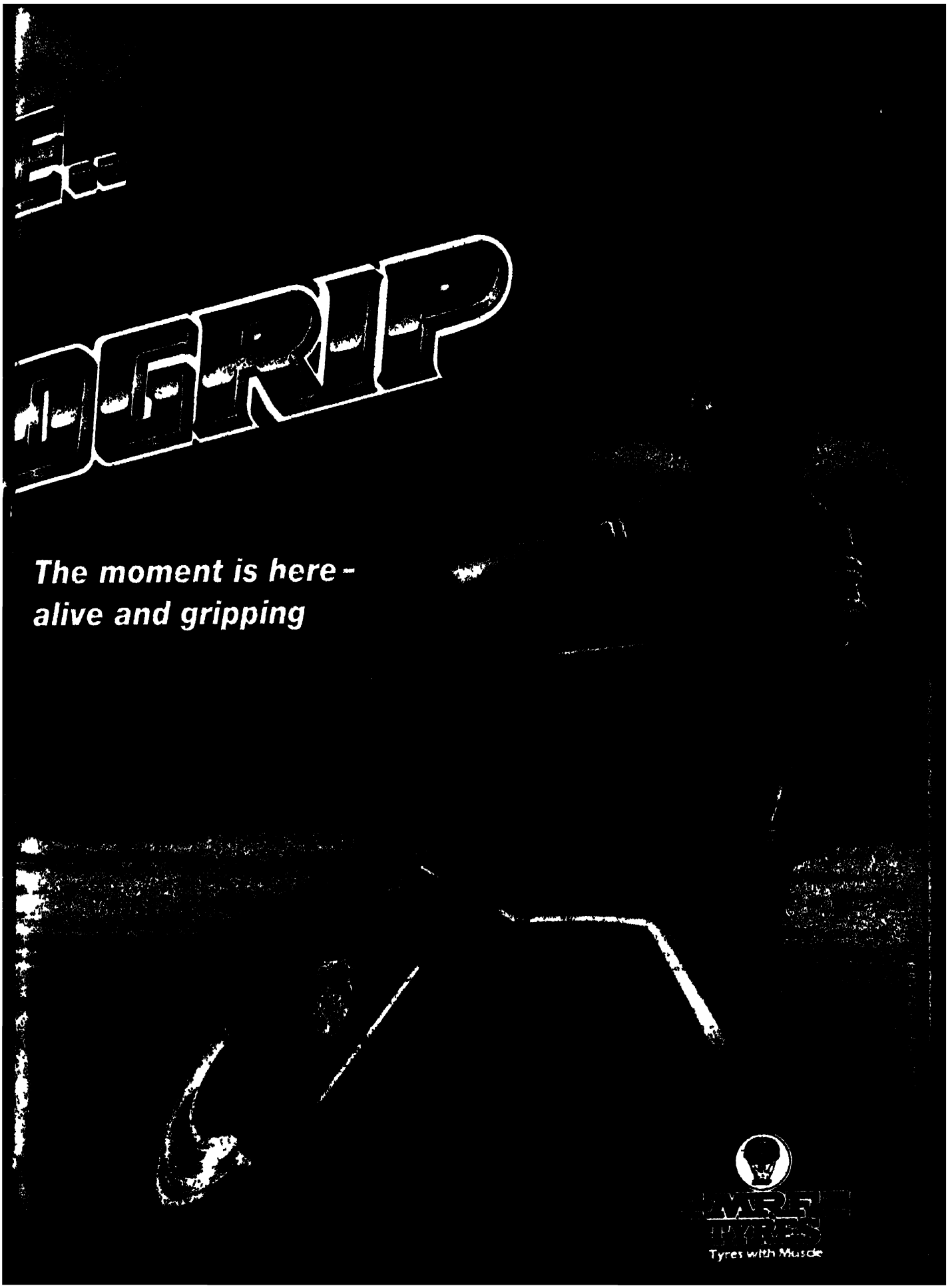
COLORSPORT

Prince Charles: patron of Glamorgan

● *The Indian Board has turned down an invitation to compete in a four-nation tournament in Sharjah later this month. India were upset at the way the recent Wills Trophy tournament in Sharjah was run, one senior official claiming that the event was 'fixed' in favour of Pakistan.*

● A 'Yes' (to South Africa's referendum) advertising board was removed from the boundary at Manuka Oval, Canberra by cricket officials before the televised South Africa-Zimbabwe match after a right-wing group asked to buy space for a 'No' sign. an ACT cricket official said, 'We decided we didn't want to get involved in politics.'


THE MAN.
THE MACHIN
THE TYRE...
MRF NYL
THE LATEST TYRE FOR THE LATEST BIKES !


GRIP
The moment is here -
alive and gripping
Tyres with Muscle

They are knowledgeable, patient and have the energy to spend the whole day at the golf course following the action. They are the golf spectators

GOLF and cricket have one thing in common. Both have day-long matches. Yet the spectators of the two sports are vastly different.

In the World Cup played in Australia and New Zealand, you saw families lolling about on their selected patch of turf or others using it for sunbathing. The whole thing was treated like a leisurely picnic, with most of the action taking place a 100 yards away on the pitch. They cheered when someone hit a boundary or snapped up a catch. Usually aided by a knowledgeable running commentary.

In contrast, golf spectators at an important event can almost be likened to heroes, admittedly unsung. The game of golf is unique in being the only major sport where the spectator also moves. And no other spectators undertake their enterprises with such well-behaved and organised enthusiasm. Players can be assured of pin-drop silence when making a putt right in front of a few hundred spectators. And nobody watching would dream of distracting a player in shot-making by any unwarranted movement.

Golf fans remain undaunted by conditions such as the burning sun or icy winds or even a drizzle. They could walk miles over rough tracks—on the other side of the ropes from the smooth fairways—clambering over humps and hillocks. The inconveniences are accepted as a part of the price to be paid for watching some prime golf. For sheer agility and doggedness, knowledge and appreciation, and above all, compassion for competitors in trouble, golf spectators stay head and shoulders above the rest.

Surprisingly, golf galleries are not as homogenous in age, sex, or



ASTON PLUS

SPECIAL FEATURE

COMMANDOS

OF THE GOLF COURSE









Players can be assured of pin-drop silence when making a putt right in front of a few hundred spectators. And nobody watching would dream of distracting a player

class as the usual football crowd or even one watching tennis matches Take the spectators at the Indian Open at Delhi Golf Course last year You saw people from "8 to 80". Womenwere are there in significant numbers. Poor caddies and other golf-crazy urchins mingled freely with the rich and influential. The only common bond was a thirst for the action and a willingness to exert in pursuance of this goal.

Of course, every golf spectator works out his own strategy for the day. But they can be broadly grouped into three major categories: those who would mostly station themselves at favoured vantage points, others who will mainly walk with their chosen players, and those who rush hither and thither in their fervour not to miss out on any lively action.

Famous tournament courses like the Augusta in USA or the Royal Andrew of Royal Birkdale in UK erect huge viewing stands especially at the finishing tee. But Delhi Golf Course indulges in no such luxury, except for a few dozen chairs at the starting tee. You often see the vantage-watchers seated early at the first tee, well victualled and armed with the day's necessities like hats and umbrellas. They probably move to the 13th green when everybody has teed off—this place has a refreshment stall nearby. And then they take their positions on the finishing tee towards the afternoon.

The walkers have an aversion to being stationary for more than a few minutes. This is the group that forms itself into a restless serpentine shape, continually on the move. Determined walkers are mostly seen tagging themselves to leading players. And are unbelievably swift and alert to manage a good viewing position every time they are stopped at the ropes. Such a walker is apt to end up the day putting in more walking than if he had himself played 18 holes of golf.

The third group has no such sense of purpose. Whither they go depends on sudden urges. Whenever they hear a roar from another part of the course, they make a dash for it. The result is a commando unit several hundred strong ready to rush to any scene o likely birdies. And for this they often take the shortest route, which in the case of the Delhi Golf Course could mean a lot of prickly bushes and tangled undergrowth.

There's another big difference between spectators of golf and other sports. Many of those watching a cricket match may not have wielded a willow bat in their life or ever bowled a cricket ball. A person watching a polo match may have never ridden a horse. Even much of the clapping at Wimbledon is mechanical and almost obligatory. But the vast majority of golf-watchers are golfers themselves—and they often come dressed in their golfing attire Their appreciation has to be earned through great play, not taken for granted.

Again there is hardly a trace of partisanship. Good shots are invariably applauded, a bad shot evokes silence or a shake of the head and there is genuine sympathy for anyone suffering a lousy round, the kind of sympathy that can come only from those who likewise have suffered.

A golf spectator has a harder job than any other spectator when he wants to see the game well; conceded the chance of his getting hit by a stray ball is not much more than that of a cricket fan getting hit by a sixer. No wonder much golf watching has shifted to TV (it's another matter Doordarshan's golf coverage remains so minimal). But then there are compensations in watching a great match at the course. You are near enough to the players to see every movement of theirs, even the expressions. Anyway golf tournaments would not be the same if the heroic spectators were not there.

And maybe the 19th hole, which is the club bar was created keeping them in mind!

Mohinder Singh

Man For All Seasons

Ice-hockey ace, rock musician, and glamourboy *Alexi Lalas* is US football's most colourful character. Its greatest hope too

THERE is something irresistibly fascinating and striking about the personality of Alexi Lalas.

Whether it is for his swagger, or his six feet three-inches towering build, or the way he strums his guitar, or the manner in which he heads the ball out of danger with his tremendous agility as a sweeper in the US Olympic football squad one is not sure, but the fact is, he is a superhero to hundreds of the country's soccer aficionados.

Lalas was presented the 25th Hermann Trophy for 1991, which is the equivalent of the Heisman Trophy for American Football, as America's top college scorer in soccer.

Before Lalas, it was frontliner Peter Vermes, the World Cupper, now with Tabare Ramos at Figueras in Spain, who did Rutgers proud, by being its best-known product. Lalas has gone one up on Vermes and his other college rivals by winning the prestigious MAC (Missouri Athletic Club) Award too, and thus creating history.

In a land where soccer is still struggling to establish itself as a pro sport, there are too many awards to covet and win. And a number of footballers have already gained prominence by winning those awards. Of them, Lalas undoubtedly is the most impressive and talented player, who is expected to reach the pinnacle of his powers in 1994 during the US World Cup. Visually striking with his shoulder-length red hair, he's a native of Birmingham in Michigan in the mid-west, who joined Rutgers University four years ago, having also played ice-hockey with great aplomb.

Soccer and music are the greatest passions of Lalas' life. He is the lead guitarist for The Gypsies, that often performs at Greenwich Village.

On the field too, he's not to be taken lightly. An in-form Lalas always plays like a man possessed. Says Bob Reasso, his college coach, "He's been the most dominant player we've had at Rutgers" adding, "His intensity, his fire and passion for the game is like no one I've seen—and I've dealt with a lot of great players."

There is something irresistibly fascinating and striking about the personality of Alexi Lalas...the fact is he is a superhero to hundreds of the country's soccer aficionados...



Explaining his attitude Lalas said: "I hate giving up a goal. I take it as if it's a vicious insult against my family..."

And it's no mean business to come up against this 190-lb sweeper. Opposing strikers have often been at a loss to tackle him. And so strong is he in the air that many teams have often changed their original gameplans to neutralise Lalas.

Lalas, like Passarella of Argentina, often moves up to head in goals for his side. He was a key figure in defence alongwith Cameron Rast, another superb stopper/sweeper who won the Pan-American gold at Havana in 1991. That Rutgers made the final four of the NCAA Championships twice in the last four years, and became the top university in November 1991, had a lot to do with Lalas' remarkable prowess in deep defence, and his fantastic work-rate.

The U.S. Olympic squad is counting on a solid performance by its college-level players who have proved to be very talented, giving lie to the idea that it is only Africa, South America and, may be Australia too, who are producing all the precocious talent. They're pitted against their CONCACAF rivals, Mexico, Honduras and Canada in the final round of the Olympic qualification rounds, on a home and away basis till May 17.

P Mahury

THE REVO

Hassiba Boulmerka became a national heroine in Algeria when she won the 1500m at the World Athletics Championships at Tokyo. Her win stunned a nation where women are not allowed to vote. And her win added further pressure on the Algerian authorities to give women voting rights. Without realising it, she had become a revolutionary

THERE are still people in the world who think that sport and politics are entirely separate issues There are plenty who actually believe it—idealistic, ignorant call them what you will They are, by and large, people without conscience In 1980, the



LUTIONARY



war in Afghanistan prompted the United States to boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow, while Great Britain chose to compete. What have those far-flung issues to do with us?

Hassiba Boulmerka, at the idealistic age of 23, is all too aware the sport for sport's sake is a confounded cause. But her firm belief is that all is not quite lost, that there is a positive aspect to the dilemma When she competes in the 1500 metres against the world's best and wins, she knows it boosts the morale of her uneasy country, Algeria She runs, she also believes, in the name of Islam. She runs not for personal achievement but as a symbol of women's liberation

A bit far-fetched? Consider her gold medal victory at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo last summer. Not only was she the first Algerian female to take the gold at that distance, but also the first Arab and the first African. Just hours after she skipped a lap of honour around the track, twirling the red, white and green of her national flag above her head and yelping for joy, a thousand posters went up on walls all over the capital city, Algiers. They read: 'Hassiba Boulmerka did not need her father's procuration to win the gold medal '

It was a daring, damning reference to the Algerian electoral system, whereby women were unable to vote on their own behalf, their husbands voting for them by proxy If unmarried, the responsibility fell to their fathers. Shortly afterwards, the law was updated, and free universal suffrage granted

Innocently and single-handedly, Boulmerka had taken on the system and thrashed it. Little wonder that today she is hailed as a national heroine—after Tokyo she and fellow athlete Noureddine Morceli, the male 1500-metre champion, became the first civilians to be awarded La Medaille du Merite National the country's highest honour. She carries a diplomatic passport, and enjoys all the privileges and exemptions of a government minister.

We met in Paris at the height of the rioting and general unrest in Algeria, a state of emergency having just been declared. She is a small, hirsute, muscular figure in the Diego Maradona/Fatima Whitbread mould. Her wiry black hair is cropped in an uncertain style, her unpruned eyebrows sit heavily on her face. She rarely smiles, speaks but a dozen hesitant words of English, and appears somewhat anxious throughout our encounter.

Hassiba informs us that she has never given such an interview before, restricting journalists to questions concerning her running event. This is the first time she has agreed to pose as a fashion model, as she puts it. It is all unfamiliar territory, and she all but quakes with nerves throughout, in spite of our attempts to make her laugh and put her at ease. She has never before been professionally made-up, and it is the first time she has ever put on an expensive designer garment.

She and fellow athlete Noureddine Morceli, became the first civilians to be awarded La Medaille du Merite National, the country's highest diplomatic honour

She has worn a suit before—once—when she was presented to the president of Algeria following her triumph in Tokyo. Her normal mode of dress is a tracksuit, or jeans and T-shirt. Her femininity is played down to such a degree that it almost implies the opposite.

Cocooned within the gilded, over-the-top splendour of the Paris Ritz hotel on the Place Vendome, she is nothing if not a fish out of water, yet oblivious of its exorbitant luxury. She presents herself bare-faced and sporting baggy jeans and trainers for dinner in the elegant $100-per-head restaurant.

SHE is not at all what *les Francais* refer to as *soignee*. Her table manners are basic, no airs and graces here. She consumes three hearty courses washed down with Coca-Cola during our interview, which is conducted entirely in French. She speaks it, her second language, in a curdled, deep monotone Arabic accent. As a devout Muslim, she never touches alcohol. 'My religion is the driving force in my life,' she explains, 'the most important thing. It is the root of everything. People who know nothing of Islam tend to look upon it as sinister and feel threatened by it. It is an ancient faith, but totally valid in the modern world.

'For example, in Algeria we are fairly strict Muslims, yet women have considerable freedom, unlike those in Iran. Not all of us wear the *hijab*[veil]. My mother has done so for a long time, but it's a tradition, not compulsory. It is done to hide the women's figure—it is considered provocative to display it. Those of us who do not wear it don't consider ourselves to be provocative. Only about 30 per cent of the female population wear the veil—its place is not so relevant in this day and age.'

Hassiba is the fourth of seven children born to a modest Algerian couple from Constantine. For 18 years her father lived and worked in France as a telephone engineer. (He is now employed as a company driver, her mother is a housewife.)

These are the people who vociferously condemn the 'shameful' Boulmerka for 'running half-naked for all the world to see'. She should, they insist, conceal herself and compete in the *hijab* and leggings. 'It is the opinion of some people in my country,' she remarks cautiously, not wishing to rock the boat with a public statement which might easily be misconstrued.

'I would say that we still have a democracy. As such, we have the right to choose, to speak our minds and behave as we see fit. You cannot wear the *hijab* in the stadium, just as you cannot wear shorts in the mosque. Each place has it's rules.'

Algeria is a Third World



country.

Development is slow, retarded further by world recession and lack of foreign investment. Hassiba shakes her head in despair at the mention of it.

'I want to give back,' she says simply. 'Sacrifices have been made for me to pursue my career. One day, maybe ten years from now, I will be ready to serve others. I may be destined for politics. Why not?

'I hope one day soon to marry and have children. It is the most important project in a woman's life—and a man's. No, it won't have to be an arranged marriage, but my husband will have to be a Muslim. After that, public service. It's a probability. And when I'm about to be sworn in as president, I'll be sure to call you!'

For all her earnestness she is, in many ways, the voice of her nation's young people. She has often been described as such. Hassiba speaks and the kids listen. Ever mindful of the fact that she is a powerful influence on them in everything she says and does, this month she is launching her own youth foundation, Algerie Solidarite, which will raise funds to assist young people who are unemployed, handicapped, or disadvantaged in any way. She has funded the trust with her own money, and will personally oversee its development.

Meanwhile Barcelona looms, and the preparation is already intense. Up at 7am each day, two hours on the track, nothing left to chance. Going for gold a second time? 'I will let you know on August 9,' she half-smiles, thinking ahead to the date of the competition.

Does the pressure to win again seem unbearable?

'Not so much,' she almost smiles. 'If I fail, my people will understand. My name is already written in gold.'

ASIA FEATURES

EAST INDIA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Boys On The Move

Eventual champion Leander Paes used the tournament to experiment, while Asif Ismail and Gaurav Natekar looked for some form to take into the Davis Cup trials

LEANDER PAES strolled in and won the East India Tennis Championships and nobody blinked, because fellas, it wasn't news. For a while though, when Asif Ismail shook him up a little in the semi finals, eyebrows did flutter, pens did poise, but Paes eventually won 7-6, 7-6 and everybody decided, well that was going to happen anyway, so no big deal here either. Face it, two months from 19, Paes is *non pareil* in Indian tennis, Ramesh Krishnan excluded.

The point was, what was he doing in the tournament, and what did he hope to gain from playing it? Two-fold question, so two-fold answer.

Denied a wild card into the Epson Singapore Super Tennis, Paes had two weeks to spare before the Hong Kong Salem Open, which is just about when former BAT coach Dave O'Meara flew into town.

A genial, erudite fellow with a drill sergeant's penchant for discipline, O'Meara has been signed on as Paes' personal travelling coach—whether he can use his 'special' relationship with Paes to mould him into a finer player will, of course, be seen over the next twelve months.

Nevertheless, reunited after a two-year break, the two weeks presented a perfect opportunity for O'Meara to rediscover his former protege and work on a few glitches in Paes' game. But developing new strokes, fine tuning others and advocating fresh strategy is all very well in practice—the issue is enforcing the changes in actual matchplay. And that's exactly where the East India Tennis Championships came in.

Experimenting during matchplay is not an easy business, for the greater good of introducing a new stroke, means risking losing a match. And when you're dealing with a fellow like Paes,

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

RASHBEHARI DAS



Natekar poses with Paes after their fluent final





Paes with his coach Dave O'Meara

whose dictionary of tennis does not happily include that word, then it can be tough.

And that's exactly what happened against Ismail. The lanky, likeable Bombay dude, with a serve that scorches, played some pleasing capable tennis, enough to make Paes abandon his experiment and revert to type. That Paes won after being down 1-5 in the second set tie-breaker is testament again to his ability to find courage and class on the big points, the difference eventually between being the best and one of the guys.

Happily in the final against Gaurav Natekar (who beat Enrico Piperno to get there), Paes shut out the past, and gave a glimpse of the future—all the lessons he learnt that week were on show. Dropping his left shoulder on the serve and tossing the ball higher he is getting more power, and at 5' 10" inches he's going to have to take what he can get. His returns showed a fresh fluency, his backhand crackled, his volleying is still delightful and he cruised through 6-4, 6-3 playing percentage tennis of a fine order. He still tends to go for too much on his returns, and is strangely, easily distracted by a restless crowd, but, no doubt, that too is on O'Meara's agenda of things to work on.

If Paes used the tournament for a specific purpose, so too in a sense did Natekar and Ismail: they were looking for some form to take into the Davis Cup trials.

On April 14, 15 and 16 both of them, with Akash Lamba and Rohit Reddy, are scheduled to play a round robin to decide who will be the fourth member of the team for the tie against Indonesia in early May.

But should there be a round robin at all?

To begin with, reliable sources confirm that the Davis Cup captain Naresh Kumar, when asked for his views by the AITA (All India Tennis Association) recommended Asif Ismail. But since Kumar, inexplicably, is not on the selection committee, that may remain just a view.

What Kumar usually advocates, like Neale Fraser does in Australia, is to pick a squad of six—Krishnan, Paes and Zeeshan Ali are already sure shots—check the form, attitude and usefulness of the rest prior to the tie and then select the fourth member. Had the tie been in India against the Philippines, as expected, this was perfect—but taking six to Indonesia is not viable.

But paradoxically, and Kumar would probably agree, form cannot ever be the sole criterion. Which is why, even though Ismail has been sometimes erratic, merely a question of



focussing more intently during matches, he is the ideal choice. Natekar, quite understandably, may argue considering he beat Ismail in three sets in Goa last month, but herein again we have a problem

Natekar is clever, but he does not have the style of game, read pace and strength to be threatening at the international level Conversely Ismail, with a big serve, has the power to hold his own—as evidenced by how far he pushed Paes—even in Davis Cup ties This is relevant, because the fourth member today is never a hanger-on, he is always primed to play should the situation arise. Neverthless, if Natekar wins the round-robin it's going to be difficult to argue

Perhaps, what is required, is to immediately begin assembling a potential squad for the future. In two years, Ramesh Krishnan will probably have relinquished his place, and we should already have our alternatives ready by then. If Natekar and Ismail are the two best available prospects at present, then both should be taken to Indonesia, to experience and understand what Davis Cup competition is all about

Whatever, the round-robin is not the answer It would be a tragedy if Ismail has an off day, or Natekar sprains an ankle during that week, for it effectively might leave us with someone who does not belong in the team. Rigidity always makes little sense and the Davis Cup selection committee need to find a more rational and professional mode of selection. This is close, but not good anough. ●



Natekar: clever but needs some muscle

RASHEEHARI DAS



Ismail ponders his future: a class act if he concentrates

SANTOSH KOSHY

KARATE

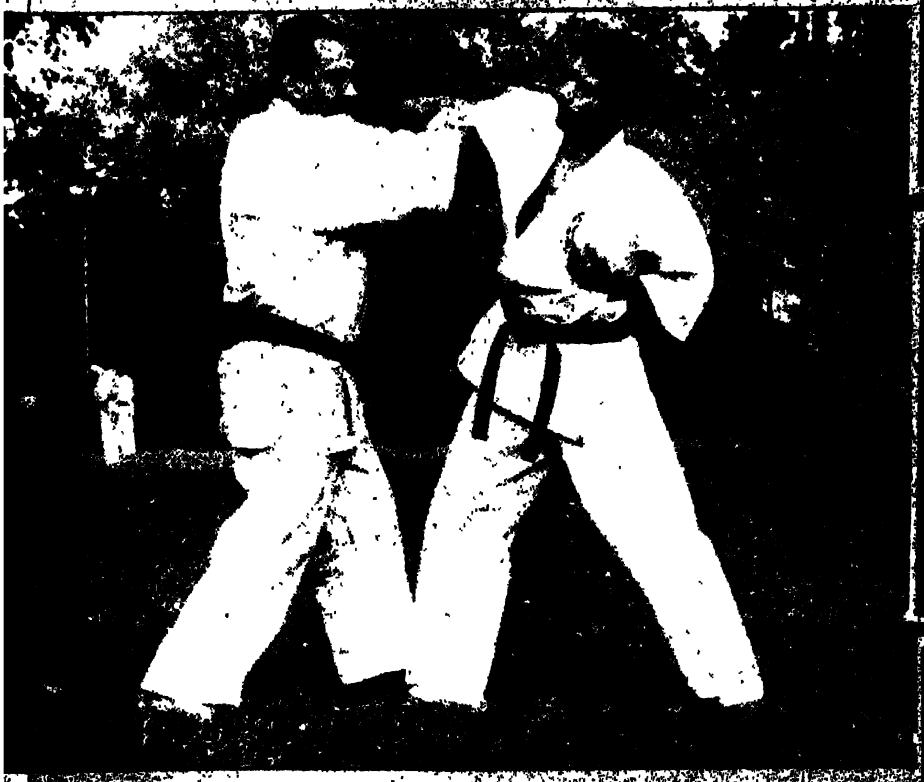
THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING our self-defence techniques from *kokutsu-dachi* lean back and block a punch to the head region with a *mawashi-uke*. In the same motion, grab his punching arm with your left hand and pull him towards you even as you deliver a *sita-tsuki* or a hook punch below the ribs or the solar plexus.

By Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushinkaikan Karate.

PHOTOGRAPHS: RAMAN BHALLA

Go into kokutsu-dachi and block the punch with a mawashi-uke block (inset). Then pull him towards you and deliver a hook punch to the solar plexus









Shivaji Ganguly will be conducting a special week-long camp on self-defence during the third week of May at the Kyokushinkaikan Karate headquarters at Harish Park. Persons with a background in martial arts may contact the above mentioned at 136 Harish Mukherjee Road, Calcutta-25.

SO LONG, FAREWELL..

French Davis Cup captain, Yannick Noah tendered in his resignation amidst unceremonious circumstances when holders France, struck by complacency, fell to lowly rated Switzerland





THE *esprit de corps* which brought France their first Davis Cup triumph after 59 years ended in acrimony. Yannick Noah relinquished the captaincy and criticised the complacency of his leading players, provoking an angry response. They were obviously not happy musketeers.

Noah had confided to the squad last month that he would be leaving his post at the end of the year, to devote his time to music, films and charity. A quarter-final defeat, 3-2, by unseeded Switzerland in Nimes , ended his unbeaten run and hastened the departure.

Henri Leconte and Guy Forget, who had carried the captain shoulder-high from the court after defeating the United States to win the Davis Cup were dropped

for the singles rubbers against the Swiss. Noah had decided they lacked form and fitness.

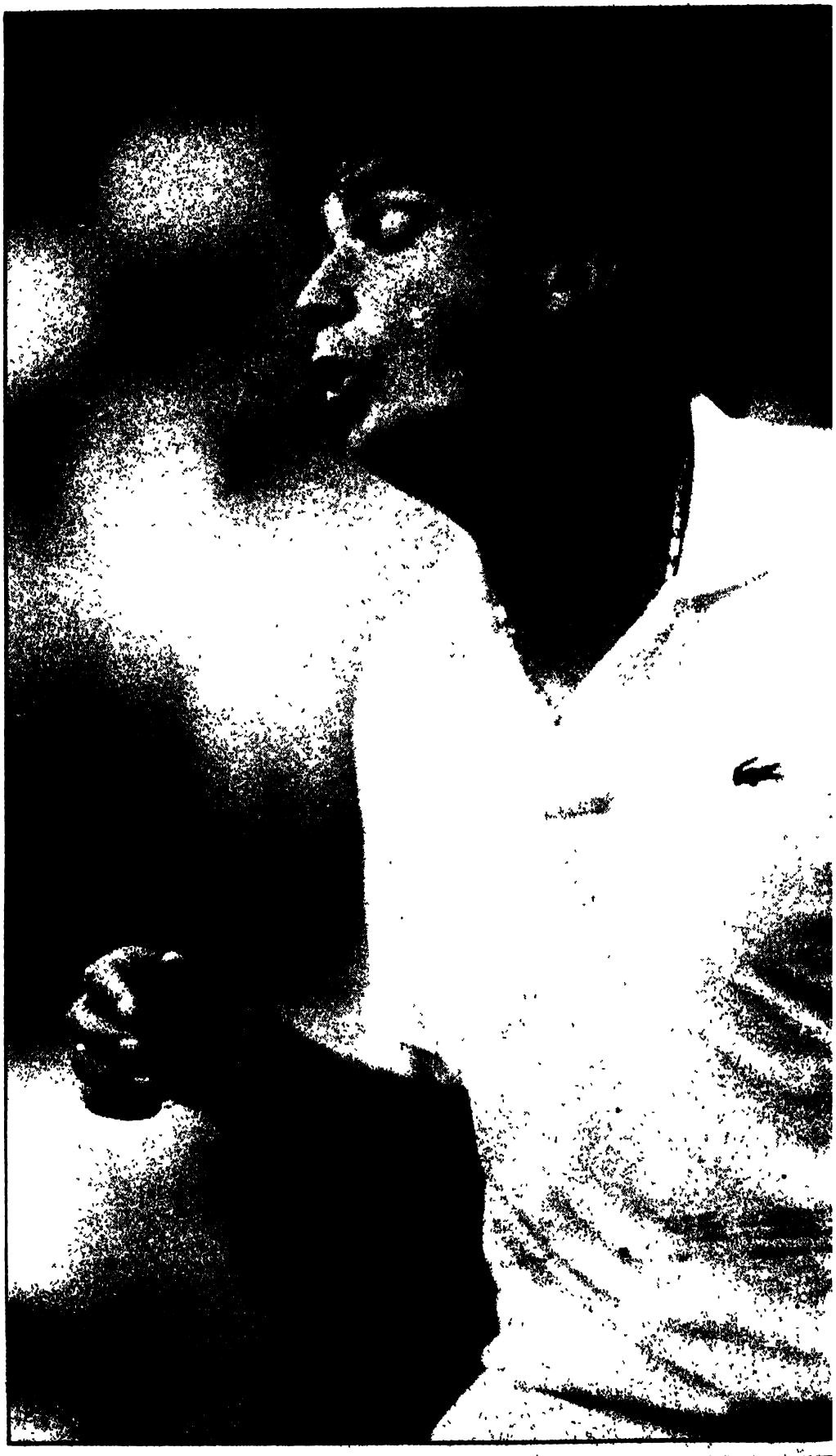
After their replacements, Thierry Champion and Arnaud Boetsch, had failed to keep the holders in the competition, there were recriminations for Leconte and Forget, the heroes of Lyon.

"Basically, it was a case of two guys who said, 'We've won the Cup, that's great'," Noah said in an interview with *L'Equipe*.

He continued: "Henri said, 'The Davis Cup is my life'. No, his life is to play and win matches. It's not because he's won once that everything is accomplished. Look at Guy's results since the beginning of the year. Fine, he beat Ivan Lendl, but, in comparison with his ability, he has not come up to his real level. Henri has won one match. I feared this would happen. We even spoke about it on the night we won the Cup. The guys agreed with me. They won't be surprised to read this."

Leconte seemed shocked. "I'm sorry these remarks were made and that Yannick has it in for us," he said. "I find that stupid and idiotic. It leaves an unpleasant taste in the mouth. Everyone has to take his share of the blame. When the captain announces he will be leaving by next season, psychologically you don't approach the tie in the same way. It wasn't good to tell us first."

Noah, 31, will continue



Leconte was romancing Sabatini instead of practising



TOMMY HINDLEY

Forget's injured wrist and hectic schedule upset Noah's plans

to act as a consultant to the French Tennis Federation, whose officials expressed the hope that he would change his mind about the captaincy. Forget has already tried to talk him round. "I told him I would like him to stay on," he said. "We will talk about it again. Yannick is irreplaceable."

Leconte was not too sure. "It's a pity, because we get on extremely well, and it's a shame to finish on a losing note," he said, "but Yannick has created a team spirit which we can carry on without him."

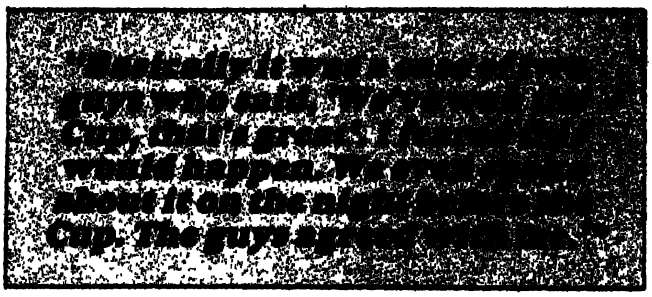
Noah's captaincy lasted precisely a year. He first sat in a courtside chair for a tie against Israel in Rennes on March 29, 1991, and last occupied the position on March 29, 1992. "I've been the black captain of the French team, but now I want to do something else," he said. "In five or six years' time, we will see..."

The first strains of his farewell were heard on the night of celebration in Lyon, when the French team danced a conga and sang his reggae single, "Saga Africa". He is currently writing songs for a new album and hopes to be given an opportunity to act in films. He is spending time now playing exhibition matches to raise money for children's hospitals.

Though Noah continued to express enthusiasm and optimism about the French cause when Leconte and Forget whitewashed Britain in



TOMMY HINDLEY



the opening round this year, his mind was already filling with alternative projects.

One of these is a tennis and music novelty event scheduled for Paris Bercy shortly before the French Open. Separate draws of 10 men and 10 women are to play tie-break sets on a blue clay court, with the winners meeting in a mixed final. As an added attraction, "music" is to be provided by Boris Becker, John McEnroe and Mats Wilander. ●

Interesting snippets from the world media that we don't get to hear about

TYSON'S SWEEPING FLOORS!

MIKE TYSON, fighting boredom after a few days in prison, has joined a work detail mopping floors and washing dishes.

He asked for the duties because 'it helps pass the time', a prison spokesman said. Tyson, 25, is being held for now at a processing centre in Plainsfield, near Indianapolis. The spokesman said Tyson would probably be there for a few more weeks before being sent to another State prison.

BACK ON THE TRACK

TWO YEARS ago Alessandro Nannini, the Italian Formula One driver, lay in the wreckage of a crashed helicopter with his right forearm severed. But ever since that day his recovery has been dramatic if not miraculous.

Although he has not been able to step back into the cockpit of a Formula One car he made a venture into racing once again, thanks to the surgeons who managed to sew back his arm.

Driving an Alfa Romeo, he came sixth in the Italian grand tourism championship at Monza. Nannini, 31, spun off the track to avoid a collision when in second place, but fought back in the last few laps.

"My hand has 15 per cent of functions, although I have no problems in using the gear. Doctors say I can improve 60 per cent," he said.

He added, "Getting back into Formula One is something I will have to wait and see about."

SWAT TEAM

IN AN attempt to improve Beijing's chances of being awarded the 2000 Olympic Games when the International Olympic Committee makes its selection in 1994, the city's government has ordered residents to swat as many flies as possible.

BECKENBAUER HEADING FOR U.S.*

FRANZ BECKENBAUER, the former soccer star who coached the West



Tyson is mopping floors and washing dishes!

German team to the World Cup in 1990, plans to help the U.S. team prepare for the 1994 tournament.

"Yes, I will go there and help them before the world championships, but only for a couple of weeks a year," he said.

NO TO NAPOLI

DIEGO MARADONA, the former Argentine soccer captain whose worldwide ban from the professional game expires in July, has ruled out a return to the Italian club, Napoli.



Maradona has refused to play for Napoli

His contract with Napoli does not expire until mid-1993, and this has resulted in speculations that he might return to the club next season.

"I won't go back there," Maradona said, "I don't see why I should return to Italy. It is a closed book."



SPORTING TRIVIA

THOSE MAD CONTINENTALS

Beckenbauer will help out the U.S. soccer team

NEVER MIND the pink passports. those Continentals are up to something far more sinister They want to Europeanise cricket!

Seven countries met in Munich to plan a club tournament and a European nations championship, as well as warning ICC, cricket s world governing body

Cricket in mainland Europe is no longer a game played by a few expatriates with nothing better to do on a Sunday afternoon

So says Simone Gambino chairman of the European Cricket Federation The federation will promote the game independently of the ICC Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy and Switzerland are the members and Sweden, Spain and the Channel Islands are interested in joining

FEET UP FOR ADS

TWO PRO boxers have been offered £900 each to carry an advertising logo on the sole of their boots, in the hope that they will be knocked out during a championship recently.

The unfortunate fact is that the sponsors of these two boxers are hoping that they get knocked out so that the ad can be seen. How cruel can people get! ●

This week in the history of sport

HENRY AARON of the Atlanta Braves shattered the 40-year-old record of Babe Ruth's 714 home runs in American baseball when he notched up his 715th on **April 8, 1974.**

ON April 9, 1845, a game off 'telegraph chess'—in which the moves are transmitted by telegraph—was played between H. Staunton and Kennedy at Portsmouth and some players in London.

ON April 10, 1889 wrestler Ram Chandra Chatterjee ascended in a balloon with Percival Spencer in Calcutta to become the first Indian to ascend in a balloon.

SETTING an Indian record for the longest out and return flight in gliding V.B. Gupta and R.K. Wason glided 96 miles from Delhi on **April 11, 1963.**

THE 13-year old motorcycle speed record of 174 mph set by E. Henne was broken by Wilhelm Hertz when he rode at 180 mph in Germany on **April 12, 1950.**

EDWARD II of England issued a proclamation on **April 13, 1314** forbidding the game of football 'as there is a great noise in the city caused by hustling over large balls from which many evils might arise....

THE first Monaco Grand Prix motor race was run round the narrow streets of Monte Carlo on **April 14, 1929,** and was won by William of Great Britain in a Bugati.

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

HONOURED: Shiny Wilson, by the Chinese Sports Journalists Association, as one of Asia's 10 best sports persons for 1991. The award was handed over to her by the Minister of State for Human Resources, Ms. Mamata Banerjee.

TO TURN PROFESSIONAL: Yasin Merchant next month. He becomes the second Indian snooker player to turn a professional after Om Agrawal.

RECORD SET: By Kieren Perkins of Australia in the 400m freestyle event at the Australian National Swimming Championships. He clocked 3 min. 46.47 secs which was 0.48 secs less than the world record set by Uwe Dassler. The 18-year old then broke the world record in the 1500m freestyle event with a timing of 14 mins. 48.40 secs.

TO PLAY: Nonita Lal, Sunil Mehra and Vandana Agrawal in the 14th Amateur Ladies Asian Invitational Championship to be held in China.

AWARDED: The Padma Shri to former Indian hockey captain Ajit Pal Singh and Olympic athlete Sriram Singh.

WON: By Gabriela Sabatini the Family Circle Magazine Tennis Tournament. She defeated Conchita Martinez 6-1, 6-4 in the final to win this title for the second consecutive time.

WON: By Aaron Krickstein the Panasonic South African Tennis Tournament. He defeated Alexander Volkov of Russia 6-4, 6-4 in the final.

WON: By Carlos Costa, an unseeded player, the $500,000 Estoril Open Tennis tournament for his first ATP title. He defeated Sergi Bruguera 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the final.

WON: By West Indies, their first one-day international against the touring South Africans. West Indies piled up a total of 257 for 6 and then wiped off the South African resistance for 160 runs in 42.2 overs.

PROBABLE: That the Pakistan hockey team might be barred from participating in the Barcelona Olympics. This is because one of their players — Mussadiq Hussain tested positive for drug use during the recently concluded Champions Trophy.

ANNOUNCED: Limba Ram, Lalram Singh and Dulchand Damor as the archery squad for the Barcelona Olympics.

[illegible] the sporting spirit alive in [illegible], [illegible] pitched them on, in an impromptu street bout.



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Where and when did Viv Richards score 189*, the highest in international cricket?
2. Who became the first Englishman to exceed 150 in a one-day international?
3. What is common to Fred Trueman, Richie Benaud and Frank Tyson?
4. Who made the possibilities of glance apparent?
5. Can umpires award a match to a side?
6. Whose autobiography is *Spinner's Yarn?*
7. Which is Imran Khan's favourite cricket ground?
8. Who is the odd man out of Joel Garner, Charlie Griffith, Malcolm Marshall and Michael Holding?
9. What is common to Derek Pringle, Chris Smith and Tony Greig?

ANSWERS

1. Old Trafford, 1984.
2. David Gower.
3. Each of them took up cricket commentary.
4. K.S. Ranjitsinhji.
5. Yes, if a side refuses to play, or concedes defeat, the umpires 'shall award the match to the other side.'
6. Ian Peebles.
7. Melbourne Cricket Ground.
8. Michael Holding who played for Jamaica (while the other three played for Barbados).
9. They were born in Africa.

CHESS

VIKTOR KORCHNOY is finally muttering dark threats about retirement. Only nobody believes the 62-year old who won his first international tournament 40 years ago. And he's still playing power-chess. Like this masterly counter-attack.

White: Van Der Wiel Vs Black: Korchnoy Rotterdam '91.

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Bg5 Be7 5 e5 Nfd7 6 Be7 Qe7 7 f4 0-0 8 Nf3 c5 9 Qd2 Nc6 10 0-0-0 Nb6.

Korchnoy used to make a habit of playing and winning the slightly inferior endgame after 10—cd4 11 Nd4 Nd4 12 Qd4 Qc5. This time he goes for a theoretical line where the "Greek Gift" sac on h7 figures heavily. **11 dc5 Qc5 12 Bd3 Bd7 13 Bh7!?**

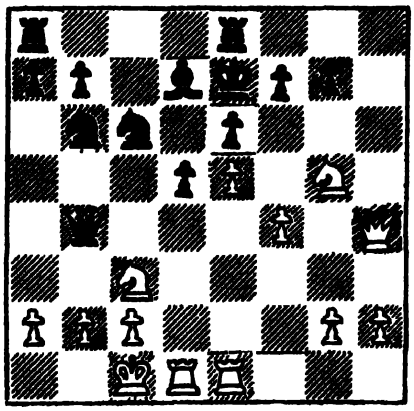
A new try. Previously white has waited a move with 13 Kb1 Rac8 14 Bh7!? as in Sax—Timman Amsterdam '91.

13—Kh7 14 Ng5 Kg8 15 Qd3 Rfe8 16 Qh7 Kf8 17 Rhe1 Qb4 18 Qh8 Ke7 19 Qh4. (see diagram) Black has apparently got problems because of the discovered check and 19—f6 exposes the king further.

19—Kd8!! 20 Ne6 Kc8 21 a3 Qe7. White had to assist in recentralising the black queen, because of the 21—Nc4 threat.

22 Ng5 f6 23 e6 fg5 24 ed7 Qd7 25 Qg5 Re1 26 Re1 a6! 27 f5 Kb8 28 Re6 Ka7 29 Rg6 Re8 30 Rg7 Re1 31 Nd1 Qe8 32 f6 Qe4 33 Qd2 Nc4 34 Qf2 Ne3! (0-1). Black has a mating attack.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

TIMING is one of the most important factors in any game and bridge is no exception. On today's hand from the last European championship, South, John Armstrong of the winning British team, playing in a no-trump game against Poland, found a winning line of play that had eluded even the Vu-graph commentators who had the advantage of being able to see all four hands:-

NORTH (dummy)
♠ J1092
♥ AQ1083
♦ 92
♣ 53

WEST
♠ Q875
♥ 64
♦ J875
♣ J42

EAST
♠ K6
♥ K972
♦ Q64
♣ 10987

SOUTH
♠ A43
♥ J5
♦ AK103
♣ AKQ6

Winning the opening club lead, declarer could see that he had seven top tricks and needed to develop two more. Due to the paucity of entries to dummy, there was not much hope of developing more than one (in addition to the ace) in spades and the hopes seemed to lie in the heart suit. The Viewgraph commentators predicted that South would lead the heart jack and pass it. All would be well if East takes his king but one cannot expect such soft defence in international events and surely East would duck the heart jack to shut out dummy's long suit. The commentators did not expect this expert declarer to naively believe that the heart finesse had necessarily worked when the jack holds but they could not see how he could avoid repeating the doomed heart finesse.

Armstrong, as expected, led and passed the heart jack at trick two and East smoothly ducked the heart jack. Contrary to predictions, though, declarer proceeded to demonstrate to the commentators that there was a second string to his bow. Realising that now, with the eighth trick in his bag, he needed to develop only one more, he changed tack, switching to spades, leading a low one from hand. If West won and attacked hearts, Armstrong could go up with dummy's ace and lead the spade jack from dummy, hoping to find East with one of the spade honours. In actual play, East won the first spade and, unable to attack hearts from his side, returned a club. South won, cashed the spade ace and gave up a second spade to set up dummy's last spade for the ninth trick with the heart ace as entry.

Santanu Ghose

Where's the fighting spirit?

THE World Cup 1992 witnessed a new champion in the world cricketing circle, Pakistan. And if a team deserved to win it was this team from the sub-continent. One can surely attribute India's poor performance to the lack of fighting spirit in the team.

But then how can we instil the fighting spirit when the team is being shuffled around so much. In the past decade,we have seen no less than five captains and a lot of new players who came into the team for a series and then are not given a second chance. The question that arises at this point is: if these players are chosen into the team on the basis of their merit then why aren't they given enough chances to prove themselves? Why are they discarded, and in their place, why are players who have certainly seen better days, persisted with?

This unfortunately is the plight of cricket in the country and the most surprising aspect is that the BCCI is not taking any steps in the right direction. Indian cricket it like a rudderless ship that just keeps floating in the sea of cricket.

I suppose that we Indian cricket supporters are extremely unlucky—unlucky to love cricket and moreover, love Indian cricket.
ANJAN MAJUMDAR,
Calcutta.

Good show, Pakistan

HEARTY congratulations to Pakistan for a bravely fought, determined and finally deserving victory in the fifth World Cup. Imran Khan and Co. has shown the world that great achievements can be accomplished through true team spirit and hard work.



Imran Khan: a dream finally realised

Under the able leadership of Imran Khan the Pakistan team fought many valiant battles and came out victorious. The other teams in the competition specially the Indian team should learn some lessons from them on motivation, determination, dedication and above all team spirit.

And with this win Imran Khan's ambition to build the cancer hospital in memory of his late mother will receive much help and aid from his well-wishers all around the globe.
S. BACHAN JEET SINGH,
Hyderabad.

Deserving victory

THE Pakistan cricket team has deservingly lifted the most prestigious trophy in cricket, for the first time. Never had a host nation won the tournament and this year though Australia were tipped off as the favourites initially they never displayed the form that they were thought capable of.

The most important winning attributes clearly discernable in Pakistan's batting, bowling and fielding, was their team spirit, coupled with their determination, application and their total confidence in their ability.

They were able to get their act together and peak at the right time The men who certainly deserves a lot of credit for this performance is none other than the captain, Imran Khan. He simply was the moving force behind his team's performance.

He is the one captain who led from the front. He, by his shrewd captaincy, intelligent handling of bowlers and field placings made sure that his team won the Cup. And this certainly was the crowning glory of his career.

His obsession to build a cancer hospital in memory of his late mother, is surely going to get a big boost after this victory.
M. R. SIDDIQUE,
Kanpur.

A paid holiday?

THE Indian cricket team's performance Down Under looked as if it was nothing more than a paid holiday for them. In the field, they didn't look at all like they were playing cricket for their country and that their country's honour was at stake. They certainly did not give their supporters or fans anything to cheer about.

Now as after every dismal series, this time too, there will be post-mortems and some people are going to be made the scapegoats, but then no concrete steps will be taken and the next series will see the same results.
ANAND SHARMA,
Madras.

A bowler par excellence

THERE is no doubt that Wasim Akram was one of the best bowlers on view during the World Cup. There was no batsmen who could escape from his impeccable bowling.

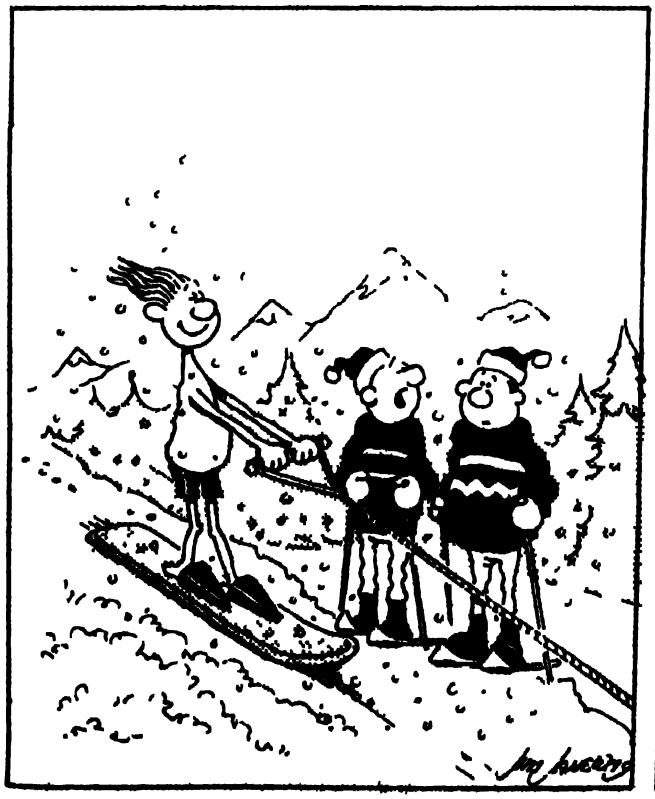
His action is so difficult to judge that the batsmen find it very difficult to play their shots. He is the backbone of the Pakistan attack, and if he succeeds in controlling his erratic line and length (and not give away too many extras) he will certainly blossom into a dangerous bowler. He certainly deserved the 'Player of the Final' award that was given to him.
SHWETA. G. V,
Bangalore,



"I THOUGHT YOU SAID SUPPER WAS READY"



"DOESN'T THE KARATE LESSONS YOUR WIFE'S TAKING MAKE YOU FEEL A LITTLE UNEASY?"



"AM I CRACKING UP?"



"ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME THAT PUTT STUNK?"

NEW DELHI

Inter-University Korfball

KORFBALL is still to catch on with university students. The second All India-Inter-University Korfball tournament held at the University of Delhi stadium was a low key affair. Only three universities,hosts Delhi, Agra and Kurukshetra , took part.

Agra University emerged the champs when they beat hosts, University of Delhi 10-8 in a well contested final: In the first half, both team fought doggedly to score six points each.

International Asha Vasistha ended up as the top scorer for Agra with five goals, while skipper Ashok Kumar scored five goals for the hosts Delhi.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Delhi defeated Kurukshetra 13-8. In the other semi-final, Agra, got a walk over from holders Maharishi Dayanand University (Rohtak).

Dr. G. S. Sivia, Jt Secretary, Association of Indian Universities gave away the prizes.

Suresh Kumar Lau

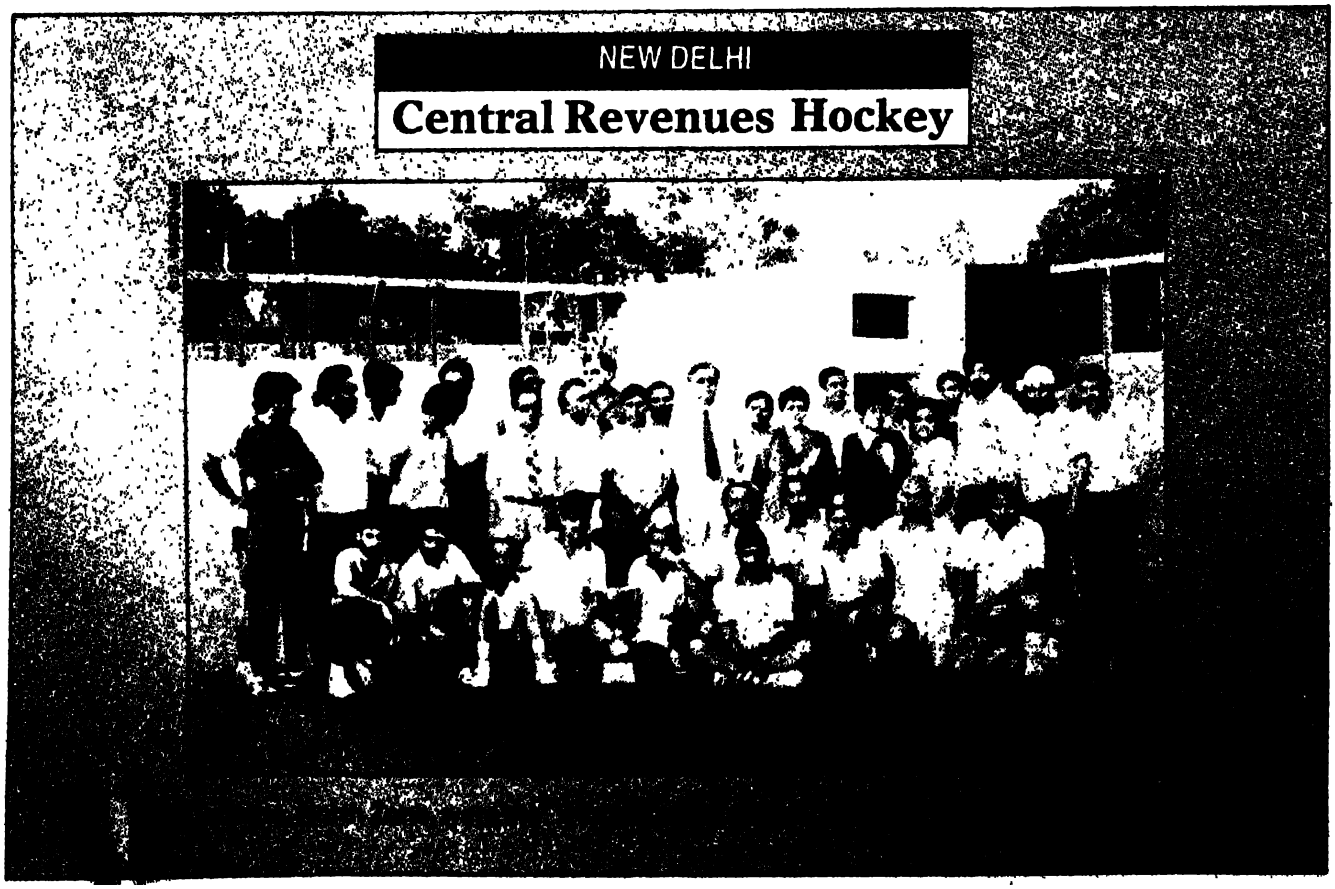
SURESH KUMAR LAU



Agra University was the winners of the Inter-University Korfball championships

NEW DELHI

Central Revenues Hockey



COCHIN

Presteege Cricket



NEW DELHI

YMCA Boxing

A RECORD number of 540 participants including 250 civilians as well as a six-member Thai team took part in the annual YMCA boxing championships held at their premises on Jai Singh Road.

Dharmendra Singh Yadav was adjudged the best boxer of the meet. Other winners were Tuk Bahadur Thapa in the lightweight category while Sunil Sasne won the welterweight gold. Manjit Pal Singh won the gold in the middleweight category while the biggest upset was when Sanjay Gajse defeated the Thai boxer and was the only Indian boxer to do so. The Thai boxers won three golds in various other weight categories.

General S.F. Rodrigues, Chief of the Army Staff, was the Chief Guest and gave away the prizes.

Rudolph Vance

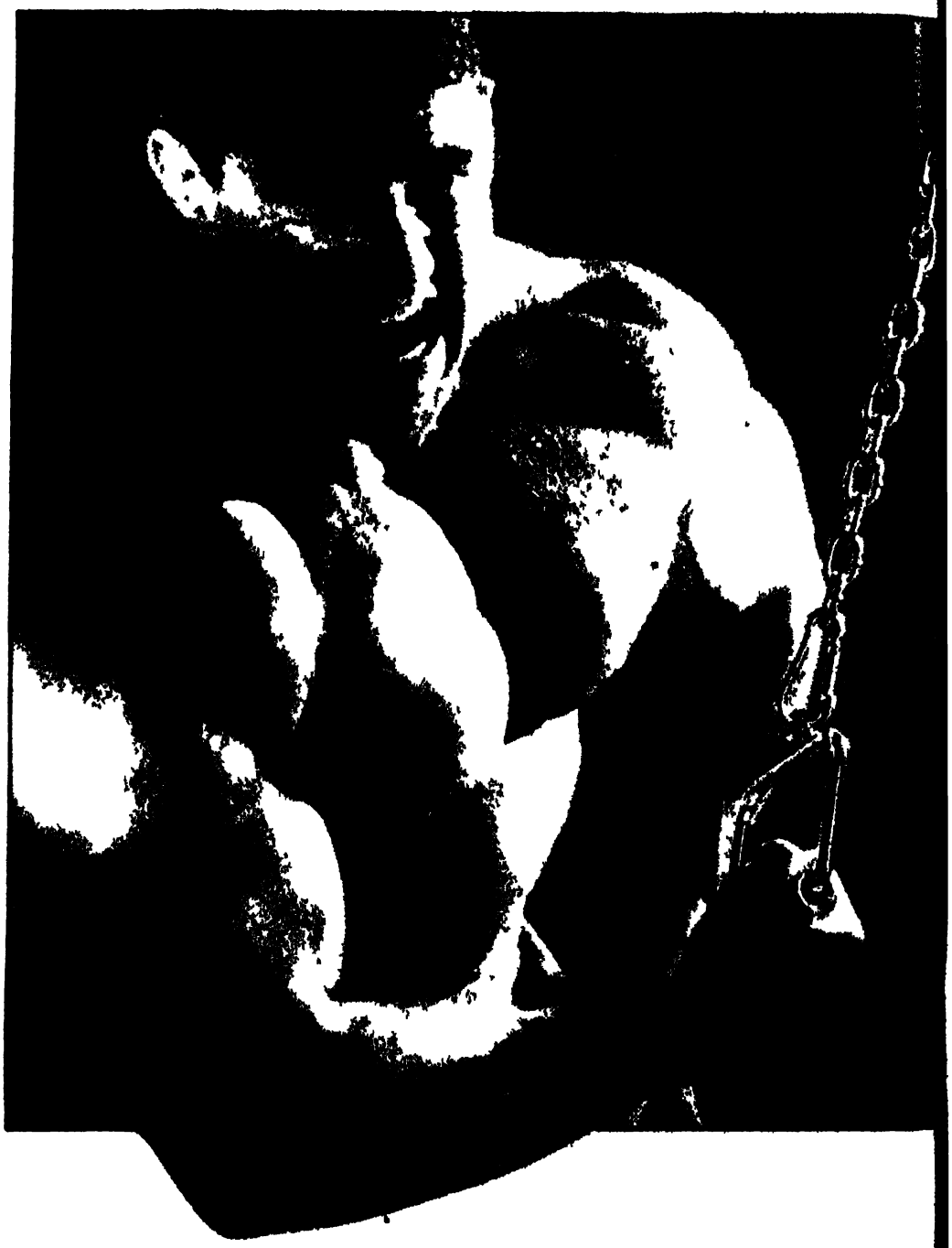


Some of the Thai boxers who took part in the YMCA Boxing championships

NO PAIN, NO GAIN is one maxim that every fitness enthusiast has heard at one time or the other In fact, this is the '*mantra*' for people who are into pumping weights But this is one saying that is very often misunderstood So this week let us delve into the very meaning of pain; for the guys who are fitness conscious and pump weights to keep in shape.

Growth often involves pain Not always. But often. At the very least, growth is disruptive. Growth requires change, and change, by definition involves restructuring Restructuring first requires a destructuring The existing structure must to some degree be destructured in order that the new structure be created The sequence of growth can be visualised as a process of destroying the old structure to allow the reconstituting of a more advanced structure. Pain accompanies both these stages.

To illustrate this point further let us consider the basic phenomenon of pumping iron. The bodybuilder has a muscle of a particular shape, size and power. Wanting to grow it to a more desired size and shape, he or she exercises hard Hard working of a muscle creates a burn during part of the exercise set The burn may be a sharp, hot feeling or it may be more of a deep ache. It may vary from slight to absolutely agonising. This burn results from the build-up of lactic acid and perhaps other chemicals



FRIEND FO

The Health Column

PAIN OR E?

in the muscle tissues as by-products of the work performed. This is because the muscle has been overloaded. This overload in turn causes some degree of structural alteration.

And along with the structural alteration there is some destructuring. It will require several hours, and perhaps several days for the muscle to reconstitute, to repair and then to rebuild. During this process of repair, there will probably be soreness in the muscle.

This soreness may vary from slight and almost imperceptible to real agonising pains. It is currently believed that the 'next day soreness' is the result of micro tears in the muscle tissue. The damaged muscle tissue is repaired beyond its state prior to the damage The old structure was to some extent torn down so that it could be rebuilt. In other words the new restructured muscle is stronger than the muscle that was torn down to build this new muscle. This also explains why after exercising with the same poundage for a couple of weeks one finds it easier to handle the poundage and the exercises do not produce the same 'burning effect as before'. Hence the poundage is increased, and before long the muscles get used to this extra poundage too. And the process continues.

And to be stronger the muscles have to be made bigger. Thus the fitness enthusiast grows bigger and in the process builds more shapely muscles.

One of the most revealing incidents of pain is offered by the 'guru' of body building, Arnold Schwarzenegger Wanting to shock his muscles into growth, he and a training partner would take the weights into the country and exercise one body part for hours. On one such outing, he reports to have done fifty-five sets of squats! His assessment was that his muscles were given no chance of survival than to grow. He admits that he and his partner underwent a lot of pain before he got the results, but the results surely wowed everyone.

The key to this conversion of pain into pleasure is the shift in its meaning. Pain in itself is a very strong sensation which demands attention. But the attention a pain gets varies from individual to individual. For some the pains are perceived as danger signals (these people are usually the phobic types). Hence these people believe they are actually hurting themselves when a muscle burn begins to develop. Likewise, next-day muscle soreness is thought of as evidence that the exercise was overdone. Hence this guy always reacts with some degree of fear whenever a muscle burn or muscle soreness arises. And thus being phobic this fitness enthusiast undertrains and then wonders why he never got the desired results.

On the other end of the scale are guys who are impulsive by nature and will ignore the pains of training, thinking them to be meaningless, or interpret these as messages to forge ahead without a bit of caution. The problem with this type of fitness freaks is the failure to differentiate the growth pains (burns and the next-day soreness) from the pains of injury. This type does not perceive the sharp pain in the elbow joint during a set of French curls as a warning to interrupt this set immediately This lifter is particularly very vulnerable to injury

The other type is the person who can differentiate between the two types of pains and knows exactly when to stop. He is the one who is most likely to perceive the pain correctly and then act accordingly. This guy will perceive sharp pains in the muscles and joints as danger signals that have to be attended to quickly. He will certainly not be the one to work through the pain. Actually it is this type who will make the shift, converting the growing pains into pleasure.

For the dedicated guy on fitness avenue, the pains of muscle burns and next day soreness are the price of growth, a price that he or she is willing, and perhaps eager to pay. But this payment requires a lot of discipline. Now it is upto the reader to interpret the adage 'no pain no gain'; in the most sensible way, and realise the best moment to call it a day at the gym, or the time to head for the physio's chambers. ●

PERSONALITY

ANDRE AGASSI

Nowhere Man

People have got used to Andre Agassi [illegible]. The problem now is that his tennis is [illegible].

"I don't like competition". Who said that? Andre Agassi

"I'm about as happy as a faggot in a submarine". Who said that? Andre Agassi

Why does Agassi play tennis if he dislikes competition; why can't he turn up at press conferences without his foot in his mouth?

With Andre Agassi there are always questions, but never any answers.

The world's only walking,talking neon sign, and undisputably a potentially classy player, has managed in his so called 'phenomenal' career, to set just one record: no athlete has so quickly become the butt of everybody's jokes; no star has ever been taken so non-seriously. "Bright Lights, Big Pity" wrote someone about Agassi, and he was right.

Agassi bashing in the last few years has become an universal pastime—and if, on occasion, it has been overdone, the player himself has done too little, and talked too much tripe, to reverse this opinion.

Agassi is yet to win a Grand Slam title, yet amazingly is heralded as a superstar—and the problem is, he believes it. But someone should tell him that history does not deal with impostors, it only has space and time for achievers.

The sadness about Agassi is that behind the image, the only thing he cares about, lies a player of enviable gifts, a player surely destined, one would think, for greatness. But when?

Agassi has been threatening to 'happen',to 'arrive', to 'conquer', for the past three years, and we're still waiting. And now, even he is getting worried.

Last fortnight, he was kayoed 6-4, 6-4 by Bryan Shelton at Key Biscayne, and our protagonist who has won, at the time of writing, only four matches this year, could only say, "You get used to the losing".

The Las Vegian's problems have been two-fold and neither seem to have been, overcome. The first was his attitude to matchplay, which if always strangely bizarre, has not really changed so it seems. As he said at Key Biscayne: "I'm not rising to the occasion like I should. Right now, the thought of going onto a tennis court is not exciting and that's discouraging".

The second issue was the obviously bad advice that his entourage, including coach Nick Bollittieri was feeding him—like, for instance, skipping Wimbledon for three years (1988-90) and never playing the Australian Open. The Australian Open has become a must for every player, because so competitive is the circuit, that a quick, successful start to the year is vital. This year McEnroe, Lendl, Becker, Edberg, Chang, Stich and Forget were there, but no Agassi. And now with his ranking having slipped to an abysmally low No. 16 (the lowest since 1987) he admits the error of his approach: "I think staying at home for the first six weeks at the start of the year was a mistake. The other guys are getting the jump on you..."

The good news for Agassi, and he needs some, is that things can't get worse. His personality has taken a beating, and now so has his game—from here, as the cliche goes, there's only one way he can go: And that's up.

The summer in Europe, most of it on clay, offers him the opportunity to salvage something this year, but only if he can zip up his mouth and let his racket sing. Perhaps then, finally, the image may peel off and the real Andre—the player—will emerge. We're still waiting.

Rohit Brijnath

"I'm not rising to the occasion like I should. Right now, the thought of going onto a tennis court is not exciting and that's very discouraging" —Andre Agassi



TENNIS TRIVIA



AMOUNT of time that the ball was actually in play during the 1991 Stich-Becker Wimbledon final that lasted 2 hours and 33 minutes: 9 minutes and 20 seconds.

HOW Boris Becker described his feelings when he first noticed actress Barbara Feltus, the new love in his life, at a hotel in Munich: "It felt as though I had been struck by lightning."

WHAT Soterios Sampras, Pete's father, did the first time Pete played in a match that was broadcast on network TV: He went outside to wash the car.

HOW a magician once offered to show his loyalty to Monica Seles: By hypnotizing her opponents.

OPPONENT that 1950s star Lew Hoad says was easily the best man he ever played: Pancho Gonzales.

THE most important exercise for a tennis player, according to 1960s standout and current TV tennis analyst Fred Stolle: Sit-ups.

ONLY unseeded player to beat Martina Navratilova in the last eight years: Anke Huber.

NUMBER of tennis courts in the South African township of Soweto which has more than 3 million people: 8.

PER CENT of the time that doubles players at the pro level talked to each other between points, according to an 18-month study by noted sports psychologist, Dr. Jim Loehr: 83.

PER CENT of the time that doubles players at the pro level talked to each other between points, according to Dr. Loehr: 17.

AVERAGE age of the women Grand Slam tournament singles champions in 1986: 30 years, 3 months.

AVERAGE age of the women Grand Slam tournament singles champions in 1991: 18 years, 5 months.

NUMBER of words in the London Times' 1912 obituary of Major Walter Clopton Wingfield about his being the (1873) inventor of the then thriving international game of lawn tennis: 0.

MESSAGE painted on a billboard [illegible] hanging [illegible] at the ATP [illegible] Festhalle: "Tennis without Boris is like a rocket without fuel.

HOW Bjorn Borg described his ballyhooed tournament comeback a year ago: "It was like the Third World War had broken out in Monte Carlo."

REASON why Yannick Noah picked Steffi Graf as the sexiest player on the women's tennis circuit in his ratings for Penthouse magazine: "She is beautiful and sexy. Her flawless body fascinates me."

REASON why a tournament for British officers in India was postponed in 1890: A renegade elephant pulled up all of the net posts.

Compiled by Paul Fein



LEADING player who wants to take private lessons from John McEnroe in 1993, if McEnroe is coaching then: Andre Agassi

Soccer today has the power, the glory and of course the money which combine as stimulants to make it one of the most commercially viable sports in the world

MONEY is a paradigm of power at least in the arena of professional soccer where millions of fans and participants have the game on a constant roll As the stadiums throng with thunderous applause professional soccer buckles to the sweet seduction of money After motor racing boxing and tennis soccer is the best paying of all aggressive games today Hence it is hardly surprising that the soccer stars today lead a very glamorous life

Take for example Diego Maradona the erstwhile self proclaimed God s gift to soccer His net value is estimated to the tune of $65 million, more than the turnover of one-fourth of Argentina's corporate world That s big money but then soccer is a big game

The soccer clubs will beg, borrow or steal to have a Maradona in their ranks A frightening prospect when you visualise the scenario where drug lords own superclubs But as long as there is football, there will be piles of money and players will be bought and sold like Cartier watches and Tiffany trinklets But soccer as a sport does not need chemical stimulants to bring out the best in the men who already have so much Instead it is the power the glory and of course the money which all combined act as potent stimulants and enhance the performance

To club owners, superstars mean big money - both on the expenditure as well as on the earnings front A collection of superstars translates into big gate receipts Thus the drive to accumulate talented foreigners is an unending one and many clubs are over extending themselves despite their debt ridden state

The first mega million deal recorded was way back in 1990, in the warm up season before the World Cup in Italy The most important men on sale then were West German Thomas Hassler and Italian Roberto Baggio Hassler came at a cost of $8 8 million for *Juventus* who paid a whopping $ 13 million for Roberto Baggio A few years ago such mega deals would have been frowned upon But now double figure million dollar deals are a norm and it surely is reflected in the personal lifestyles of the soccer stars

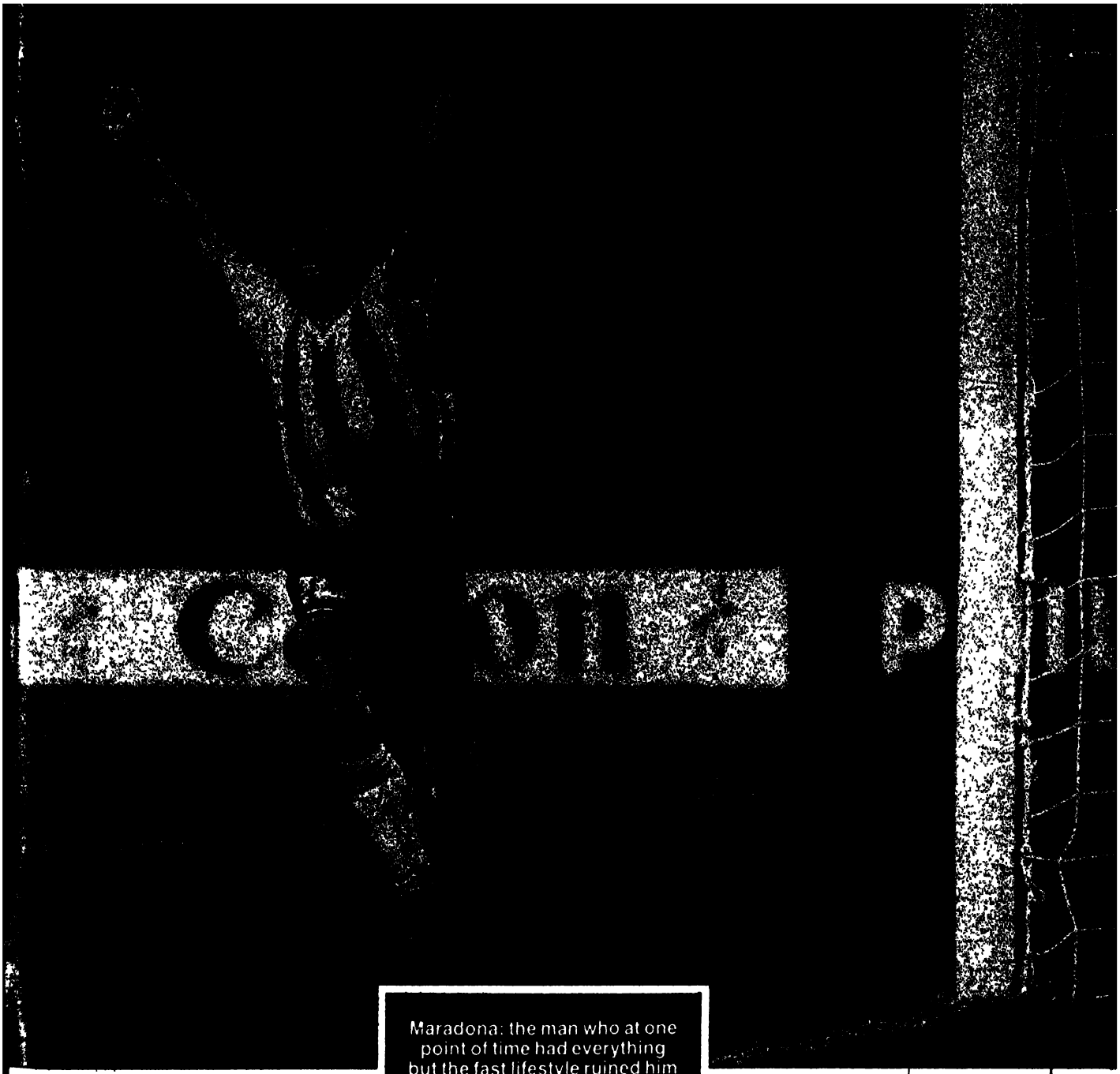
With the kind of money in modern soccer it is not surprising that football players are multi-millionaires in their own right Topping the list is none other than

Diego Maradona's net value is estimated to the tune of $65 million, more than the turnover of one-fourth of Argentina's corporate world. That's big money but then soccer is a big game



Diego Maradona who has amassed a personal fortune of $ 65 million. Apart from the money he was paid by his club, he made nearly $75,000 for every charity match he played. Add to it the $ 5 million annual deal he had with *Puma Shoes*, Maradona was making around $ 8 million every year

FAST GAMES, FAST



Maradona: the man who at one point of time had everything but the fast lifestyle ruined him and his career

before he was banned for drug abuse.

Maradona's fixed assets include a 16 room mansion in Naples worth about $ 2 million, a flat in Monaco and his 30 acre ranch near Buenos Aires estimated at $ 19 million. While in Naples he stayed at a house rightfully called *Villa Paradiso*, drove a Mercedes and owned two Ferraris, including a new black Ferrari Testarossa, a car he rode at high speeds along with his entourage of glamour girls. Driving his black Ferrari nearly at 250 kmph was one of Maradona's obsessions. But on weekends he took off in his powerboats he kept at a boathouse in Capri. And that's not all. The saga of Maradona's flamboyance is near legendary now. He would party all night, drinking and dancing at local Naples discos. Tales of his endless bouts of casual sex have been

CARS & FAST GALS



Maradona is followed by Ruud Gullit who is rumoured to have amassed about $45 million

doing the rounds for nearly two years now And the ultimate proof came in the shape of a Neapolitan girl, Cristina Singra who rounded him up in a paternity suit

Maradona is known to have had links with the neapolitan mafia known locally as *Camorra* Time and again Diego was photographed in the company of mafia don Carmine Giuliano who is suspected of running one of the world's most notorious sex and drugs organisations Certainly a very colourful life for one of the most resplendent men in the sport

On the soccer field Maradona is closely followed by Ruud Gullit who has made $ 45 million in personal fortune He has several deals going for him and his advertisement revenue is to the tune of $ 6 million annually But Gullit does not do celebrity appearances and likes to spend time with his wife Yvonne and two kids .For him charity fixtures are for free

Between Gullit and the next batch of players is a big gap Most of the other superstars like Gary Lineker and Lothar Matthaeus are worth about 25 million dollars while the newer generation like Hassler, Michel, Baggio, Donadoni, Papin, Waddle and many more are owners of fortunes worth $20 million each approximately The newer stars are the ones who are spending their fortunes too Their lifestyles include luxury apartments in places like Milan, Rome and Monaco and a passion for fast cars All players of A C Milan own a Lamborghini and are discouraged to drive any of the FIAT products because of their President Silvio Berlusconi s rivalry with FIAT chief Gianni Agnelli Similarly the Juventus team drives only Ferrari supercars But for others there are cars like Aston Martin Jaguars and BMWs

Many feel that these are some of the perks players thoroughly deserve because after the nine month season of playing endlessly players get only a month off before they start training again Girls are as much taboo during the playing season as alcohol and cigarettes Today, out of the 500 odd senior division players in Italy only two smoke and one is a self-confessed alcoholic Socialising is almost negligible despite the urge and means to lead a playboy s existence

The newer lot in fact are more careful about their lifestyles Thomas Hassler an architecture student has had a steady girlfriend Foina for nearly four years His popularity does not seem to have gone to his head even though he became a target of terrorists whose kidnapping attempt was foiled in the nick of time Since then he has had two bodyguards who keep him under close surveillance round the clock

But soccer as a sport does not need chemical stimulants to bring out the best in the men who already have so much

One of the other new comers. Robert Prosinecki, moved to Real Madrid last season for a reported cost of $ 16 million. Popularly known as the Maradona of the Slavs, he gets $ 2.2 million as annual salary, a $ 500.00 bonus for every goal he scores, and was given a palatial apartment in Madrid by Real Madrid president, Ramon Mendoza, along with a BMW 850 thrown in as a sweetener.

Cars as giveaways have gained popularity in soccer circles these days. Andy Moller who moved from *Eintracht Frankfurt* to *Atlanta* will get an annual salary of $ 1.7 million along with a town centre clothes boutique for girlfriend. Michela and a brand new Maserati worth a fortune in the open market. Wheels have been earlier used to lure top professionals. A customised yellow Porsche convinced Portugese forward, Paulo Futre to quit *FC Porto* and join *Athletico Madrid* way back in 1987.

Cars are not the only thing. Alfredo de Stefano was given a ranch after he moved to *Millionarios* of Bogota from *River Plate* in 1950. Marco Van Basten, Italian league's top scorer this season gets free tickets for his family to make to-and-fro trips between Italy and Netherlands. Spanish club, *Seville* gave former Soviet goalkeeper Renat Dasayev's wife a private gymnasium to lure the Russian to their side. In fact, at the end of this season, *Sampordia* will give Tonino Carezo a chain of gas stations after he retires.

The entry of big money has acted like a twin edged sword for the sport. On the one hand it has enhanced the value of talent, but on the other hand has also smothered the overall development of the sport, striking at the very core of the game. The big money buy-outs have left the clubs depending very much on the self-proceaimed superstars who at best are sporadic.

As long as there is football, there will be piles of money and players will be bought and sold like Cartier watches and Tiffany trinklets

A modern soccer player is more of a mercenary than an artist. He shifts his loyalty to anyone who can pay better money. His skills are his tools of the trade. Anyone who can pay for them, can buy them. In the modern soccer arena, there is nothing called loyalty. If Maradona played for Napoli, he could have switched sides to Real Madrid or A.C. Milan, anytime he wanted. A professional player is ready to change his club colours at the drop of the hat or rather a dollar.

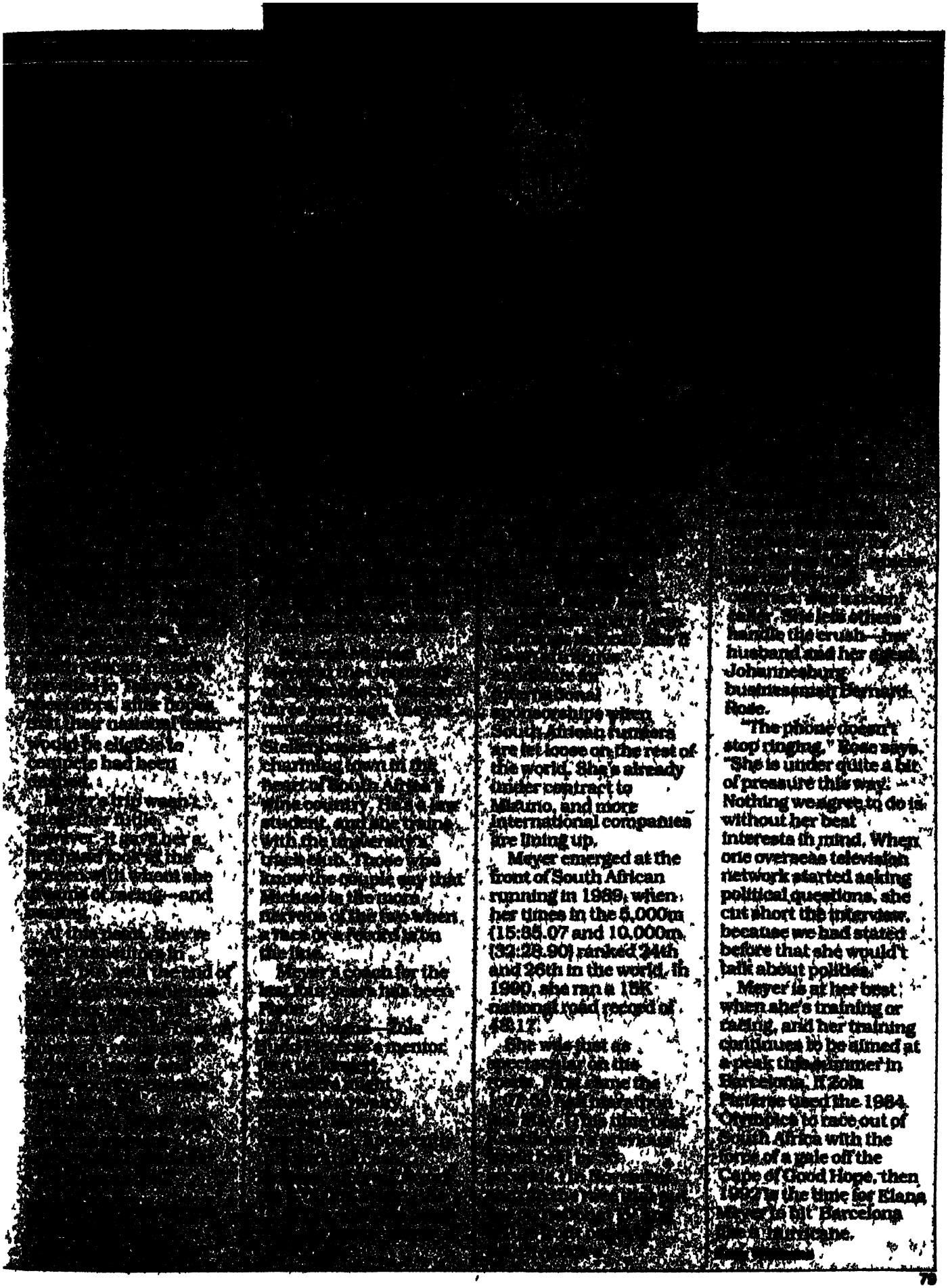
But one cannot blame the players for this attitude. A soccer player is as much a part of showbusiness as a screen idol or pop singer. At best the playing life of a soccer star is restricted to ten years and in this short period of time he has to make the most out of it. Today being loyal to a team will mean a fall in revenue, something which players cannot afford.

Harry Pratt with Edwin Burgess
NEWSMEN FEATURES



COLORSPORT

He s a cool customer. Linekar s now worth about $25 million



...would be eligible to compete had been ...

...trip wasn't altogether futile. ...it gave her a ...look at the ...with which she ...of racing—and ...

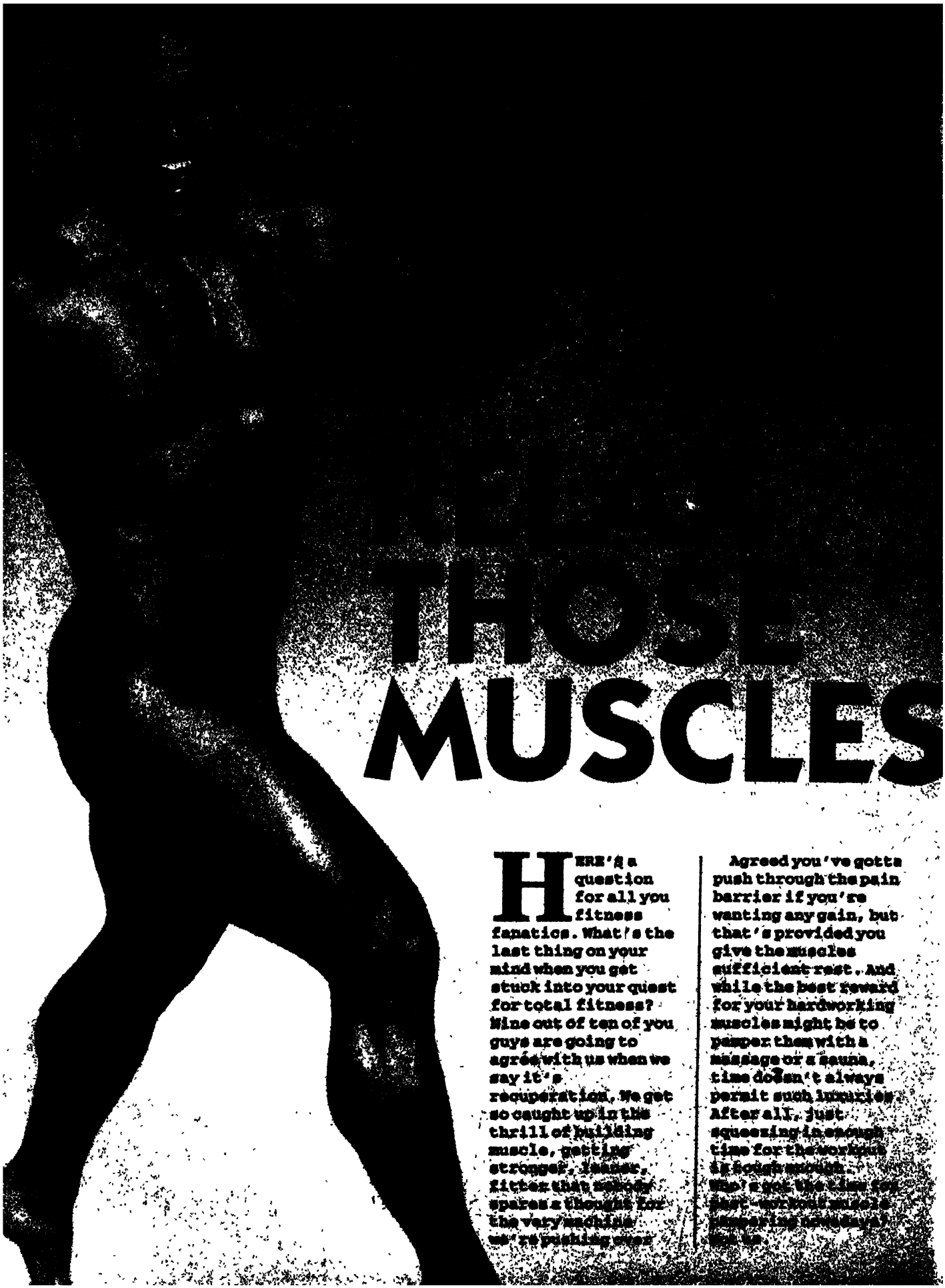
...At this point, they're ...

...Meyer's coach for the ...has been ...—Zola ...a mention.

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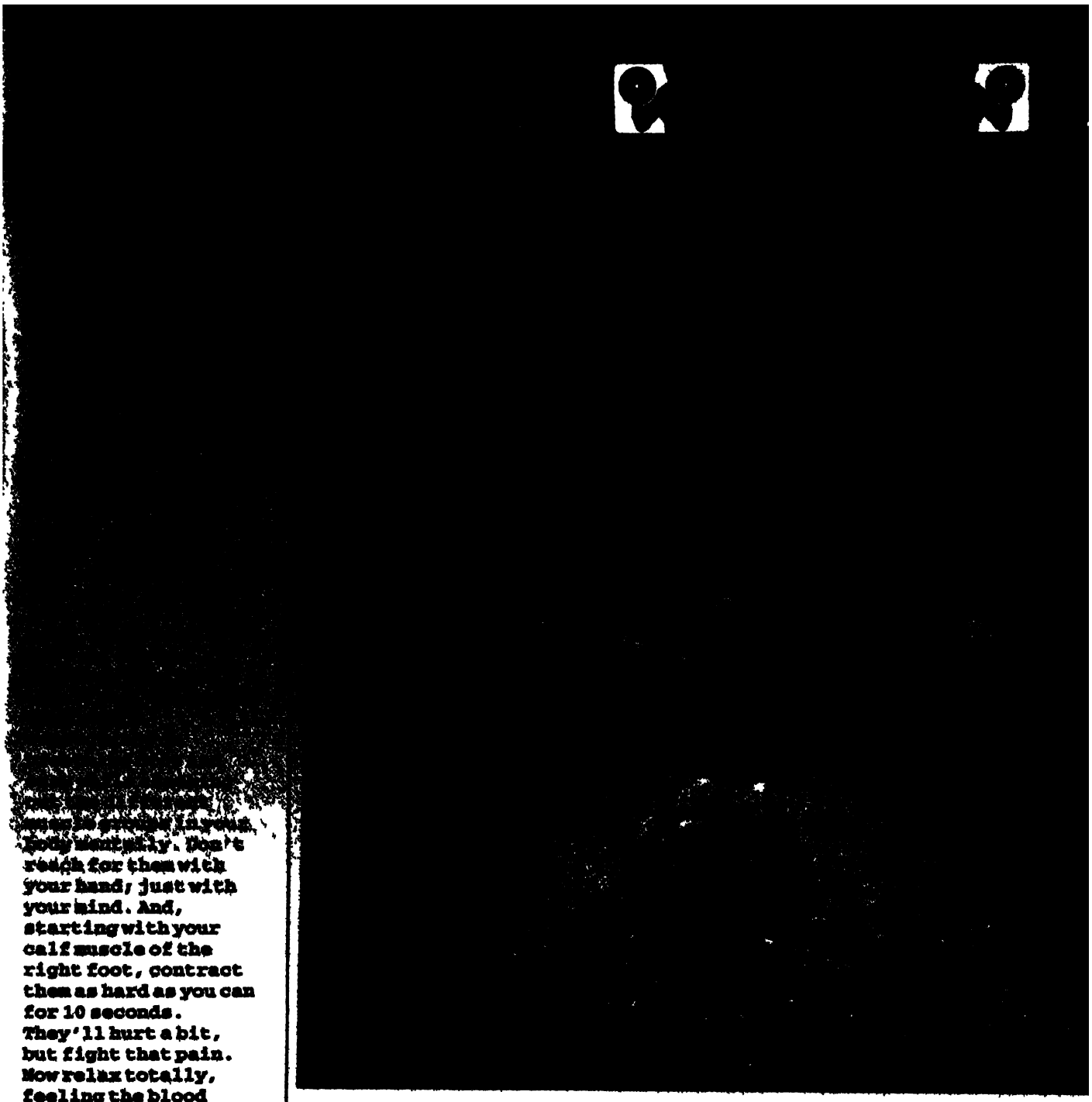
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THOSE MUSCLES

HERE'S a question for all you fitness fanatics. What's the last thing on your mind when you get stuck into your quest for total fitness? Nine out of ten of you guys are going to agree with us when we say it's recuperation. We get so caught up in the thrill of building muscle, getting stronger, leaner, fitter that nobody spares a thought for the very machine we're pushing over

Agreed you've gotta push through the pain barrier if you're wanting any gain, but that's provided you give the muscles sufficient rest. And while the best reward for your hardworking muscles might be to pamper them with a massage or a sauna, time doesn't always permit such luxuries. After all, just squeezing in enough time for the workout is tough enough. Who's got the time for post-workout muscle pampering treatments? Not us.



...body tonicity. Don't reach for them with your hand; just with your mind. And, starting with your calf muscle of the right foot, contract them as hard as you can for 10 seconds. They'll hurt a bit, but fight that pain. Now relax totally, feeling the blood rush out of that area, taking with it the pain and tiredness. The area should feel heavy and warm. Repeat it once more, before moving onto the calf muscles of the left leg.

Stay in the supine position and try this move for every muscle group - thighs, hamstrings, buttocks, ... back, ... abdominals, ... chest, ... shoulders, ... arms, ... hands, ... neck, ... face. ... group. And that, in turn, improves muscle relaxation, as the blood takes away the waste products of high-intensity activity like iron pumping or running.

If that's not reason enough, you also get familiar with each muscle group in your body. Tightening and relaxing each muscle group ... exercise every part of your body. Otherwise you're going to end up with a lopsided build that will draw more derision than praise.

And, last but not the least, progressive muscle relaxation also helps with stress management. ... session on your back will unravel all the knots of tension you've built up during the day...while relaxing your muscles from the workout they've gone through.

C'mon, all you disbelievers. Give it a shot. After all, it only takes a few minutes. And if you pick yourself up feeling better, you know who to thank.

A tranquil setting like this is what you've got to imagine before you start relaxing those muscles

freewheeling

which was which. Stupid, really. Then I got up and Wayne bowled me a couple of pretend balls and it was really as clear as anything. I had an interview for a job today, but I didn't get it. I think dreams affect your psyche, you know."

'I seen it before lad,' came in a voice from the one wooden bench which the hut boasted. It emanated from the Old Stager. 'Dreams. Anxiety. Hallucinations. Delirium trimmings, even...nah, the secret is to keep a balance in yer life. Yer see', and the Old Stager shifted his chin on his stick in an effort to comfort his hindquarters, 'cricket can get into yer soul—it can even destroy yer, niver let it become the only thing in yer life. I seen people's lives ruined by that. I'aye learned.' What do you mean?' enquired the Accountant, alarmed for his future.

'Well, lad, how many o' you remember Tyldesley?'

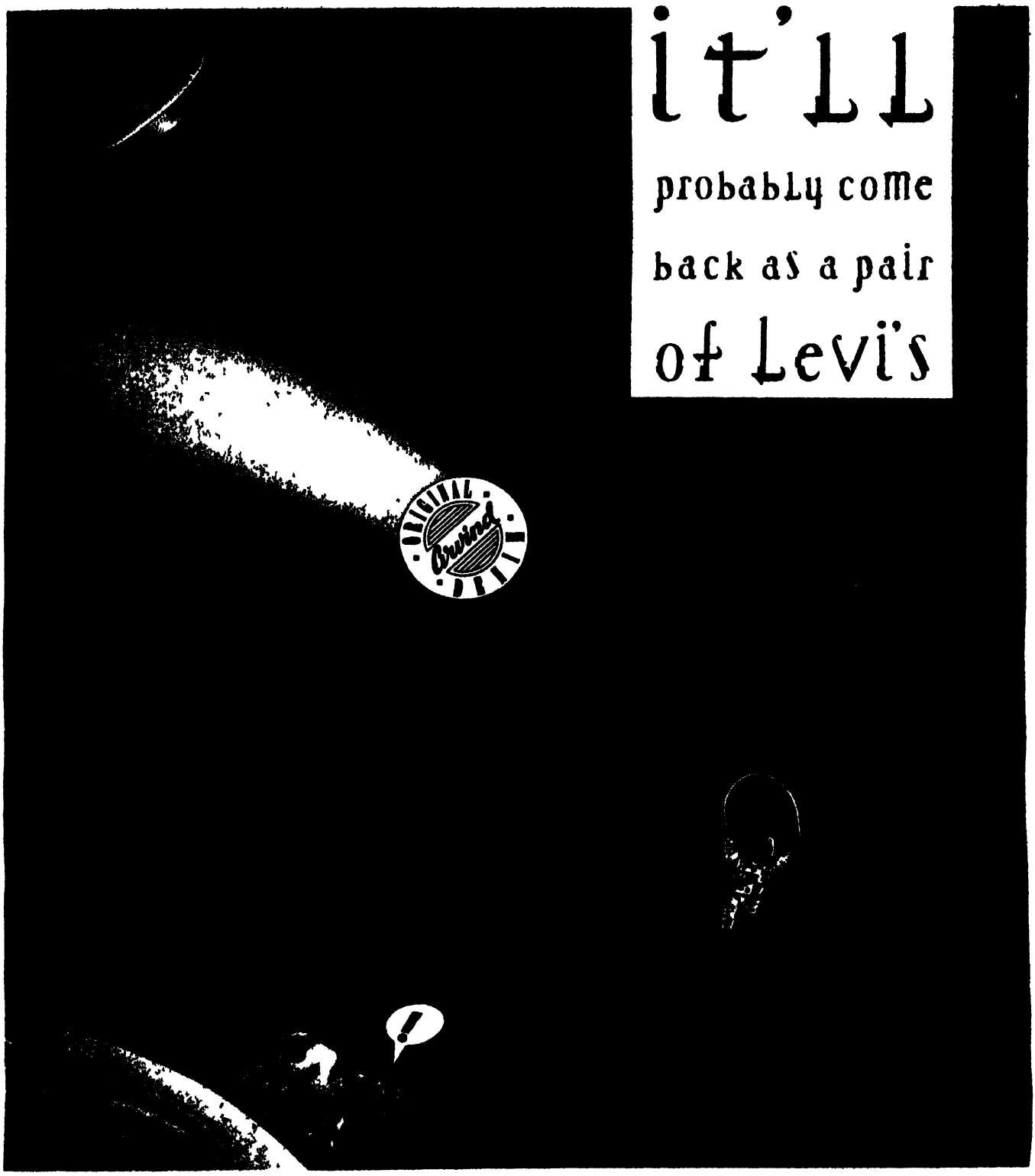
'It's possible, lad. It's possible. There's them as do. I'ad a mate once could never walk acrorst a carpet withaht wondering 'ow it would take offspin.'

'Funny you should say that,' interjected the Unemployed Electrician eagerly, 'but I think exactly the same thing every time I see the blue

[illegible] Verity's death on the radio, so I had to tell 'im he was right. 'Dave, what are we coming for?' 'e says, and I says, 'I'm not sure, but something happened in 1948 and I think it comes round.' I says. 'Don't fret, maybe they still got Bowes.'

'That confused him, did it?' asked the Accountant, greatly moved.





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Castrol lubricants are used worldwide by champions who know. In India only Castrol Super TT offers you this international technology and quality for your two-stroke engines.

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Castrol Super TT formulation for 2 stroke engines keeps your engine clean. So you have a quick kick start, faster pick-up and cleaner spark plugs. At the same time, it maintains a protective film thereby reducing wear-and-tear and increasing engine life.

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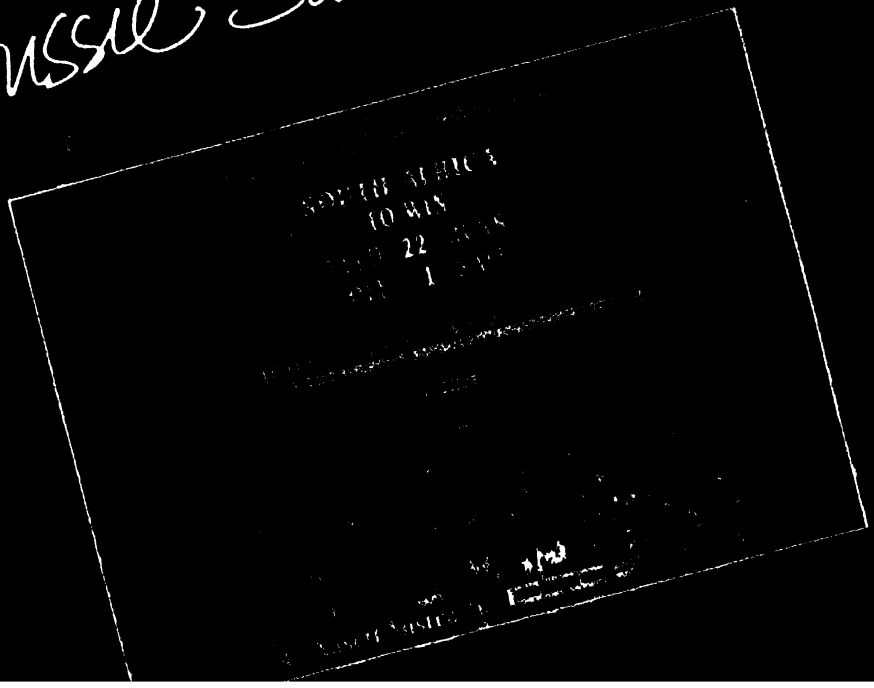
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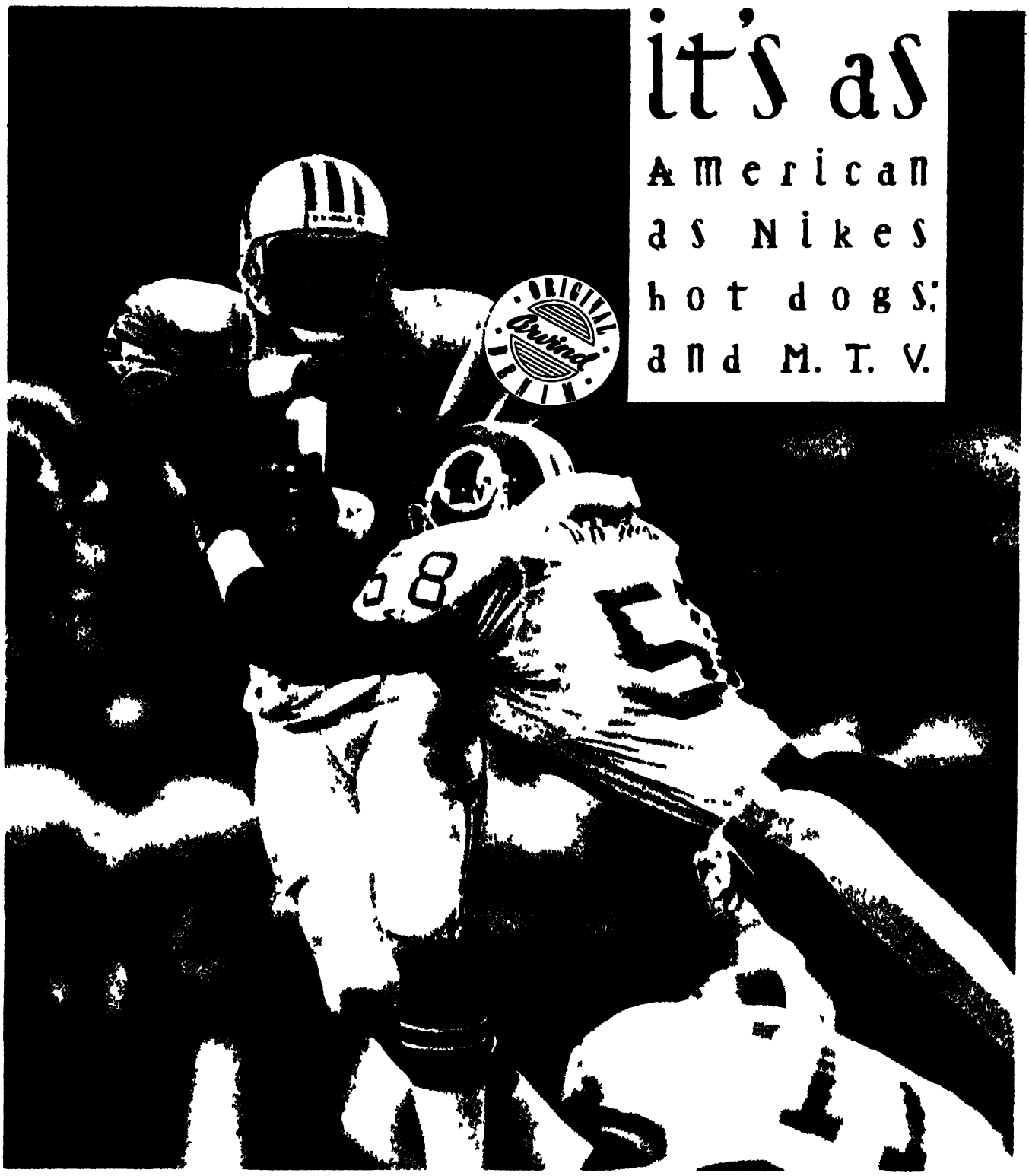
Sportsworld

FREE POSTER: GABRIELA SABATINI



Memories of an Aussie Summer





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Voices



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I'm literally frightened to hit the putts I'm more frightened of missing the hole It's a matter of nerve and I'm getting really nervous standing over the ball I've lost my touch before, although not for this long The more I practise the worse it seems to get I'm just flicking at the putts now When things go against you, they really do
IAN WOOSNAM has a confidence crisis as he begins his defence of the Masters at Augusta.

DILIP VENGSARKAR on how to change the sorry plight of Indian cricket.

I'm still not hundred per cent confident. I need to play more matches. Six months from now, I'll see where I am. They're right, I couldn't be the world No. 1 again. I'm just trying to play at the best level that I can play I have no goals. I just want to have some fun and in six months we'll see.
BJORN BORG after he won his first match since the Monte Carlo debacle last year. He beat Peter Svensson in the River Oaks International Tennis Tournament.

Tendulkar is Tendulkar and can't be compared to Inzamam.
GREG CHAPPELL on Imran Khan's comment that Inzamam-ul-Haq was as talented as Tendulkar.

COLORSPORT



You know I was champion for seven years and made millions of dollars, but it was never really fun until now. Through experience, and I guess, wisdom you learn to say and do things differently You learn that you can get the job done without animosity and anger I'm not fighting for money anymore I'm coming back to gain respect and give my grandchildren and kids something to be proud of.
LARRY HOLMES on why he is interested to get back into the ring at 42.

Holmes before he was knocked out by Tyson in their heavyweight bout in Atlantic City on 22.1.88

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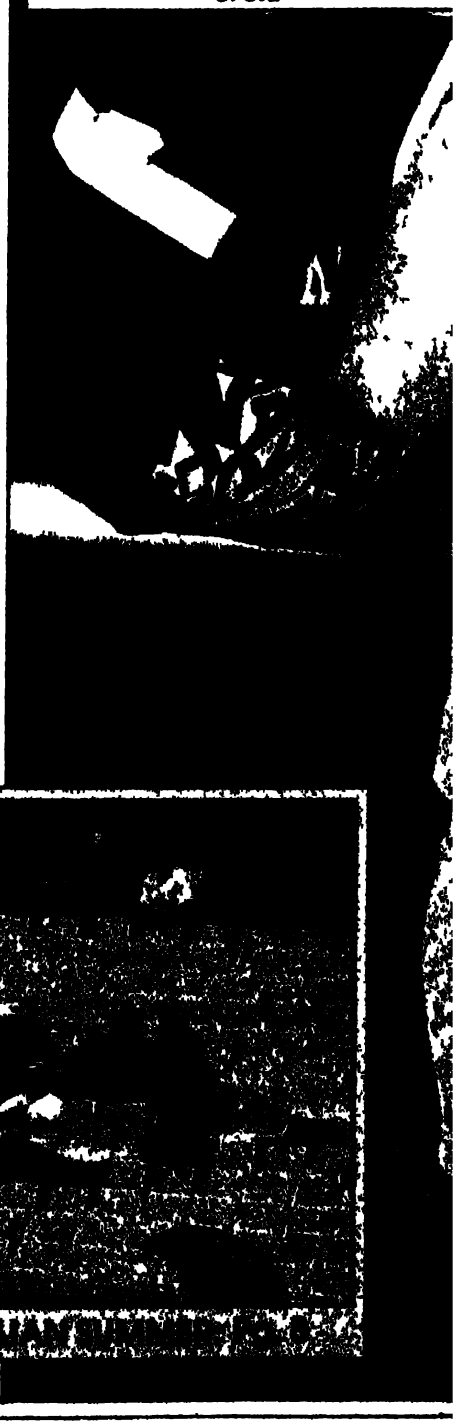
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Poster photograph by Tommy Hindley



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Jennifer Capriati: Brat power

REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE

Capriati grows up

WE'VE got some news on a spoilt brat (or so they say) from the tennis world! This time the info is on Jennifer Capriati who turned 16 recently. Life, for the young pro, however, has been far from sweet. The blame people say can be shared equally between her and her parents.

The bubbliness displayed by Capriati two years ago when she became America's youngest ever sports professional, has been replaced by a very methodical, businesslike rebelliousness. Capriati counters these charges by answering cockily...

"Am I a rebellious little kid?" she asks. "I'm sure I have a little bit of that in me. Do I give my parents a tough time? Sometimes I'm tough for them, sometimes they're tough for me."

Capriati sulks almost continuously and the *National Enquirer* recently spilled the beans on her 'bitter battle' with father Stefano, who manages her career. Capriati's mother, Denise, called the *Enquirer* story 'disgusting'. "You get criticised for everything you do," she blasted. "We didn't do everything right, we didn't know what to expect. Everything hasn't been perfect."

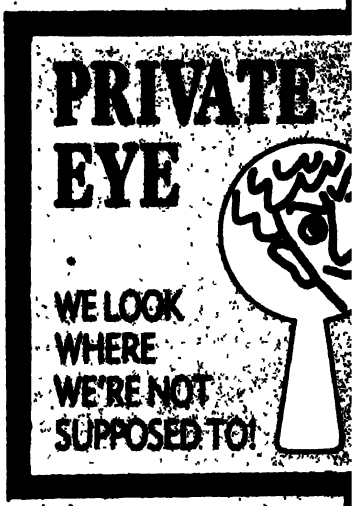
Sadly, nothing or no one in professional sport ever is.

DIPLOMATIC MANOEUVRES

Preparations for war

SEEMS as though English cricket captain, Graham Gooch, has taken his country's World Cup loss to Pakistan seriously. Gooch is making serious preparations for Pakistan's tour to England in May this year. A great cricketer, but never much of a politician, Gooch has been lobbying very hard with the ICCB and the ICC for the reinstatement of the last bunch of rebels who went to South Africa under Gatting.

This gesture definitely shows the human side of Graham Gooch. Gooch, you see, himself served the full three year ban for taking a tour to South Africa. One thing for sure, if Gooch can get the ban lifted, England would be slightly better prepared to face the marauding Pakistanis.



Graham Gooch: good cricketer, but a below average politician



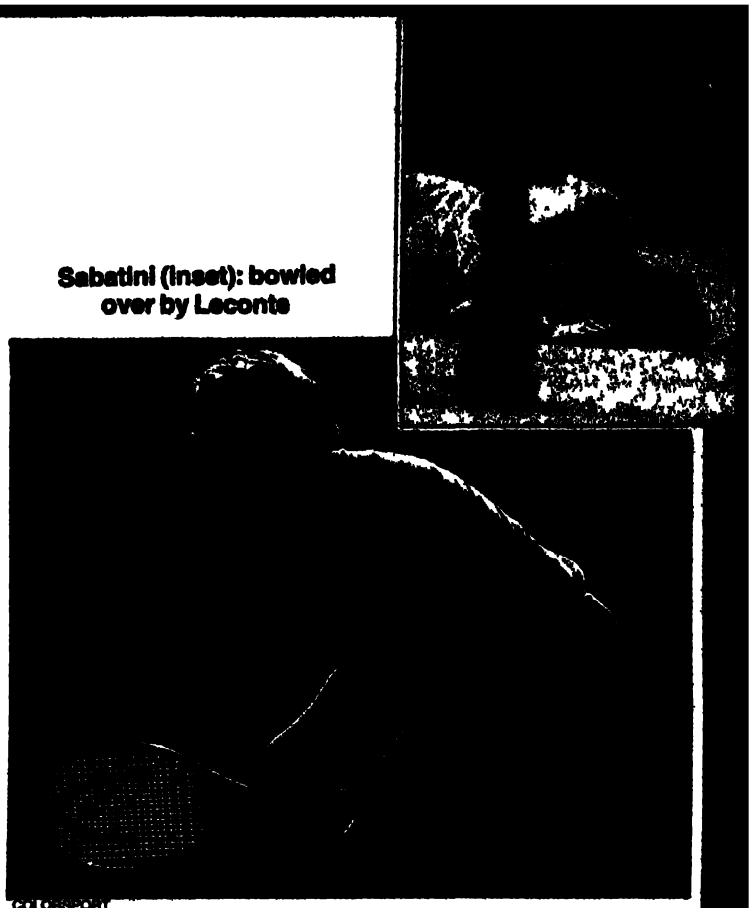
DANGEROUS LIAISONS

Leconte woos Gaby

PUT this into your tennis scrap book and file it under 'Romance'. We've had hints about this particular alliance a couple of weeks ago, but now we're almost sure. French Davis Cup star Henri Leconte is having a scene with Argentine beauty, Gabriela Sabatini.

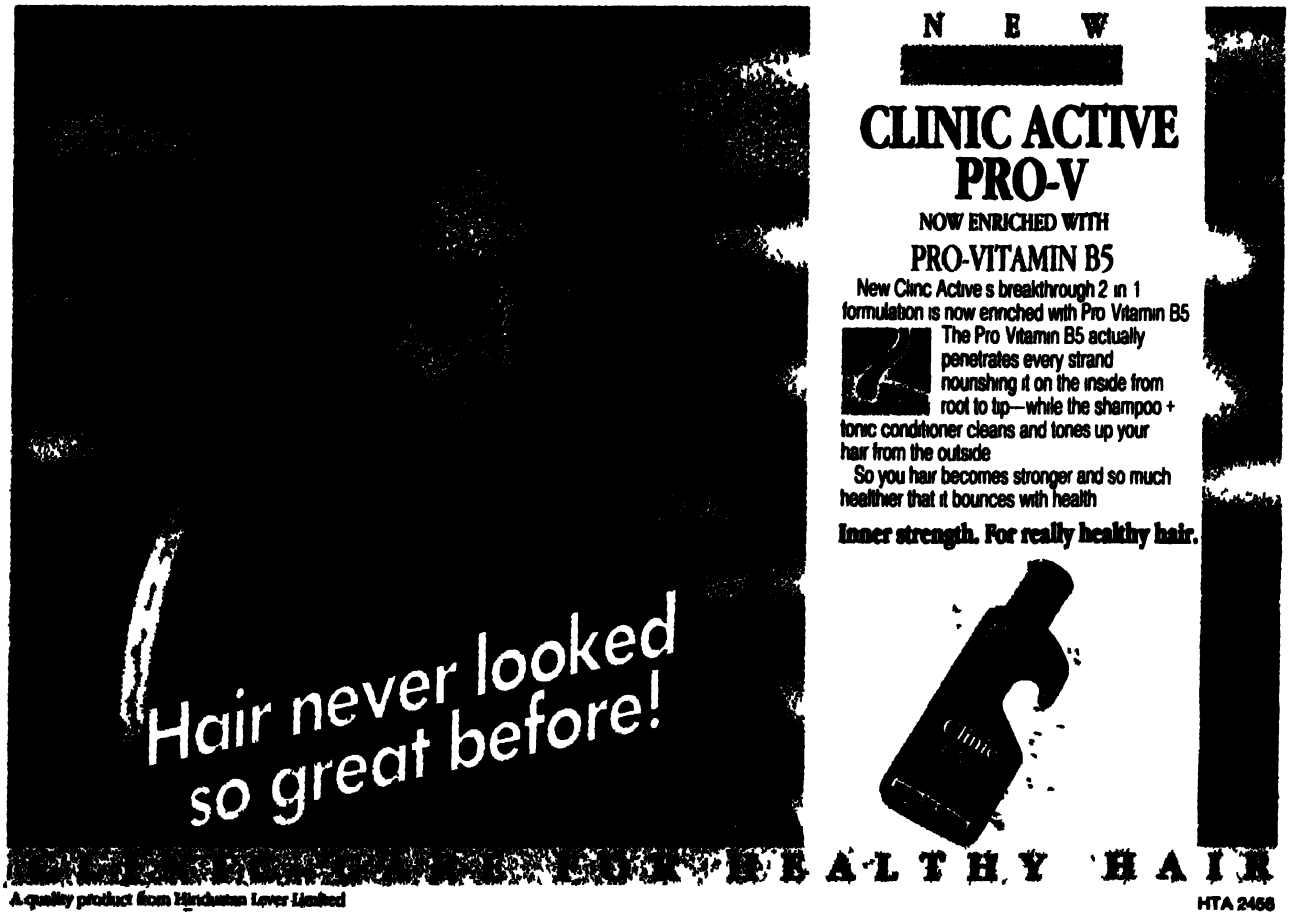
Want one good reason why France lost to lowly rated Switzerland in their Davis Cup quarter final? Davis Cup captain, Yannick Noah is putting the finger on Leconte's trans Atlantic love affair with tennis' beauty queen, Gaby.

Multi-millionairess Sabatini 21, and divorcee Leconte 28, have been meeting regularly following a series of 'dates' at the Australian Open. This alliance, however, did not find favour with Davis Cup captain, Yannick Noah, who quit the team in disgust following the team's shock defeat to Switzerland. Noah accused Leconte of getting his priorities wrong by flying off to see Sabatini in Florida instead of preparing for the tie. Leconte returned to camp four pounds overweight and clearly unprepared for action. "He might have won a match but he could not have played for three days in a row," said Noah who axed Leconte for the singles. All is fair in love and war: The reverse also holds true for Leconte.



Sabatini (inset): bowled over by Leconte

COLORSPORT



Memories of an Aussie Summer





After Sachin, it was Prabhakar's performance which was highly appreciated Down Under

BY ANDY O'BRIEN

ON March 28 having dashed off my last dispatch from Australia, I promised my weary fingers that they would not have to toil on a typewriter key-board for the next three months Yet, now back home, I am reneging on that promise In my excitement to tell my colleagues "stories" about my long tour of Australia, I unknowingly was laying a trap for myself one that has forced me to write this cover story on the very first day of rejoining office It was black Monday all right And Monday the 13th at that

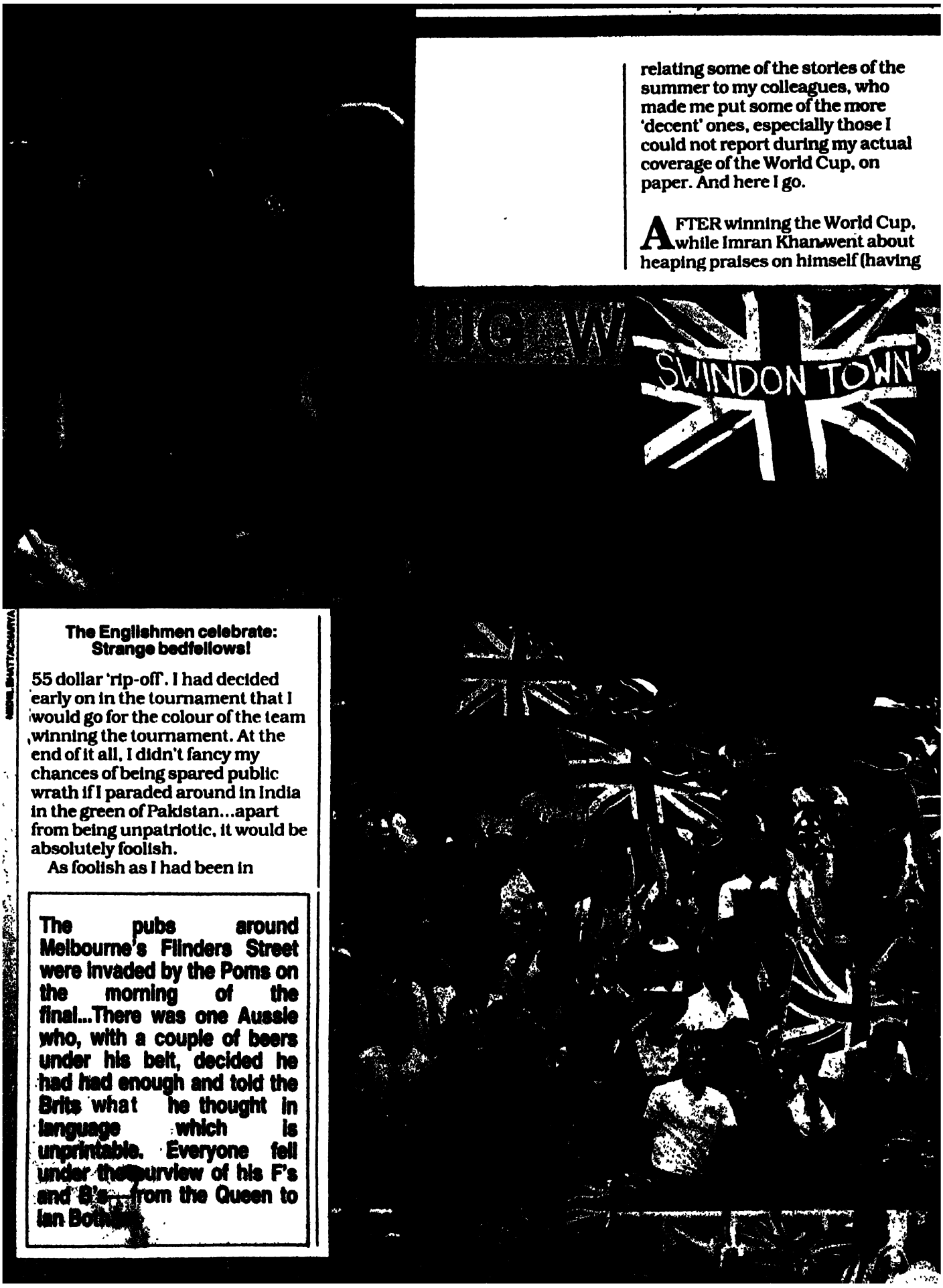
Maybe, asking me to write this cover story is just one of the ways how my colleagues wanted to get back at me for not having returned with the India T-shirts from the World Cup When they had made the request on telephone I remember turning it down, saying that 55 dollars a T-shirt was way beyond my budget I also remember them calling me up a few days after India lost to South Africa in Adelaide, telling me not to bother bringing the T-shirts even if they were on offer free of cost Considering the circumstances, there was no way, they said, they could walk the streets wearing the much maligned India colours

What they don't know (and I haven't let them into the secret yet) is that I 'treated' myself to one such

After winning the World Cup, while Imran Khan went about heaping praises on himself, one blonde Australian beauty decided to cash in on her 'romance' with the macho Pakistan captain. She told the tabloids of how the Khan had bumped into her at a hotel lobby...She said that she had been with Imran right through the tour...

relating some of the stories of the summer to my colleagues, who made me put some of the more 'decent' ones, especially those I could not report during my actual coverage of the World Cup, on paper. And here I go.

AFTER winning the World Cup, while Imran Khan went about heaping praises on himself (having



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

The Englishmen celebrate: Strange bedfellows!

55 dollar 'rip-off'. I had decided early on in the tournament that I would go for the colour of the team winning the tournament. At the end of it all, I didn't fancy my chances of being spared public wrath if I paraded around in India in the green of Pakistan...apart from being unpatriotic, it would be absolutely foolish.

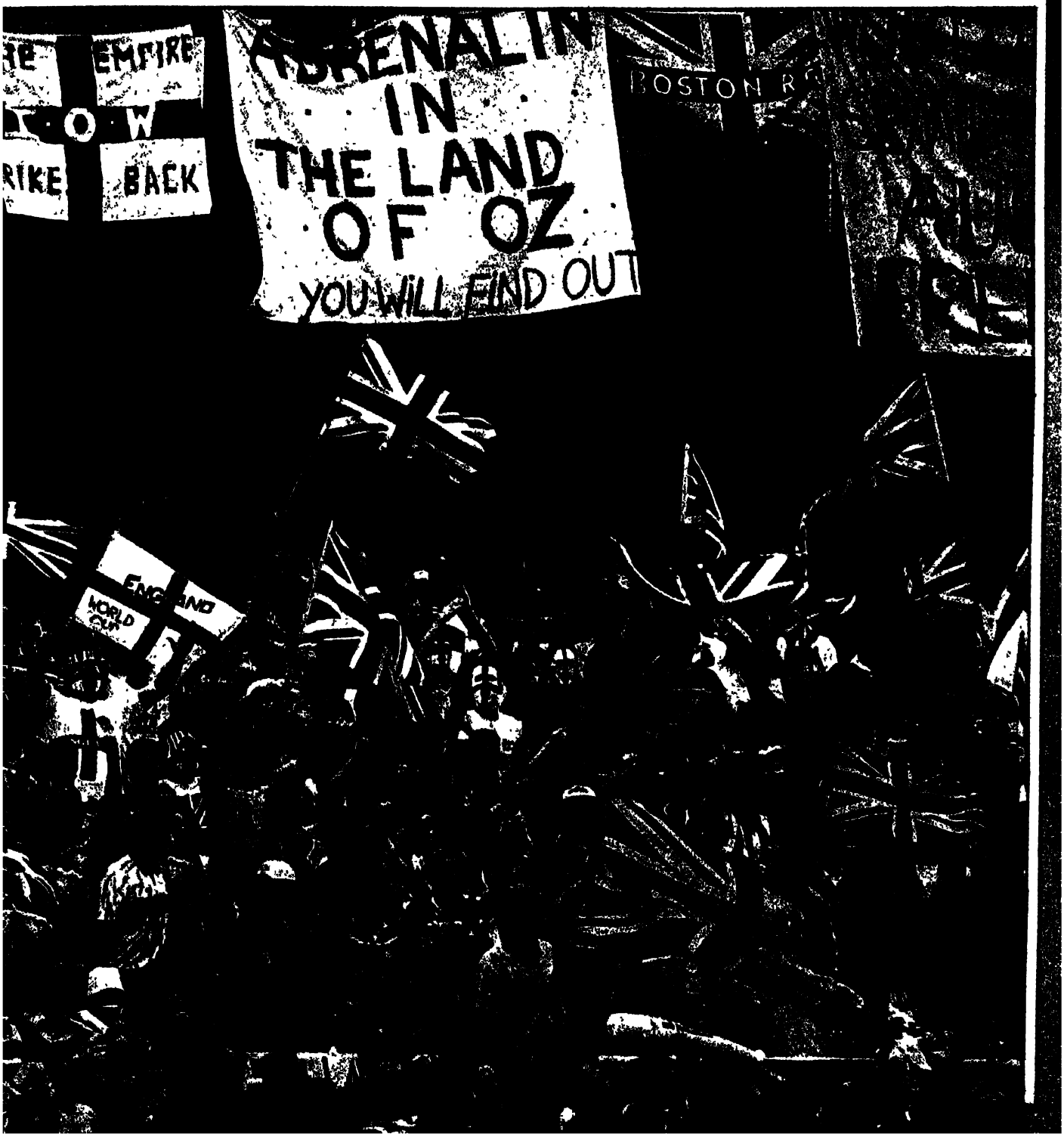
As foolish as I had been in

The pubs around Melbourne's Flinders Street were invaded by the Poms on the morning of the final...There was one Aussie who, with a couple of beers under his belt, decided he had had enough and told the Brits what he thought in language which is unprintable. Everyone fell under the purview of his F's and B's — from the Queen to Ian Botham.

temporarily forgotten that he had ten others in his team) one blonde Australian beauty (at least the Press thought her to be beautiful) decided to cash in on her 'romance' with the macho Pakistan captain. She told the tabloids how the Khan had bumped into her at a hotel lobby while she was having drinks with a few friends. She said that she had been with Imran right through the tour and that Imran had even promised to take her to Pakistan. Appearing in the two most popular television programmes in Australia the following day (the Mid-day Show and Current Affair) Imran denied everything.

However, the grapevine has it that there was some truth afterall in the lady's claims. One colleague, during a long flight, actually had our blonde-beauty sitting beside him. Not knowing who she was, he tried his luck. Soon the lady told him off saying that she was going to see Imran Khan and that her ticket and all

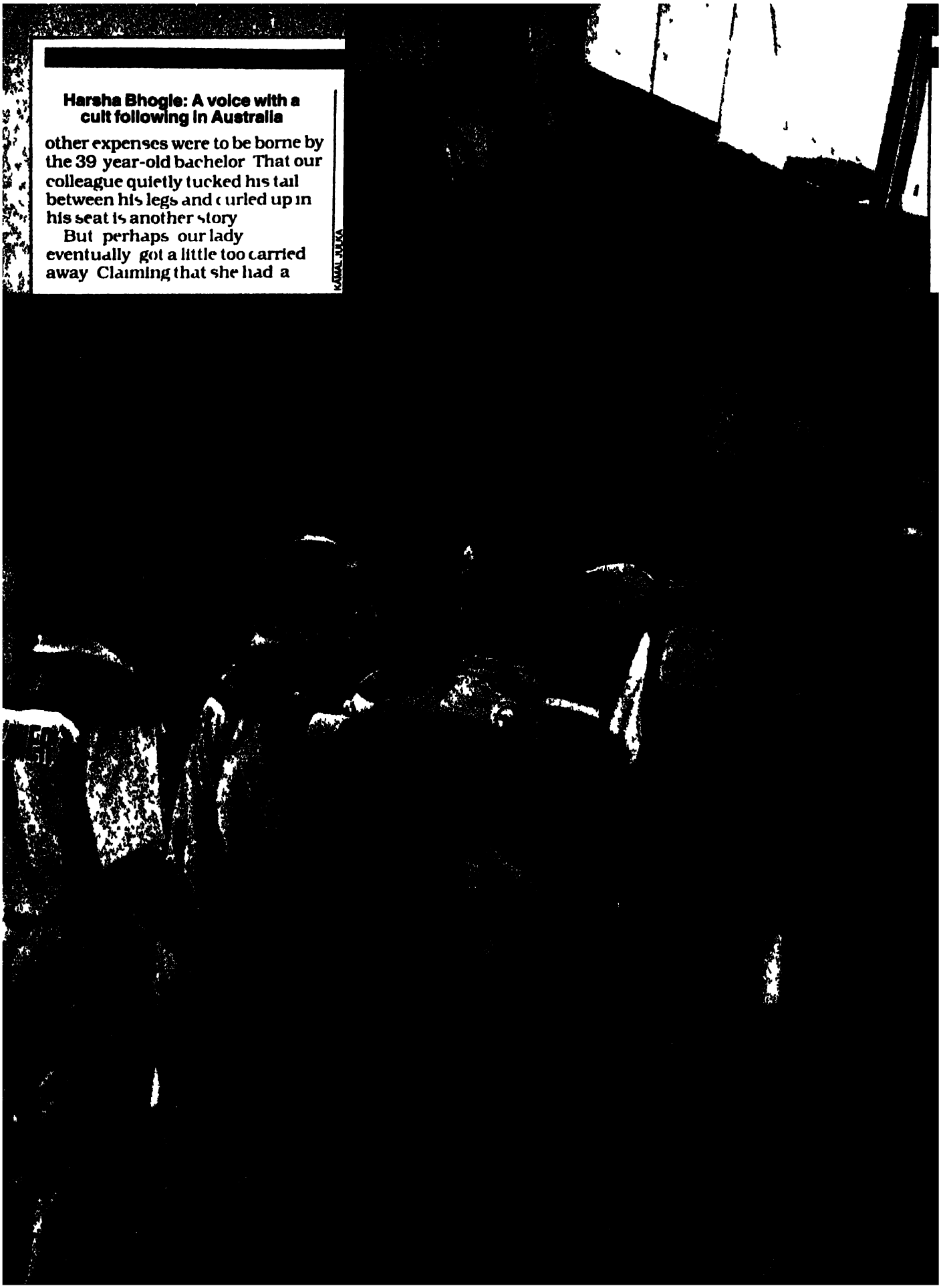
They came from across the seas, Union Jacks in hand and thronged the grounds and pubs of Australia



Harsha Bhogle: A voice with a cult following in Australia

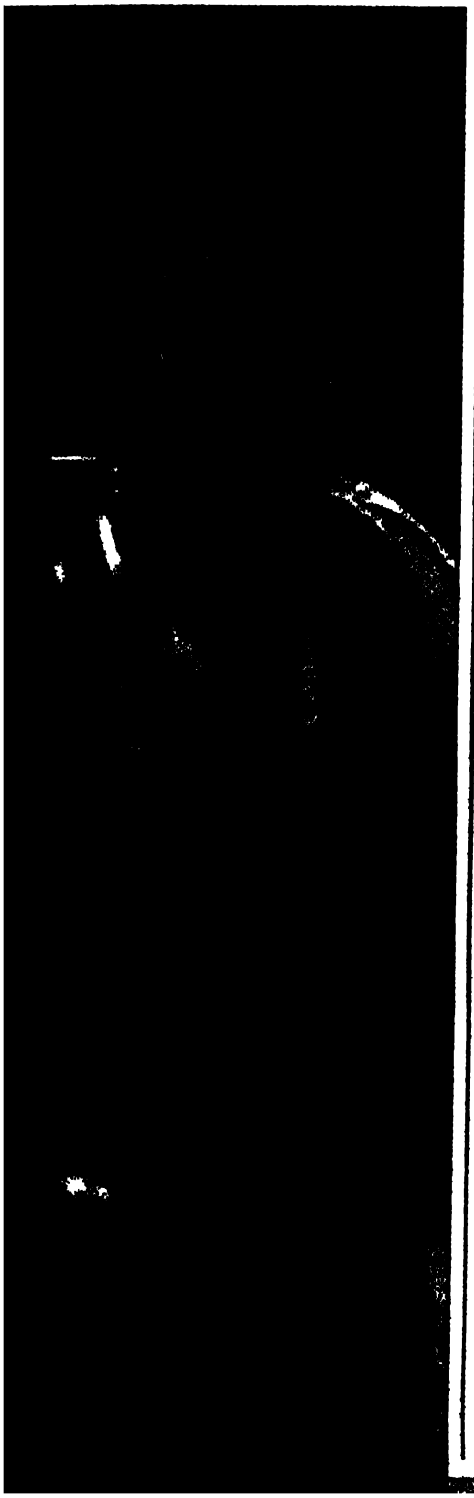
other expenses were to be borne by the 39 year-old bachelor That our colleague quietly tucked his tail between his legs and curled up in his seat is another story

But perhaps our lady eventually got a little too carried away Claiming that she had a



romance with Imran was one thing, but publicly disclosing that Imran had invited her to Pakistan proved to be the proverbial straw on the camel's back. The Khan quickly cried off from what was just an ordinary 'World Cup affair '

Imran Khan thrived on the media hype following 'his' World Cup victory

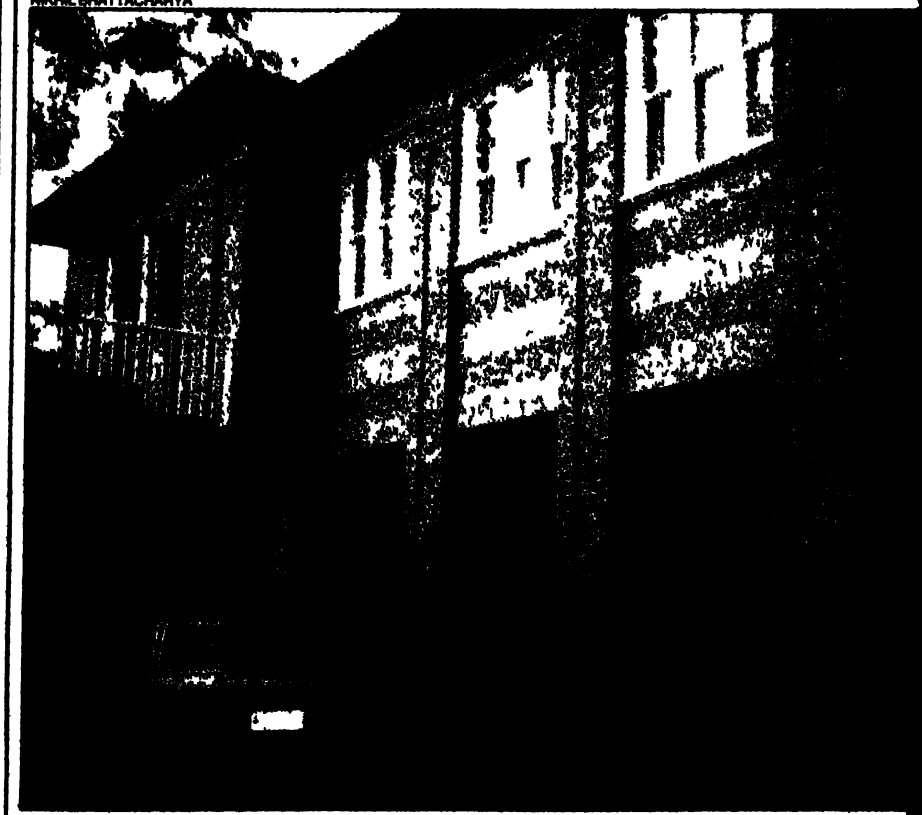


One colleague, during a long flight, actually had our blonde-beauty sitting beside him. Not knowing who she was, he tried his luck. Soon the lady told him off saying that she was going to see Imran Khan and her ticket and all other expenses were to be borne by the 39-year-old-bachelor.

newspaper, the England manager Mickey Stewart revealed how someone had called him up the day England arrived in Australia for the World Cup saying that some women had been organised for the English lads and that they would meet them at the hotel bar later that evening.

At first, Stewart thought it to be a joke, but when the evening arrived Stewart ventured into the bar and, sure enough, there were three ladies hanging around. Stewart went back upstairs and issued an order banning his players from visiting the bar that evening. While the story might seem like just another prank, Stewart claimed it was done by the media as a 'plant'

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

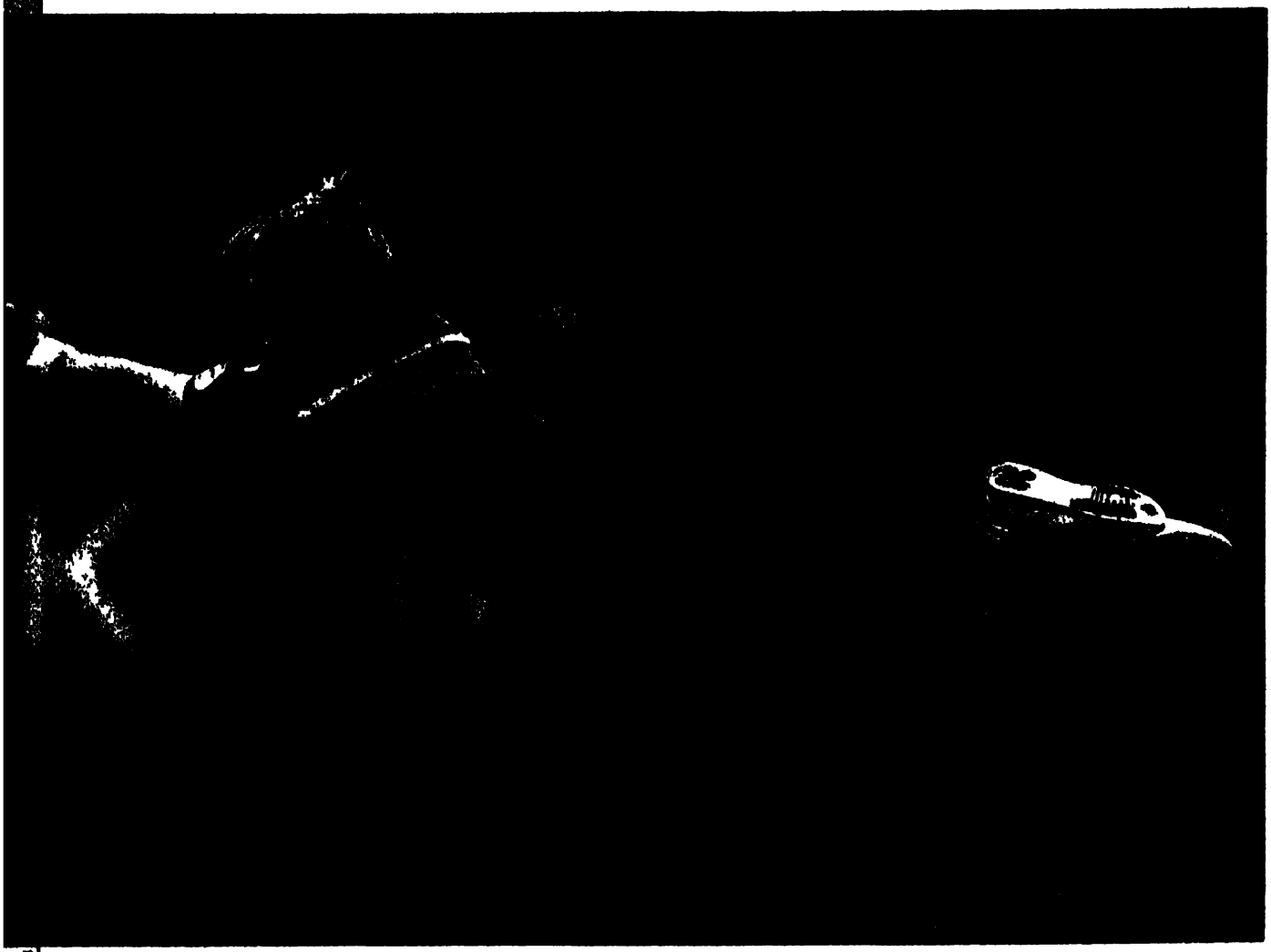


It is surprising how scandals involving women always make bigger news than any other off-the-field happening Since the days of Ian Botham breaking beds in the West Indies and Mike Gatting taking women up to his hotel room, the English cricketers have been branded as 'sex maniacs'. While such generalisation would be unfair, somebody in Australia didn't think so. In an interview to an Australian

Sir Donald's home in Adelaide seemed to be open to the general public all of a sudden

so as to catch the Poms "with their pants down" and then go to town with it the next morning.

In fact, Stewart went one step further. He said many of the scandalous incidents that some English cricketers had been involved in,were actually 'set-ups' by the tabloid Press.



South African Jonty Rhodes resembles a soccer goalkeeper on the field

Wonder if the small beds some Englishmen got in their hotel rooms in Ballart were also a set-up! As one Australian tabloid put it after the Englishmen left a hotel in protest, "Poms too big for beds," or "are they too used to doubles?"

IT is unbelievable how unpopular the British are in Australia. And during the Cup their hordes of supporters were certainly not the most popular people in town The Brits however, couldn't give a damn. The pubs around Melbourne's Flinders Street area were invaded by the Poms on the morning of the final. This meant that many of them were 'three sheets in the wind' by the time they made their way to the MCG. The Aussies in downtown Melbourne would prefer to forget that day when the Poms invaded their city. Waving Union Jack the Brits jammed the pubs from the time they opened at ten in the morning. Sing-alongs filtered out of the bars and onto the streets. The trams from Flinders Street to the MCG could pass off as the rush hour underground in downtown London The Aussies were, for once, forced to take the back seat.

In an interview to an Australian newspaper the England manager Mickey Stewart revealed how someone had called him up saying that some women had been organised for the English lads and they would meet them at the hotel bar in the evening...Sure enough, there were three ladies hanging around...Stewart banned his players from visiting the bar

But that didn't prevent one or two of them from giving vent to their feelings. There was one Aussie who, with a couple of beers under his belt, decided he had had enought and told the Brit-filled tram what he thought of them in language which is unprintable. Everyone fell under the purview of his F's and B's—from the Queen to Ian Botham.

Some Brits decided that enough was enough and pointed out that afterall they had reached the final—a good deal better than the Australians did. But the beer had obviously not robbed our

Australian friend of all his wits.

He was quick to point out that there were many moments during the World Cup when England were playing and yet there was not a single Englishman on the field. Why, when England were batting against South Africa, there was a time when every player on the field was a South African!

Needless to add the rest of the tram-ride passed off peacefully.

NUMBER ONE on anyone's priority list when in Adelaide was to try and get an audience with Sir Donald Bradman. Some Indian journalists had formally approached Sir Donald for an interview during the India-Australia Test series. Sir Donald had turned them down. In a polite letter, Sir Donald narrated an experience he had had with some Indian gentlemen earlier. Two Indian tourists kept pestering Sir Don for an audience saying they had travelled all the way from India just to meet him. After many attempts Sir Don agreed to meet them, not at his own house but on neutral ground . When Sir Donald turned up at the appointed place he was shocked to see that instead of meeting two fans he was in the midst of a huge reception. It was an incident he had not forgotten and wrote in his letter, that because of this unfortunate experience he didn't wish to meet the Indian Press.

But now with a new, enthusiastic contingent of Indian mediamen invading Australia during the World Cup, the hunt for Sir Don began afresh.

My roommate was one of the few journalists who had decided to pay 100 Australian dollars and attended the opening dinner prior to the tournament. He wrote his copy well and filed it in time. But the next day he got a call from his sports editor questioning him on why he didn't mention that Sir Donald Bradman was at the dinner.

My colleague was shocked. "Who said the great batsman was there?" he asked his sports editor. Why, a newspaper had carried the story



Azharuddin: betrayed by his right-hand man?

that he was there and that he was having dinner all alone, his boss shot back. My roommate was baffled, though not for long. The puzzle was solved when I read a report of the dinner. The master of ceremonies, in his pre-dinner speech, had said that never before had such a gathering of cricketing talent been together for dinner. And then he added "with the exception of course of when Sir Donald Bradman sits at his dining table alone". One not-so-bright pressman took that to mean Sir Donald was there and having dinner all by himself.

But UFO type encounters with Sir Donald didn't end there. Two journalists from Calcutta managed to slip into Sir Donald's house (the story appears in this issue). Funnily enough, suddenly almost everyone from the Indian Press seemed to have been to Sir Donald's home. It was amazing how the gentleman who prefers to

live a quiet, retired life suddenly opened this doors to any Tom, Dick and Hari who came along. Make your own conclusion.

MANOJ PRABHAKAR's criticism of captain Mohammed Azharddin after the World Cup came as a surprise. So much so that many Australian papers also carried the story. It wasn't that Manoj was absolutely wrong. Rather, it came as a shock because right through the tour it seemed that Prabhakar was Azhar's right-hand-man. The captain himself had tremendous faith in Prabhakar and they became the best of buddies. And yet Prabhakar chose to let his buddy have it when they returned home. But then that is Manoj Prabhakar. His will to win, his determination desire to fight and competitiveness had won him many fans in Australia. He was the most sought after Indian player after Tendulkar and Kapil. Even the Australian Press had gone ga-ga over him. Indian Pressmen were flooded with inquiries about Prabhakar. I even got my office to fax the Prabhakar interview *Sportsworld* had carried prior to the team's departure for Australia.



PATRIKA GROUP

Inzamam-ul-Haq scrapes through a runout attempt by England wicketkeeper Alec Stewart: Imran's blue-eyed boy

Whenever asked about Prabhakar by an Australian journalist, I handed over a copy of the interview. Even the Australian players openly spoke about how highly they regarded Prabhakar; both his attitude and his performance. "He gives as good as he takes," David Boon said about Prabhakar. And other Australian players told how Manoj after getting their wicket's told them in no uncertan terms—and in unprintable language—which direction they should start walking to. And it was all taken in good spirit because Prabhakar was merely giving the Aussies some of their own medicine.

As David Boon said, "When the other Indians were shown the dressing room, they merely put their heads down and walked. Manoj always had something to say in return; that kind of spirit keeps you going."

Now with his place in the team secure, Prabhakar has become outspoken. Not because he has any axe to grind, but simply, because Manoj Prabhakar hates losing. Wish we had a few more players like him in Indian cricket.

IF, in the course of the summer, we did rate Kapil Dev as the most popular Indian (after Tendulkar)

then we may have been wrong. There was someone else who would vie for that ranking: commentator Harsha Bhogle.

Harsha (who covered the early part of the tour for *Sportsworld* has always been a very competent commentator and equally gifted writer. But this summer the name of Harsha Bhogle has come to stay in the commentary boxes of the world. In Australia Harsha was a super hit. So much so that when Harsha decided not to return to Australia for the World Cup it made news. When the Bombay-based Bhogle changed his mind it made headlines again. And why not Harsha's knowledge of the game, smooth flow of words and diction matches commentators all over the world.

But, for all his talent and popularity, I bet Harsha must have laughed at one news item that appeared saying, "His good looks wooed female admirers across the country". If Harsha was smiling, his wife surely wasn't. But Harsha was humble when told of the cult following he developed during his stay in Australia.

There was this one incident during the Perth Test match, when the entire Indian Press contingent (Sunil Gavaskar included) was walking across the ground to the Indian dressing room to congratulate Kapil on his 400 Test wickets. A group of Aussies had stayed back and on seeing Gavaskar walking across, the chant of 'Sunny' 'Sunny' was heard. Gavaskar waved his hand in acknowledgement. Suddenly the chant changed to 'Harsha' 'Harsha'. Bhogle who was walking behind us at first didn't know they were cheering him. Head down he continued to walk. Then a couple of Aussies shouted. "Which one of you is Harsha Bhogle, raise you hand, Harsha." But Bhogle was too embarrassed to do so.

Obviously, Harsha does not believe in the age old saying that actions speak louder than words. Good on ya, mate.



PATRICK EAGAR

A writer from a local Indian newsletter in Adelaide asked him (Kapil Dev) to comment on Sachin Tendulkar. "Why don't you people leave this boy alone?" fumed Kapil. "Why don't you forget about him and let him play his game? I will not comment on Sachin. Leave him alone"

It seemed to be a harmless question. But Kapil Dev took off. He was angry. A writer from a local Indian newsletter in Adelaide asked him to comment on Sachin Tendulkar. "Why don't you people leave this boy alone," fumed Kapil. You people, all of you, keep behind him all the time. Why don't you forget about him and let him play his game. I will not comment on Sachin. I will not answer any questions on him. Leave him alone I tell you."

Kapil had a point. Maybe people are overdoing the Tendulkar bit. Maybe, it might be detrimental to the young man. And yet Imran Khan was lavishing praise after praise on his young batsman Inzamam-ul-Haq. He said the batsman reminded him of Viv Richards when he was young; that Haq was the best player of fast bowling in the world, that Haq was one of the best strokemakers going. And all this about a boy who hasn't played a single Test match.

When Imran was questioned about the adverse effect his well-publicised comments could

have on the 21 year-old Haq, his reply was, Oh, that's no problem. You see the boy cannot read, speak or understand a word of English and therefore doesn't know what I have said about him "

There are numerous stories about Sunil Gavaskar during his trip Down Under before he went over to Hong Kong to do commentary for Star TV The funniest incident one witnessed was during the Perth Test A group of journalists had gone across to a Chinese restaurant for a meal in downtown Perth Having walked all the way from the hotel to the food centre, Gavaskar suggested that we take a taxi back to the hotel We walked across to the taxi queue and took the first one in line.

Now Aussies, in general, are a friendly and talkative people, and the taxi drivers whip up conversations at the drop of a syllable.

If, in the course of the summer, we did rate Kapil Dev as the most popular Indian (after Tendulkar), then we may have been wrong. There was someone else who would vie for that ranking: commentator Harsha Bhogle

This elderly guy behind the wheel asked us what we were doing in Perth Cricket, we told him, we were here for the cricket. He then went on to a long monologue about how over the last few days he had missed driving some of the Australian cricketers because his mates were ahead of him in the queue

When he finished, one colleague asked the cabbie if he recognised the gentleman seated directly behind him in the back seat. No, he didn't.

"Well, this guy here has scored more runs than all those players put together," he was told.

"That can't be There's only one man who has done that, Sunny Gavaskar" he told us.

"And who do you think is sitting behind you mate?" we replied.

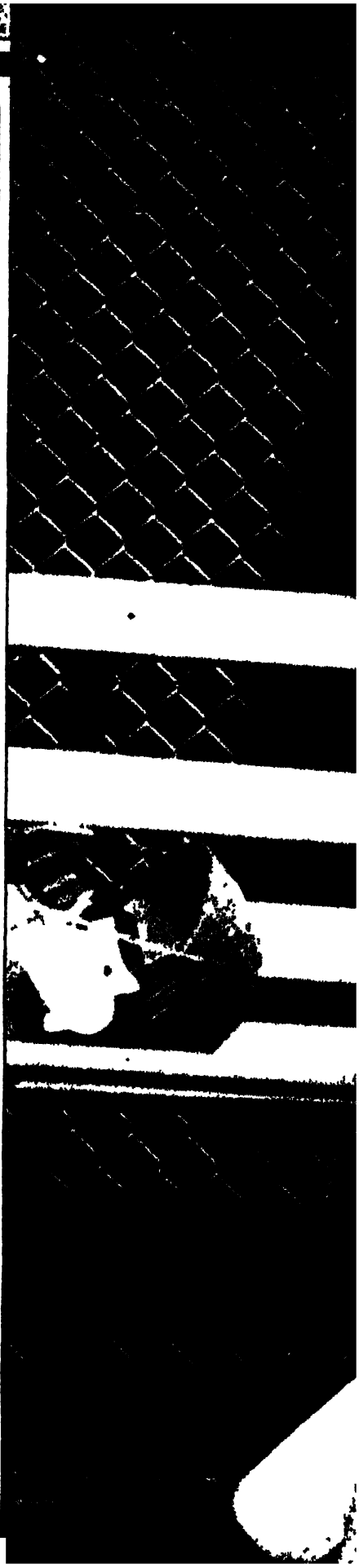
That was the closest we came to a pile up on an Australian street.

IT was an image one will not forget for a long time The spectators had erupted in a chant of 'boo'; the television monitor showed the dejected faces of the South African players; behind us the South African journalists sat glum and sad; on the far side of the ground the scoreboard showed that South Africa needed an impossible 22 runs off a single ball to beat England and enter and World Cup final

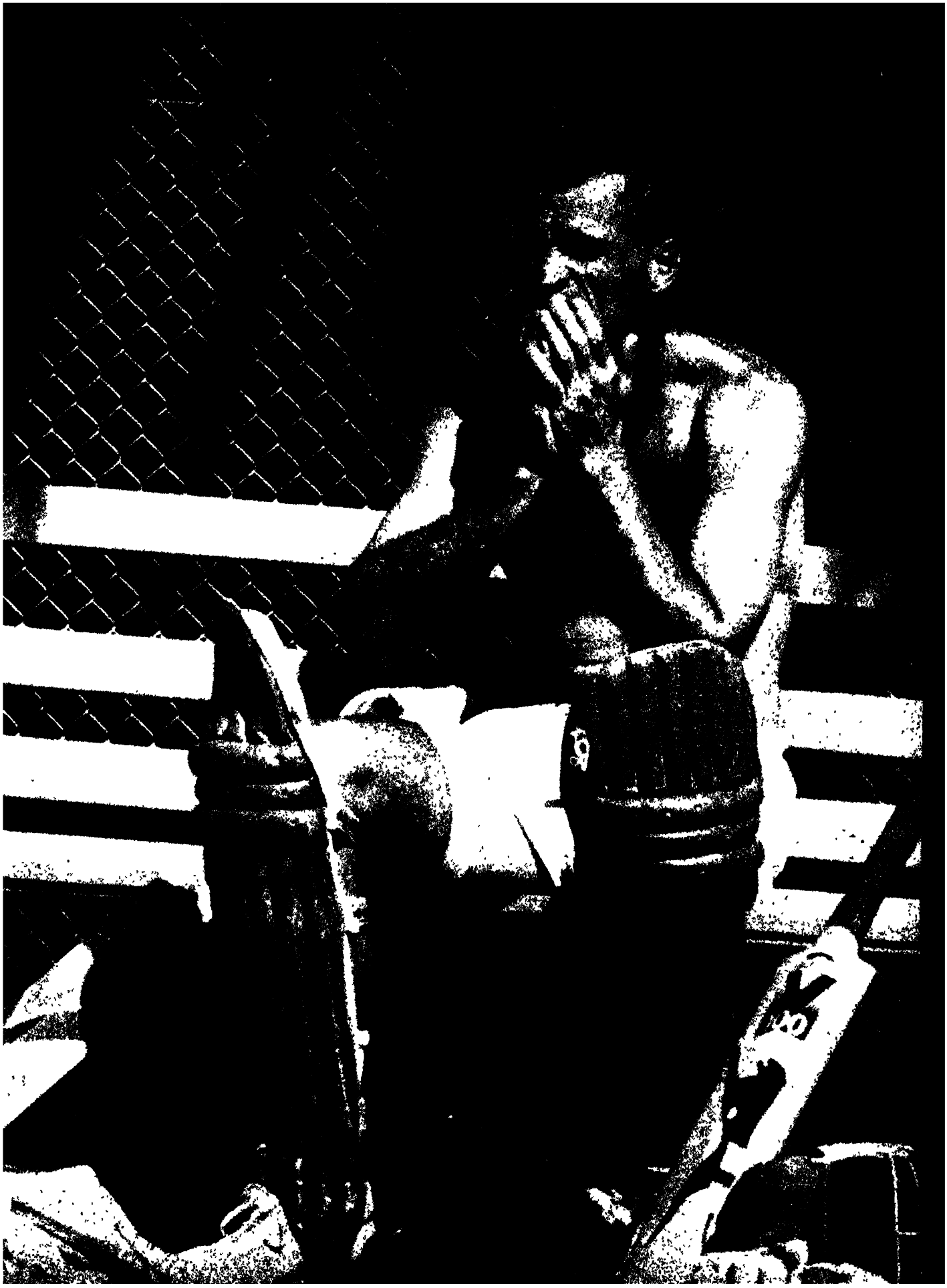
For the South Africans their very participation was an emotional affair and as they kept on winning, the expectations rose along with the emotions. And suddenly the vagaries of nature had put an end to what seemed to be a dream come true.

Only a few weeks earlier there were tears of joy in the Press box as the exiles of world cricket shocked the defending champions at Sydney. Now the tears were of sorrow....of frustration One South African lady journalist reporting for a radio in Johannesburg was in the midst of a live report back home while the South African batsmen went out in the middle to face that last ball off which they required a mathematically impossible 22 runs.

The same lady had wept during her dispatch after Australia went down to her team. This time she was determined not to let emotion get the better of her. She began her dispatch speaking into the phone very controlled and gradually the emotions ran away. "I can't believe what is happening," she told her listeners back home. "I know we are not supposed to show any emotion, but the situation demands it," she said while the tears filled her eyes. "It's all over for South Africa and all I wish to do now is cry. We would have loved to have lost the match fair and square and then patted the Englishmen on their backs for a good show and wished them the best of luck for the final. I'm afraid that is not possible now. I think I will end this dispatch because I need to cry."
And that's precisely what she did.



Keppler Wessels: emotional trauma



'MANNI' MATTERS

After three years in loneliness, Maninder Singh is finally getting his act together. His performances in the batsman-dominated Ranji Trophy bear testimony

FUNGUS is growing in Maninder Singh's cricketing boots—not the pair he wore out for Delhi in the Ranji Trophy,but the one's he locked up in his international kit bag in 1989. Rust is slowly spreading between his fore and middle fingers too. It's been a helluva long time since he spun the ball for India.

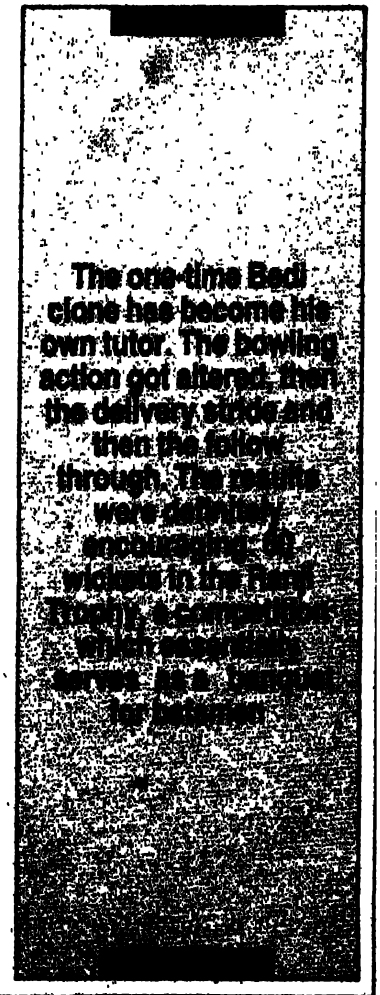
As for Maninder himself, he's probably alone at the National Stadium Cricket ground in Delhi. Perhaps,he's standing under the blazing sun and staring, his face a frustrated snarl, at the lone wicket in the nets; A wicket that is patiently awaiting the perfectly legitimate looping ball; cutting an arc through the air: pitching off and turning away. Perhaps, Maninder pictures a batsman playing it...and fumbling. The past for Maninder Singh was a series of pleasant technicolour memories. The present and his efforts to cope with it, is a invaluable education.

They won't be playing serious cricket till November this year, and who knows what monstrosities, what strange breathing organisms or warm fuzzy growths will have invaded his kit bag by then. For Maninder clearing all that much is going to take a day or two. He's got important priorities now, he's got to make himself fit for selection and that's going to take quite a while... or perhaps not?

Maninder's Singh's strange, halfway-brilliant career could be aptly summarised by a couple of off-hand stats: He's still young; 26-years-old, his two lonely, wayward years in the wilderness following a remarkable career for an orthodox left arm spinner. His first-class resume reads: Debut for Delhi at 15; for India at 17. During this tenure of playing first-class and Test cricket he gobbled up 200 Ranji trophy wickets and a total of 400 first-class ones. He's represented India in 34 Tests, has taken 81 wickets and played about 50 odd one-day internationals. If we use our grey cells in a just and fair manner, we could find ourselves deducing that Maninder Singh is perhaps trying (desperately) to make a comeback at an age when most international cricketers are beginning their careers.

An observation like that and a dream domestic 1992 Ranji season could be accomplished if he was slightly more dedicated, if he diligently practised his art for 12 months in a year and if he wasn't quite so caught up in his marriage.

"I think I slackened my efforts. Neglected practise and fitness. I eased up for a while and that really put me back. International cricket is intensely competitive and only the best survive," he had admitted once.



The one-time Bedi clone has become his own tutor. The bowling action got altered, then the delivery stride and then the follow through. The results were definitely encouraging. 69 wickets in the Ranji Trophy, a comeback effort, which also serves as a handsome bat-waver.



The past for Maninder Singh was a series of pleasant technicolour memories. The present and his efforts to cope with it, is an invaluable education

MANINDER SINGH
1991-'92 Ranji performances

	Bowling			
	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts
Services	26 5	16	20	3
(New Delhi)	39	18	56	2
Punjab	11	4	21	3
(Amritsar)	15 3	5	43	7
Himachal Pradesh	9 2	5	14	5
(Una)	30	9	73	5
Jammu & Kashmir	14 1	8	17	3
(New Delhi)	20	0	93	6
Haryana	41	19	78	2
(New Delhi)	44	22	64	2
Bengal	32	12	39	2
(New Delhi)	33	15	57	7
Bombay	37	10	63	5
(Bombay)	14	2	48	1
Tamil Nadu	51 1	12	130	5
(New Delhi)				
Total	418	157	816	58

Avge : 14.06

Compiled by
RAVIKANT SRIVASTAVA

He (Maninder) now capitalises on the loneliness by training alone. No coaches to brush up the rusty technique, no one to consult and no one to be insulted by

The same holds true for spinners. They are a highly pillaged tribe. When a captain calls upon his spinner to bowl in times of intense match pressure, the gesture is next to making a human sacrifice. These gentle guys, who try to fox instead of batter into submission, have a tough time between plying their art and keeping their sanity. The batsmen today have a foolproof battle plan and an effective arsenal: the new bats have more power and batsmen in turn have a whole new dossier on shot making, thanks to one-day cricket.

Maninder too suffered the same fate and lost his place in the Indian team roughly three seasons ago. He is now going through the process of trying to re-establish his claims for a berth. Perhaps the visible turmoil created by his lack of form and his subsequent attempts which actually worsened it, produced an inwardly dissatisfying concert. Regardless, he went on to try and make attempts to improve. He now capitalises on the loneliness by training alone. No coaches to brush up the rusty technique, no one to consult and no one to be insulted by. The only member of 'Team Maninder' was his wife. He would bowl for hours at an empty net and at a single wicket and she would dutifully collect the balls from the other end and pass them back. It was but a beginning...

The simple but effective. The one-time Bedi clone has become his own tutor. The bowling action got altered, then the delivery stride and then the follow through. The results were definitely encouraging! 58 wickets in the Ranji Trophy, a competition which essentially serves to be a banquet for batsmen.

'Manni' can be quite an enigmatic cricketer. An average guy, who does average deeds but sometimes produces above average results. For doubters, here's a statistical quirk: In 1986-87, he was regarded as perhaps the best left-arm orthodox spinner in the world. In 1992, he is struggling to get past guys like Venkatapati Raju, who themselves are average.

Nevertheless, fight he must and not get bothered about being underrated or overlooked. Maybe he didn't do anything great. Maybe he didn't do too bad either. So perhaps if we add it all up and then divide, he'll still be there. Waiting for India to call.

Robin Chatterjee

THAT PUTTY FEELING

Andrew's love for golf

MAKE sure that this doesn't go to the British tabloids but it seems as though Prince Andrew has got a new passion in life: he is royally smitten by golf. The word from Scotland has it that when the Prince rang up his coach, Doug McClelland. An eight year old—and the coach's son—picked up the receiver.

"Who's calling?" the naive sibling enquired.

"The Duke of York," came the rather surprised but cryptic reply.

At which an unimpressed voice bellowed, "Dad it s the pub for you '



WORMING ITS WAY...

Into a championship

MORE news from the wacky world of sport. Channel 4 sport organised a competition recently..worm charming!

Contestants in this sport go into a field and have 30 minutes to coax out as many worms as they can to the surface. Channel 4 took its antics to the village of Wilaston, Cheshire which served as the venue for the competition. Competitors included distinguished worm charmers like Tom Shufflebotham, the world record holder with 511 worms and Rebecca Champion-Jones, the defending champion.

We didn't get much news of the competition itself but reports came in that C4 successfully captured the use of acupuncture, paddles and [illegible] tackle. Useful instruments that [illegible] the extraction of worms.

KHEL DIKHAYA PAKISTAN

Raj karega Imran Khan

THE usual limerick thrown in for good measure once in a while. This deals with the recent exploits of the Khan...Imran Khan:

"Cornered tigers with nowhere to go."
Sunk their teeth in imperialist foe.
The man Imran Khan
Inspired Pakistan,
To make cat Rod of Beefy and Co



Former Australian skipper and master batsman, Greg Chappell, was in Madras recently, his glib talking and deep knowledge of the game making him the centre of attention everywhere

He was in the city for merely a week. But it was a week that Madras cricket followers will never forget. The Southern metropolis has played host to a number of great cricketers, but even by the highest standards Gregory Stephen Chappell is something special.

The legendary Australian addressed a press conference, gave a lecture to young Tamil Nadu cricketers, signed plenty of autographs, readily gave interviews, smilingly posed for photographs and spontaneously got into cricketing discussions with anyone he met.

During his long international career which stretched from 1970 to 1984 the former Australian captain commanded attention with his technically perfect batsmanship. Today, at 44, he commands attention with his impeccable English, his technical knowledge of the game and his cool personality. So total was his hold on the various audiences, from officials to players to media representatives, that even such mundane sentences like "it takes time to become a great player" and "there is no short cut to succes: it takes a lot of hard work" were transformed into something profound when uttered by him.

"There is already talk about him entering politics" said Dennis Lillee in Madras earlier this month. The occasion was a press conference called by the MRF Pace Foundation and Chappell charmed representatives of the fourth estate with his frank and forthright views on various aspects of the game. When a veteran journalist who has surveyed the scene for over 50 years complimented him on his English and general knowledge of cricket, Chappell quipped "Well, I have been bluffing people for a long time now and you have confirmed this today". That's when Lillee came up with his bit about Chappell entering politics.

"I regret the underarm incident. If I can undo it, I would. But I can't, so I have learnt to live with it. The action was within the laws of the game but against the spirit of it. I would not do it again"
—Greg Chappell





GREG CHAPPELL

"I Regret The Underarm Incident"

Not that Chappell would be a failure as a politician. He could be as successful in that field as he was,a batsman. If as a batsman he charmed the ball away from the fielder as a politician he could charm a rueful audience with his glib tongue. That does not mean Chappell would be afraid of facing up to the truth squarely. Note how he tackled a question about the infamous underarm delivery at Melbourne in 1981, an incident that will forever be associated with Chappell as. "I regret having done that. If I can undo it, I would. But I can't, so I have learnt to live with it. The



action was within the laws of the game but against the spirit of it. I would not do it again."

Not for nothing was Chappell known to be a shrewd thinker of the game. During his visit, which was made at Lillee's request, to impart valuable tips to the trainees at the MRF Pace Foundation, he emphasized on the mental toughness aspect. "Talent and skill can take a player to a certain level but to reach the top a lot of planning is needed."

He recalled how during his playing days, he used to go to his room at night, switched off the lights and concentrate on preparing to face, say, the West Indian fast bowlers on the morrow. "When the lights went off, the lights came on for me," he remarked. "I would visualise the venue, the pitch, the bowlers I would be facing, what I would do, what I would avoid"

He dwelt upon the importance of planning even during practice sessions. "There is no point in just batting and bowling without any purpose. There has to be planning even at the nets. When I faced, say, Dennis at the nets he used to tell me his field and then bowl according to it, and then I batted as if to hit the ball away from the imaginary fielder"

Chappell conceded that there were exceptionally gifted players like Sir Gary Sobers, Graeme Pollock, Rohan Kanhai and Viv Richards who could get away with almost anything. "But even they realised the importance of planning their innings. Flair is all right but it is the disciplined approach that gets you far". He noted that even Richards frequently took three-and-a—half hours to four hours to get a hundred as he "realised the importance of discipline and planning."

"When I faced Dennis Lillee at the nets he used to tell me his field and then bowl according to it, and then I batted as if to hit the ball away from the imaginary fielder"
—Greg Chappell

Chappell, who led Australia in the three Test series against India in 1980-81 and observed them keenly during their recent visit "Down Under", hit the nail on the head while analysing Indian cricket and cricketers. "Your players are very talented but they don't work together as a team" he said. He said that any batsman with his peripheral vision could observe whether a fielding team was pulling together or not and frequently it was obvious that the Indians did not possess this trait.



And to be honest, Chappell's opinion is not inaccurate.

On the inevitable comparision between Sachin Tendulkar and Inzamam-ul-Haq, Chappell offered a balanced view. "Both are extremely talented. "So far this was Chappell the bland diplomat. However the candid Chappell quickly took over. "But while Sachin has played Test cricket and has an excellent record, including three hundreds, Inzamam has yet to appear in a Test match. And I believe that Test cricket is the real challenge for the young player".

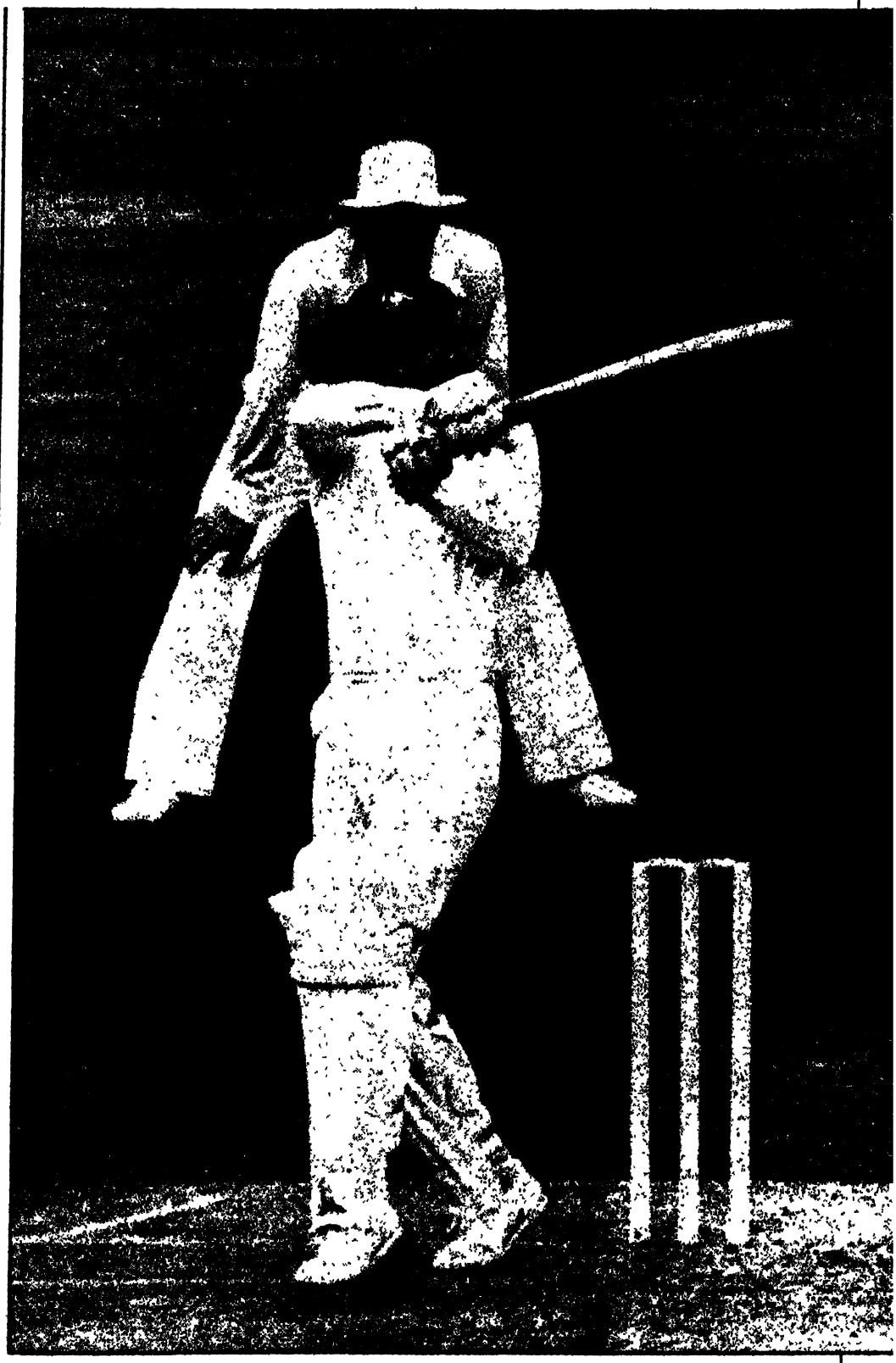
On the MRF Pace Foundation, Chappell who spent a lot of time with the trainees emphasising the mental toughness aspect, felt that it was a "unique scheme" which had achieved good results in a short period. "Indian cricket history is to littered with examples of fast bowlers and against this background the achievements of the Pace Foundation are laudable".

He however counselled patience. "It takes time to make a cricketer, so be prepared to give the Pace Foundation time." He contented that there was no reason to believe that India could not produce fast bowlers and disagreed with the suggestion that the Foundation be moved to a cooler climate. "If the boys can bowl in this heat they can bowl anywhere", he pointed out. He said in five or ten

years the full results could be seen but he warned the boys "there is no magic formula for success and no short cut. It takes bloody hard work and you boys better be prepared for it".

Did Australia's disappointing performance in the World Cup surprise him? "Not really. Even after the victory over India and the triumph in the World Series Cricket, I did not share the optimism shared by many others. Let's be frank. The Indian batting was pathetic. Had Australia played up to their full potential they should have won the series 5-0 in 15 days. It was more a case of India losing badly rather than Australia winning well." he reckoned.

"While Sachin has played Test cricket and has an excellent record, including three hundreds, Inzamam has yet to appear in a Test match. And I believe that Test cricket is the real challenge for the young player"
—Greg Chappell



The successes before the World Cup he believes, gave the Aussies a false sense of security. "The skipper never led from the front. The team lacked a sense of direction. And the selectors persevered with out of form players like Geoff Marsh and Mark Taylor for too long."

The man who played 87 Tests, scored 7110 runs and hit 24 centuries regretted that he never played in India. "I did not get an opportunity to play the famed spin quartet", he said. More's the pity.

Partab Ramchand



WINTER SEASON, CALCUTTA

UPS & DOWNS

The season lasted for 160 days and within that period everything possible happened

THE Calcutta Winter Meet 1991-92 stretched for over a period of five months and in the course of those 160-odd days we witnessed all the 'highs' and lows' for which this sport is so famous

On the equine front the classic picture changed dramatically and ultimately it was Romantic Memories who proved herself to be the best, winning the Derby and the Leger after overcoming a series of training setbacks which almost kept her out of the game

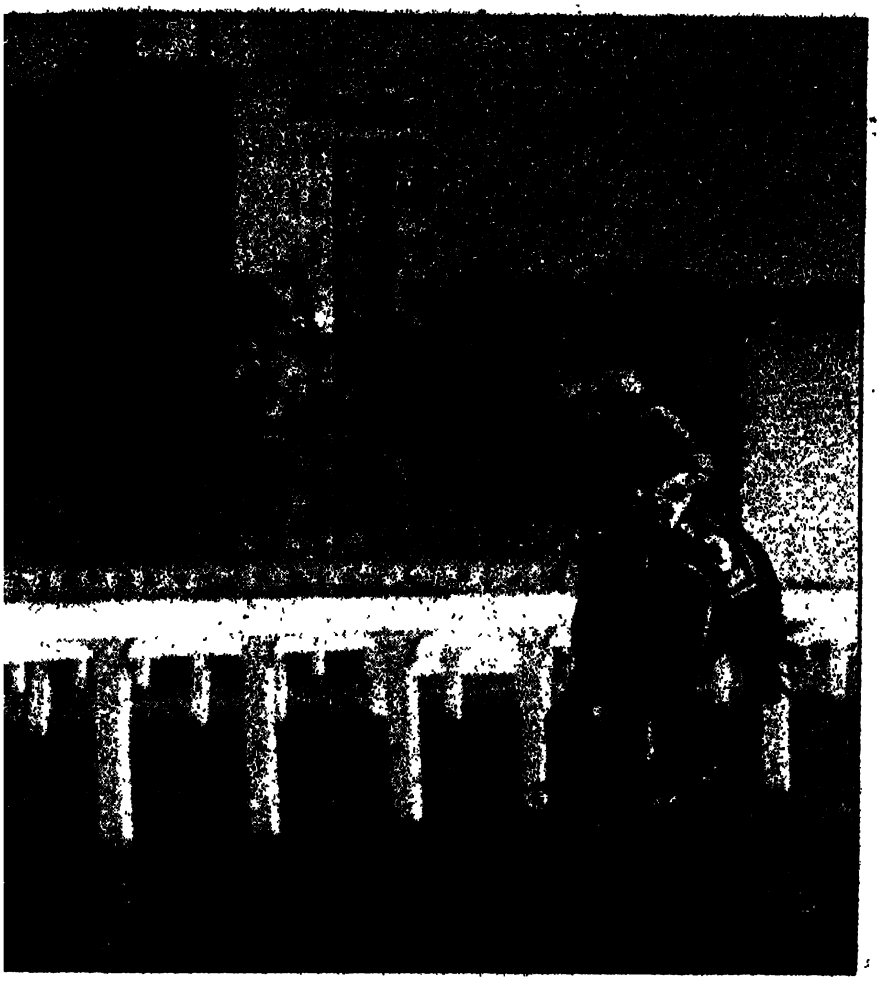
Then came those two epic battles between Romantic Dancer and his erstwhile adversary Star Contender They first met in the Indian Champion Cup where Star Contender reigned supreme by 1/2 a length But the score was soon levelled when the pair met in the Queen Elizabeth II Cup and Romantic Dancer avenged the first defeat by an identical margin

From amongst the juveniles, Calcutta saw the emergence of a new champion in the making—Goodfellas. The bay son of Excallibur's Lake out of Sukriti was unbeaten in three starts in Calcutta You will be hearing a lot more about him when he begins his summer campaign in Bangalore.

The 'Monsoon Champion Trainer' Philip Corner continued where he left off and won the trainers' championship effortlessly Amongst the jockeys Robert Gowli finished at the top of the table but Calcuttans were treated to a feast of riding talent with jockeys like Nick Connorton, Aslam Kader, Robin Corner and Garry Carter All in all it worked to the betterment of the all-round picture Add to this list a new whizz-kid Rajasekhar, from Hyderabad, and he left Calcutta with a remarkable strike rate

GOODFELLAS In my opinion this has probably been the first time that the champion horse of the season has been a three-year-old I am not being influenced by the fact that in the USA the 'Eclipse Horse of the Year' award was awarded to a two-year-old named Arazi for the first time ever. But Goodfellas has made such an impression on me

by CYRUS J. MADAN



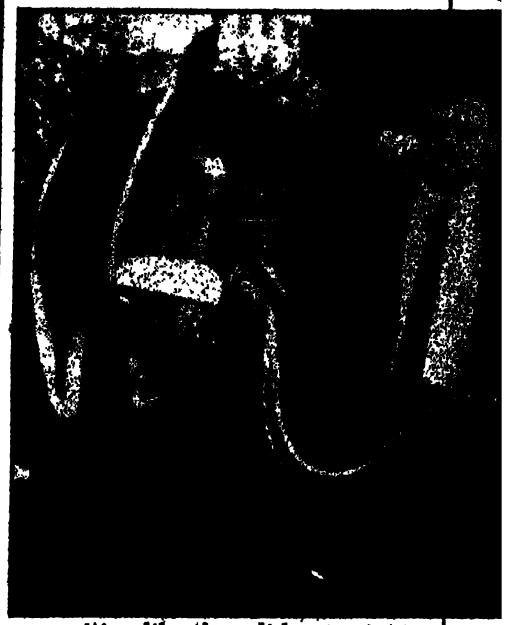
GOODFELLAS: At three, a champion with a lot of potential

that I feel he would most certainly qualify as the horse of the season.

By Excallibur's Lake out of Sukriti this half brother of Golden Fantasy is something exceptional. He is ever so mature and so relaxed a racehorse. He won the Indian Produce Stakes on debut (a Grade II Race) and followed it up by winning an ordinary Cup race and then topped it all with a bloodless victory in the Magic Million Stakes.

It was his victory in the Million which really made one sit up and take notice. Ridden by jockey Warren Singh the colt was travelling four to five horses wide almost all the way. Yet when he was asked to quicken in the straight he produced the sort of acceleration that you would normally associate with a Ferrari and he sailed majestically past the opposition like they did not exist to win by five lengths.

PHILIP CORNER: Champion trainer last season, the same this season



If he can get the mile as a three-year-old he should be able to go a mile and a quarter easily enough. The only thing that can go against him is probably the fact that he is very mature already and has come to hand very early.

In other words will he train on? A loaded question to answer, but Goodfellas certainly has a very bright future ahead of him and after Romantic Dancer, the mantle of an All India champion could well be worn by Goodfellas, a worthy successor. ●

ROMANTIC MEMORIES: Overcame a series of training setbacks to win the Derby and the Leger



PHOTOGRAPHS: SUBAJIT PAL

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which British cricketer garnered the most number of runs in a first class career?
2. Who was the first woman to swim the English Channel both ways?
3. Who was the first man to score a run in Test cricket?
4. Which was the only time cricket was included in the Olympics?
5. Which cricketer is nicknamed Mettle Mickey?
6. Which are the demonstration sports at the Barcelona Olympics?
7. Who is the only Indian girl to have reached the finals of the Wimbledon girl's singles event?
8. What was the full name of Dr W. G. Grace?
9. Who was the captain of the Australian team during the 'Bodyline Series'?
10. Which U.S. Olympic coach proposed the revolutionary idea of the crouched start in athletics?
11. Which sport was invented by Abner Doubleday?
12. Which chess player remained unbeaten from 10th February 1916 to 21st March 1924?
13. Which baseball player was nicknamed 'The Bambino'?
14. Who was the first man to climb Mt. Everest four times?
15. What concept in lawn Tennis did Jimmy Van Alen introduce?

ANSWERS

1 Jack Hobbs
2. Cyndi Nicholas.
3. Charles Bannerman
4 1900, Paris Olympics.
5. Arvinda De Silva (Sri Lanka).
6 Pelota, Taekwondo and Roller Hockey
7. Rita Daver (Calcutta)
8 Dr William Gilbert Grace
9. Bill Woodfull.
10. Michael Murphy
11. Baseball
12 Jose Raul Capablanca of Cuba.
13 Babe Ruth.
14 Sungdare Sherpa
15 The Tie Breaker

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

TURAB-ur-RAHMAN
No.523 1st 'A' CROSS,
8th BLOCK, KORAMANGALA,
BANGALORE 560 095.

All answers sent in by the contributor



AN APPEAL

10TH JAWAHARLAL NEHRU GOLD CUP INVITATION INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT 1993 AT MADRAS

Tamil Nadu will have the prestige and unique honour of hosting an International Sports event – The 10th Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup Invitation International Football Tournament at Madras during January 1993. This is an international football tournament in which 7 foreign countries will be participating besides India.

It is proposed to conduct this tournament in the Nehru Stadium, Madras. The Nehru Stadium will necessarily have to be demolished and reconstructed to the standard of an international stadium for hosting the prestigious Nehru Gold Cup Football Tournament in 1993. For re-construction of the Nehru Stadium in accordance with International Standards a sum of Rs. 30 crores is needed. The Government of Tamil Nadu is contributing a sum of Rs. 5 crores and the Government of India has agreed to contribute Rs. 2 crores for this project. For the balance it is necessary to seek generous contributions from the public.

I appeal to the Industrialists, entrepreneurs, philanthropists and the sports loving people of our State and other parts of our country to contribute liberally to this cause. The successful conduct of this prestigious meet will help to promote sports and games among the young people of Tamil Nadu. All contributions are requested to be made in the form of cheques or demand drafts drawn in favour of "The Chairperson, Organising Committee, 10th Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup Invitation International Football Tournament 1993, Madras".

Dr. J. JAYALALITHA
CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMILNADU
&
CHAIRPERSON OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE
10TH JAWAHARLAL NEHRU GOLD CUP
INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT 1993

GEET SETHI

NUMERO UNO

GEET SETHI obliged matinee star Shatrughan Sinha, who sent him a message of goodwill just before the final match, by adding the Consortium Finance World Masters Billiards Championships to his increasing list of triumphs. And to strengthen his credentials, Sethi wrested the world No. 1 ranking from a miserable Mike Russell of England.

The championship, the second of a three-leg series, was held in the Centaur Hotel,away from the normal watering holes of billiards lovers. It was originally scheduled to be held in Goa. But with the Majorda expressing its inability to hold the tournament, the World Masters returned to the city of Sethi's earlier triumph in the first leg.

Geet Sethi, with Shatrughan Sinha's exhortation in his mind, started off with a bang in the finals when in the very first of the best-of 15 games, he cracked an unfinished break of 127. But Sethi's road to the provisional No. 1 ranking was not paved with grease. Australian Robbie Foldvari, disguising his intentions behind a somnambulistic exterior, also had designs on the £2,000 first prize. He took the second game, allowed Sethi to run off with the third and fourth games, and then served notice of his motives by reeling off an unfinished 150 to take the fifth set.

Foldvari caught up with Sethi at three games all with a smooth 117 break in the sixth game. But Sethi, who chafed at the sidelines with impatience at Foldvari's slow style, stopped the Aussie with an unfinished 138 to take the lead once more. Having regained his composure, the Indian star elegantly compiled the



JAGDISH YADAV

tournament's highest break of 153 in the eighth game.

The ninth also went Sethi's way and at 6-3 it looked as if the Aussie had wilted. But in a characteristically Australian effort, Foldvari pulled out two breaks of 150 each to take the tenth and eleventh games. Then came the opportunity for the Indian to weave a web of oriental charm around the table when Foldvari missed a simple red in-off. Sethi grabbed the opportunity not only to reel off a pleasing 150 but also build up momentum for the final assault. In the thirteenth game, he cued his way to a 148 break and the tournament title.

Sethi came up with a tremendous show against a man who was also playing at his best. Justifiably he was elated with his performance. But that was only the culmination of a brilliant run of success which started with his complete demolition of world no. 1 Mike Russell in the quarter-finals. For Russell, it was disaster second time running after his quarter final loss to Michael Ferreira in the first leg. Losing 4-0 to Sethi in his first match, Russell soon joined the handful of spectators who had turned up at the Centaur.

In the other first round matches, Michael Ferreira was no match to Peter Gilchrist, surrendering the match at 4-0. The Norman Dagley-Bob Close match had more excitement to offer. Close, the younger of the two veterans, finally prevailed 4-2. Foldvari, meanwhile, defeated Mark Wildman 4-1 to advance to the semifinals.

The semifinals, played over seven games, was an unnerving experience for Geet Sethi. Facing up to Bob Close, who doggedly matched him game for game, Sethi took a fortuitous 44 break in the deciding game to win 4-3. In the other match, Foldvari eliminated Peter Gilchrist 4-2 in a match marked by slow play.

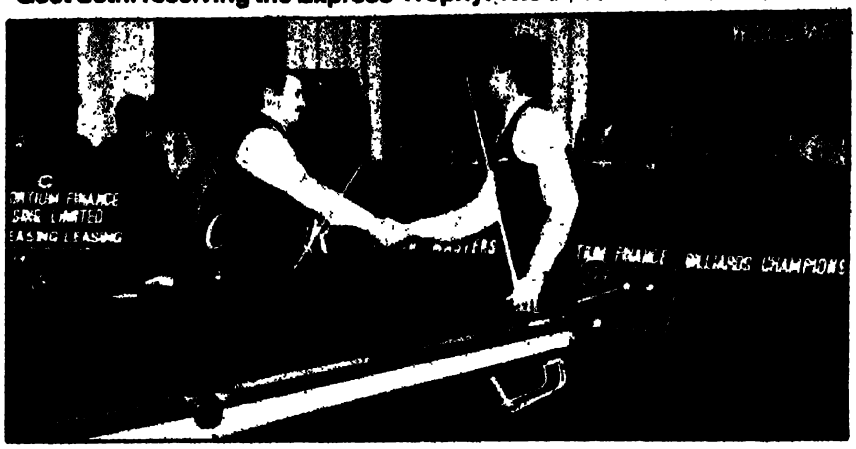
Sethi's total domination of the tournament was reflected in all three trophies on offer going his way. He won the Indian Express trophy for the highest break (153 unfinished), the K & Co trophy for the most number of century breaks (13) and of course the Consortium Finance winner's trophy plus a cheque of £2,000. Foldvari received £1,000 for his efforts.

Having won two legs, Sethi is the only player in contention to win the £3,000 bonus for winning all three legs. The last and final leg of the series will be played in Karachi, Pakistan in November. But before that Sethi will have the chance once again of regaling fans when big-time billiards reaches Calcutta with the World Championship in September.

Joel Rai, New Delhi



Geet Sethi receiving the Express Trophy. The sweet reward for labour



Thanks for a 'great match,' Sethi seems to be telling Foldvari



Sethi wears a look of intense concentration before a shot

ARTHUR ASHE HAS AIDS

A Universal Tragedy

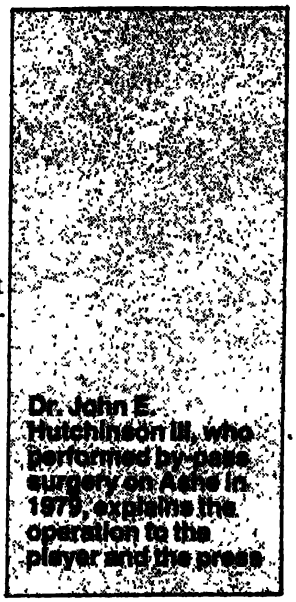
Tennis player, writer, philosopher, activist—Arthur Ashe has fought battles right through his life, epitomising in many ways the goodness of man. Now, the man who touched the social consciousness of the world, must combat AIDS

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

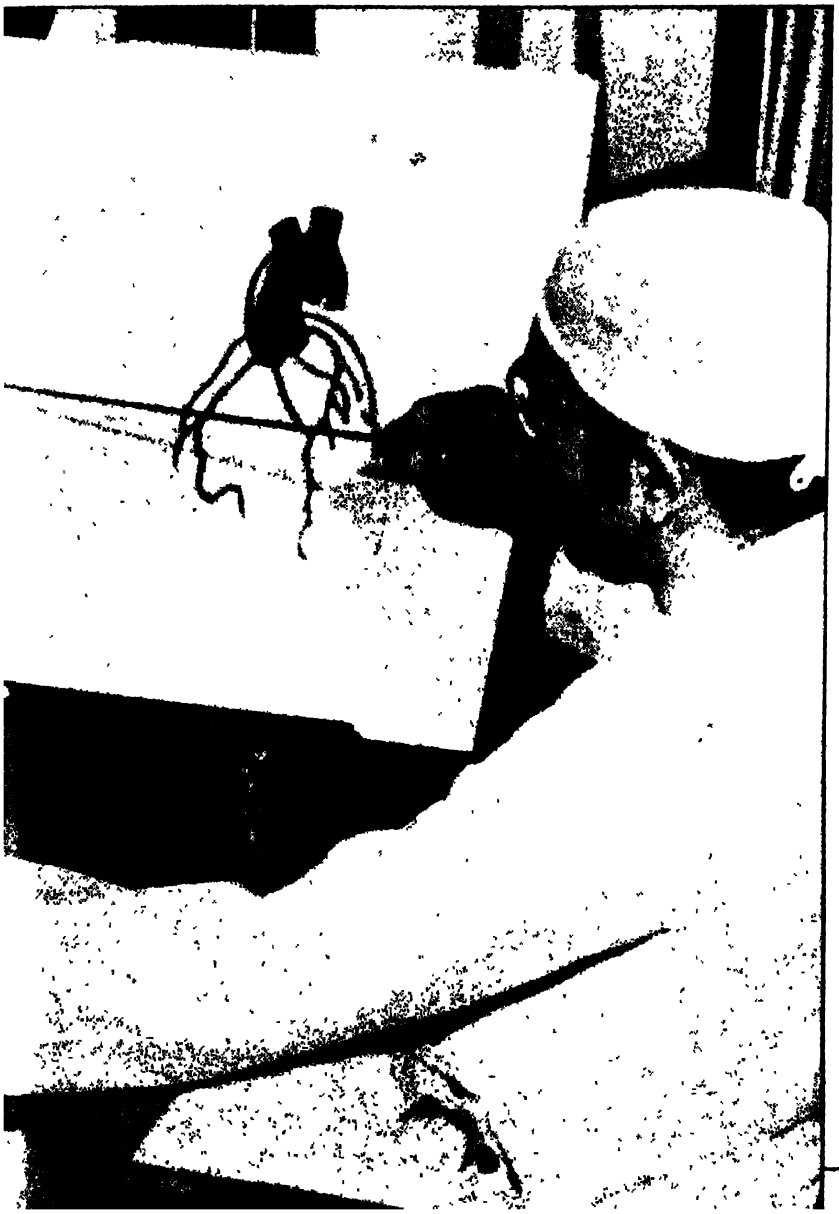


WHEN Earvin 'Magic' Johnson admitted last year that he had contracted the HIV virus, America went into mourning, for 'Magic', an American hero, was now suddenly an American tragedy. But the confluence of events, the sweeping current of emotion, the foolishness of sexual promiscuity that was Johnson's undoing, stayed, for better or for worse, within the confines of that continent.

Yet, when Arthur Ashe disclosed this month that he had the AIDS virus, there was more a universal sadness, for, not since Muhammad Ali has a man, to be precise, a black sportsman, touched and affected so deeply the social consciousness of not merely a nation, but the whole world.



Dr. John E. Hutchinson III, who performed by-pass surgery on Ashe in 1979, explains the operation to the player and the press



And Arthur Robert Ashe is truly a remarkable man.

Ashe's decision to disclose that he had AIDS, was not a voluntary move—it was thrust upon him. *USA Today*, an American national newspaper, called him to say they were releasing a story about his condition, asking him to comment. To preempt this, Ashe was forced to go public, and he did so saying, "It put me in the unenviable position of having to lie if I wanted to protect our privacy".

Ashe knew he had AIDS as far back as 1988 a fact well known by the medical community who held their silence, something Ashe has been grateful for: "It was", he said, "a silent and generous conspiracy to assist me in maintaining my privacy".

Ashe believes he contracted the virus in 1983 through a blood transfusion during his second major heart surgery—the first was in 1979. As destiny would have it, tests to safeguard blood supplies did not begin with any seriousness till 1985, and as Ashe would say, "I was 18 months too soon."

Three years later, in 1988, his right hand went dead, its paralysis the first indication that something was wrong. A subsequent Cat-scan would show an abnormality of the brain, and a brain biopsy would later confirm he had AIDS.

ARTHUR ASHE is not looking for sympathy or support—he would not have to ask anyway, for the world owes him and would give it freely. As a human being he epitomised, and still does, so much of the goodness of man, rather than the dark side. Many men have spent their lives fighting battles—as Ashe did—but this black American not only chose what to fight for intelligently, but he fought with a dignity that always found appreciation from reasonable men.

As a player per se, he would rank as high as No. 2 and and win 33 titles including a title each at the Australian Open, US Open and Wimbledon. But it was Wimbledon in 1975 which became, rightfully, a part of

tennis' folk lore.

In 1975, no one commanded more attention than Jimmy Connors—brash, crude, combative, he won three Grand Slam titles in 1974, his all-court, all-snort pummelling game setting new levels of excellence, new parameters for success.

Ashe had sneaked into the final courtesy a five set win over Tony Roche, while Connors had massacred Roscoe Tanner for the loss of 9 games and had not lost a set so far. An anti-climax beckoned, moreso because Ashe too had a ferocious power game, including a sort of hop-skip-and-jump walloped serve, and Connors everybody knew, just loved pace.

Only thing was, Ashe knew that too.

Blocking, slicing, pushing balls low and soft to Connors' sometimes erratic forehand, Ashe was all delicacy and touch, a style the very antithesis of his normal game. Connors, too belligerent to think clearly, dug his own hole and Ashe quietly filled in the dirt.

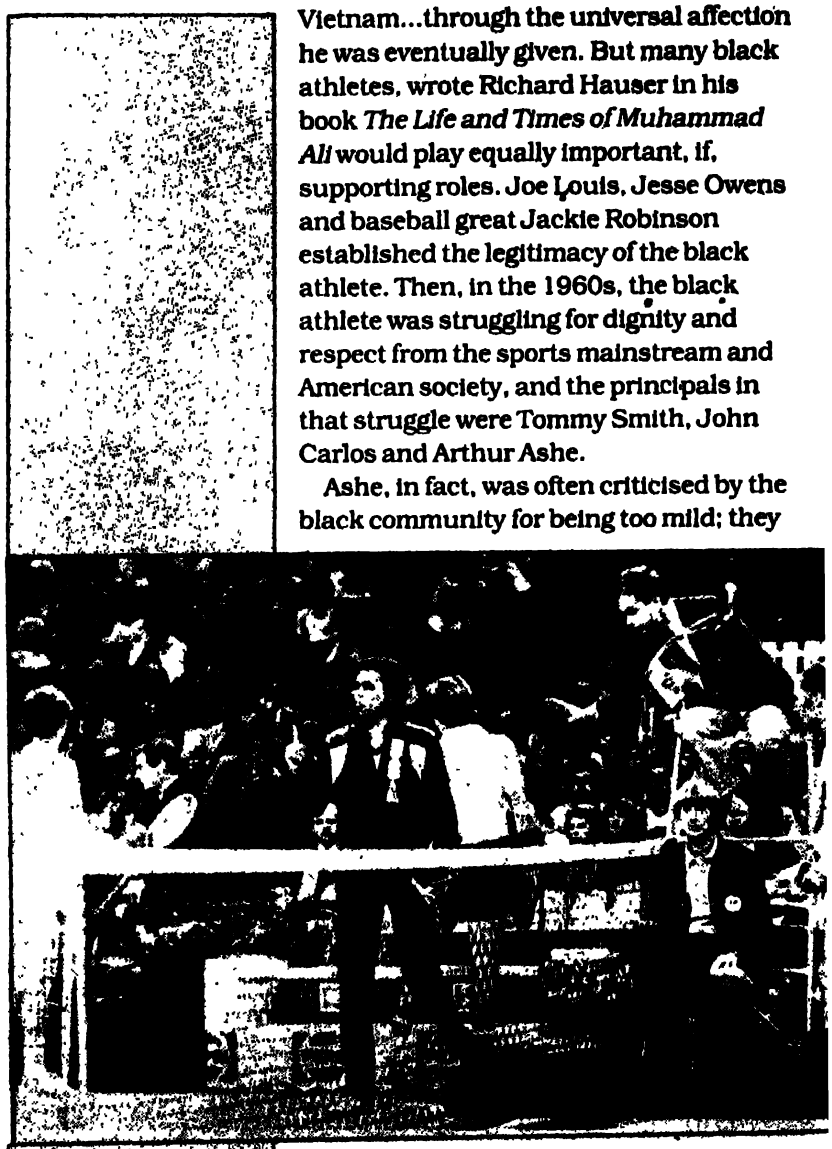
Four sets later it was all over, Ashe's fist punching the sky, his eyes alight, and Connors bewildered, unable to understand how he had been cereberally dissected.

Ashe would later say, and perhaps he was correct, that, "Looking back, I believe that my victory over Connors that day was the most significant singles match of the Seventies. I fully believe that if Connors had beaten me, he would have also won the US Open that fall (Connors lost to Orantes) and that Bjorn Borg would not have won five straight Wimbledons. If Jimmy had won our match he would have found a way to beat Borg, and Borg's ascendancy would have been delayed, or maybe it wouldn't have happened at all".

Ashe's victory was also a triumph for the blacks in America...he was the first, and so far the only, black man to win Wimbledon, and this at a time when black Americans were searching for role models, searching for acceptability.

There is no doubt that Muhammad Ali would play the most significant role for the blacks...through his own skill as an athlete...through his refusal to fight in Vietnam...through the universal affection he was eventually given. But many black athletes, wrote Richard Hauser in his book *The Life and Times of Muhammad Ali* would play equally important, if, supporting roles. Joe Louis, Jesse Owens and baseball great Jackie Robinson established the legitimacy of the black athlete. Then, in the 1960s, the black athlete was struggling for dignity and respect from the sports mainstream and American society, and the principals in that struggle were Tommy Smith, John Carlos and Arthur Ashe.

Ashe, in fact, was often criticised by the black community for being too mild; they complained he was a tennis snob, not militant enough, but he never wavered—his comittment was beyond question, and he would do things his way. Already he had become the president of the Association of Tennis Professionals, and far more importantly, would help in convincing the International Tennis Federation that South Africa, with its inhuman apartheid policy, did not belong in the Davis Cup. They listened and South Africa were banned.



A chaotic moment during a Davis Cup tie between American and Australia. McEnroe argues with a lineman, Ashe tries to get Peter Fleming (not in picture) to listen to him, and Neale Fraser thinks it's all a bad dream.

He was refused a visa to South Africa in 1969, but returned there in 1977 and once again in October last year. After his last visit he wrote an article for *TENNIS* magazine reflecting his concern. While he, like so many others is optimistic, unlike



them, he has not been seduced totally by the white man s rhetoric, nor totally convinced that de Klerk's moves, though positive means the end of the problem

When the World Doubles Championship was held in South Africa last year a few anti apartheid protestors were involved in a scuffle with policemen and white spectators and Ashe,

Ashe sharing an emotional moment with his father after his 1975 Wimbledon win

Ashe and McEnroe in happier times: the two men rarely saw eye to eye.



subsequently wrote this' *"Conditions in the now infamous township of Soweto lend some credence to these protests. Located about 12 miles from Johannesburg, Soweto had about 2 million people when I last visited in 1977. Now Soweto crams more than 3 million people in the same space, with many residents living in dilapidated shacks with no plumbing or electricity. There are no paved streets, public transportation, health services, athletic facilities or cultural amenities*

For those 3 million residents Soweto has just two swimming pools, eight tennis courts, one poorly maintained golf course, one boxing academy and two run-down soccer stadiums that are more dirt than turf Corporate sponsors spend little on sports in black areas, yet $1 million was found for the ATP Doubles Final with just a month s notice If I were a South African, I would protest too!

Indeed, so should everyone else

After his first heart operation in 1979, just months after he came within a point of defeating John McEnroe at the Grand Prix Masters, his career as a player was over But his reputation as an intelligent, thoughtful man held him in good stead, for in 1981 he was appointed as America's Davis Cup captain—again the first black man to achieve that honour

In five years, he led the US Davis Cup team to two wins, in the end his rift with McEnroe—though both men shared a mutual respect—became one of the most talked about issues of his reign The problem, of course, was each man's definition of acceptable behaviour on court Ashe had told McEnroe, after once being embarassed by his best player's behaviour, that he would rather default the match, than be humiliated by the umpire having to disqualify McEnroe McEnroe in return would tell Ashe never to speak to him, unless spoken to and admitted he and his captain had differing views of what behaviour was correct on a tennis court

Ashe's links with tennis were to strong to be severed and he would flit between



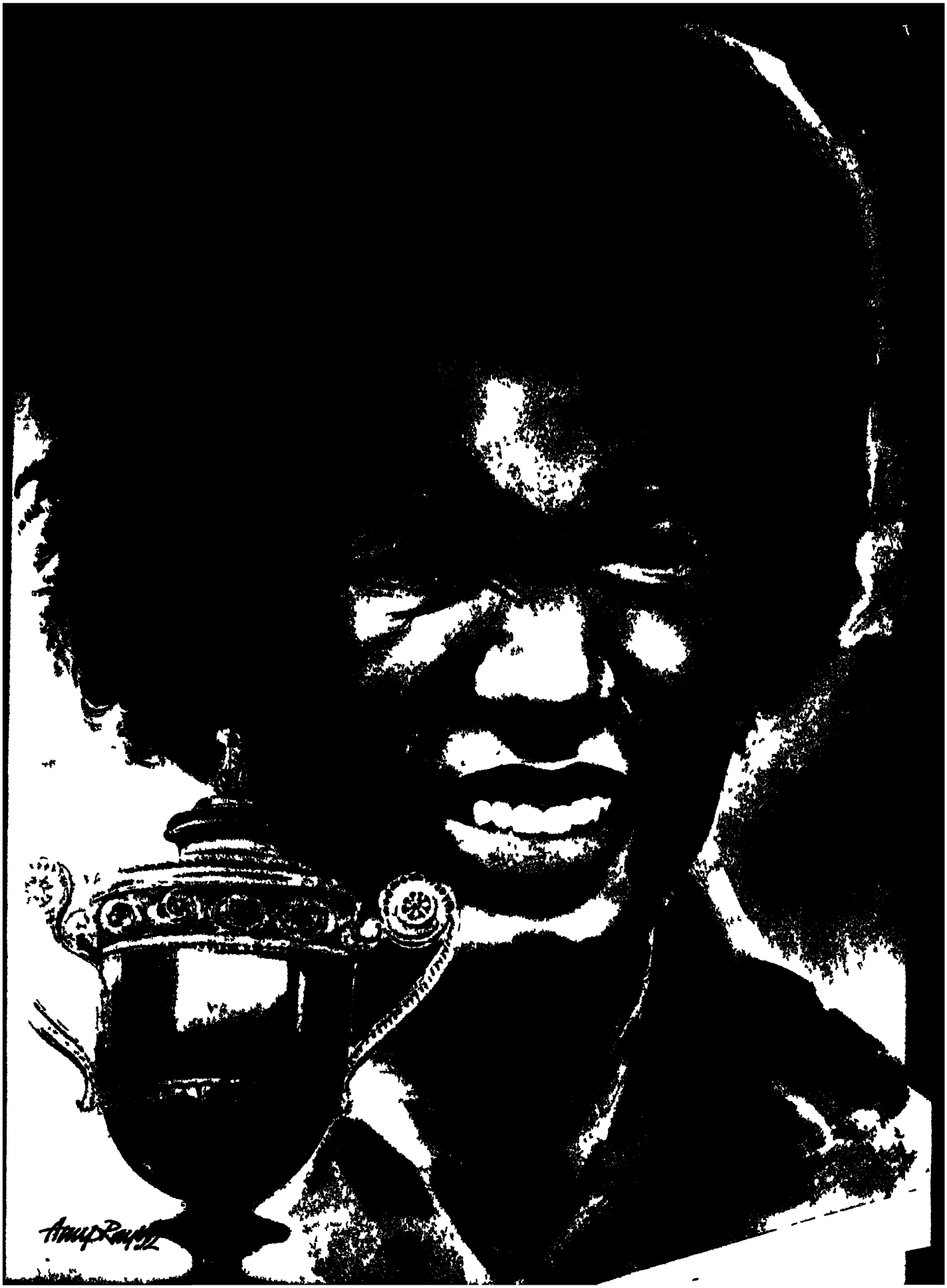
The U.S. team with the World Cup they won in 1976: (left to right) Dennis Ralston, Bob Lutz, Dick Stockton, Stan Smith, Arthur Ashe and Jimmy Connors

various roles—whether anaylst for television, general spokesman on the game or conducting clinics for underprivilged blacks In the meantime he also found time to write, *A Hard Road To Glory The History of the African American athlete* a definitive account of the struggle and success of the black athlete

BUT now Arthur Robert Ashe, fighter of battles, pursuer of fairness, activist for equality faces his most difficult challenge And he has immediately met it head on, expressing displeasure that he was coerced into disclosing what he believes is a private problem "I understand', he wrote in the *Washington Post*, "that the press has a watchdog role in the maintenance of our freedom and to expose corruption I wasn't then and am not now, comfortable with being sacrificed for the sake of the public s right to know I never worried so much about being a social outcast as I did about not being able to control my life s schedule Keeping my AIDS status private enabled me to choose my life s schedule That freedom has now been significantly eroded"

He will, like Magic Johnson, help in creating awareness about the disease and the many misconceptions about it, but being the man he is, refuses to make it the only part of his agenda Multi-faceted, right till the very end

"Time is the imponderable factor", he wrote "I don't know how much of it I have left" It strikes of chord of terrifying helplessness, but let us be grateful and feel priviliged that for 48 years at least, and hopefully much longer, such a fine man lived among us ●



CONTROVERSY

"IF OUR CONFIDENCE IS REST



UTPAL SONKAR

WHEN, after the traumatic, almost scandalised Indian experience at Sharjah in October '91, the BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) decided not to participate in any future tournament in the desert, it came as some kind of a shock. Because, reaching so sweeping a decision so boldly was quite out of character for a body like the BCCI, where various crosscurrents of interests and influences are constantly at play.

Yet it happened, much to our astonishment, even though some of us almost anticipated it, being aware of the most important factors that made it happen.

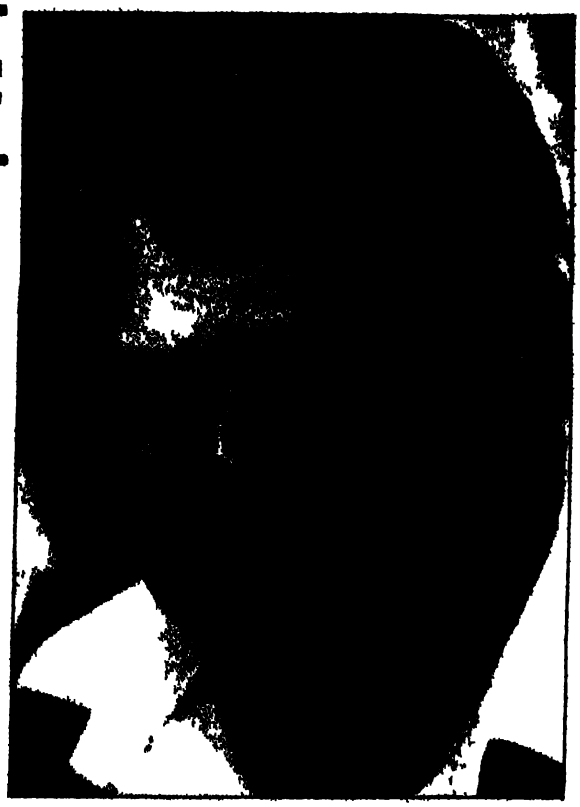
I am certain that many people will agree with me that more than the actual trauma, that India suffered, what was really shocking was the mysterious reticence of the Indian officials as well as most of the players about the shoddy deal that was handed out to them. In place of an outburst of protests, there was a discreet silence. Silence that was broken only by the brave and the outspoken.

Amid the all round confusion and the mysterious Indian reaction there were a few who gave their feelings a voice. And, among them was Kapil Dev, whose full blooded, no holds barred approach to cricket this time found expression in a stern protest and downright condemnation of the desert tournament.

In a frank, honest interview to Sportsworld, Kapil Dev went to

...DRED... INDIA WILL CERTAINLY GO BACK TO SHARJAH"...

MADHAV RAO SCINDIA, BCCI PRESIDENT



Madhav Rao Scindia: 'no perpetual ban'

the extent of saying that he 'would never like to go back to Sharjah again.' Sources in the BCCI say that the interview went a long way in banning Sharjah from India's cricketing calendar—a move spearheaded by a section of the country's top cricketing officials, led by Jagmohan Dalmiya.

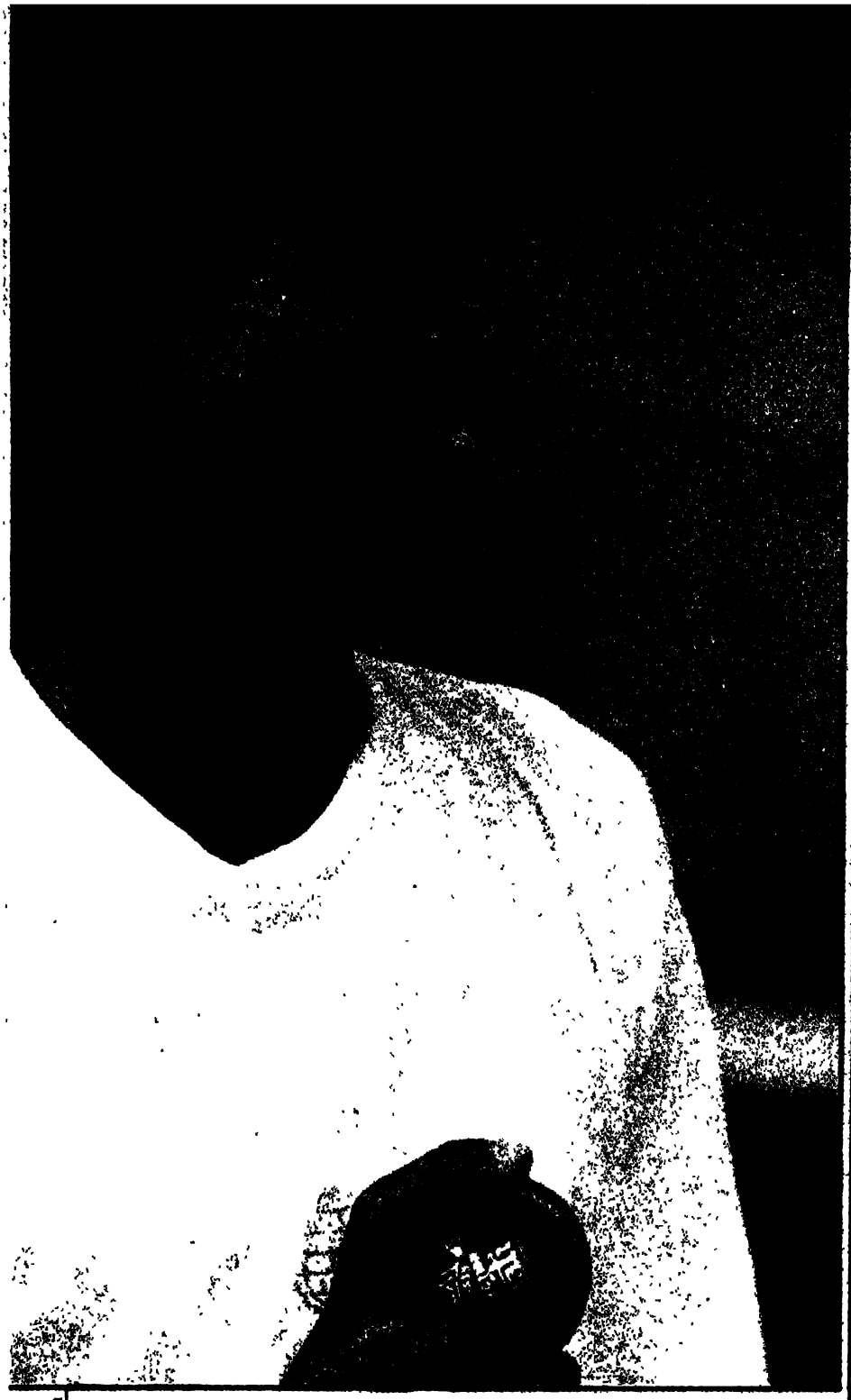
The fact that the anti-Sharjah campaign was spurred on by people like Dalmiya, and not by the top office-bearers of the BCCI like Mr. Madhav Rao Scindia, or secretary Nagraj, who are supposed to be protecting the interest of Indian cricket, indicates some changing equations in the Board's perpetual power struggle. But what was rather puzzling was Mr. Scindia's apparent lack of enthusiasm in having the Sharjah insult redressed.

As things unfolded, it became clear that the BCCI meeting to take up the Sharjah scandal was convened largely through the efforts of Jagmohan Dalmiya and others allied with him, and eventually it so happened that Jagmohan Dalmiya became more and more vociferous, protesting and condemning the tournament like a lone crusader.

And, in fact, in the final reckoning the banning of the Sharjah tournament by the BCCI was looked upon by many as Dalmiya's personal triumph over a top man in his rival camp, who apparently was not quite averse to sending India back to Sharjah.

Whatever that may be, it was easy to predict that the decision of BCCI would deal a mortal blow to the Sharjah organisers, who owe their huge financial gains from the tournament largely to the cricket crazy Indian settlers in Sharjah. Without India Sharjah is a bore—they knew it then, they are certain about it now.

So, cricket diplomacy is now back in operation. Of late, a series of efforts have already been made



UTPAL SONKAR

Kapil Dev: outspoken

to persuade the BCCI big wigs to change their minds; high level delegations comprising such luminaries as the great Asif Iqbal, the life of the Sharjah show, and the legendary Sheikh Abdur Rahman Bukhatir have already visited the BCCI supremo Madhav Rao Scindia, putting up a strong case in favour of India's return to desert cricket.

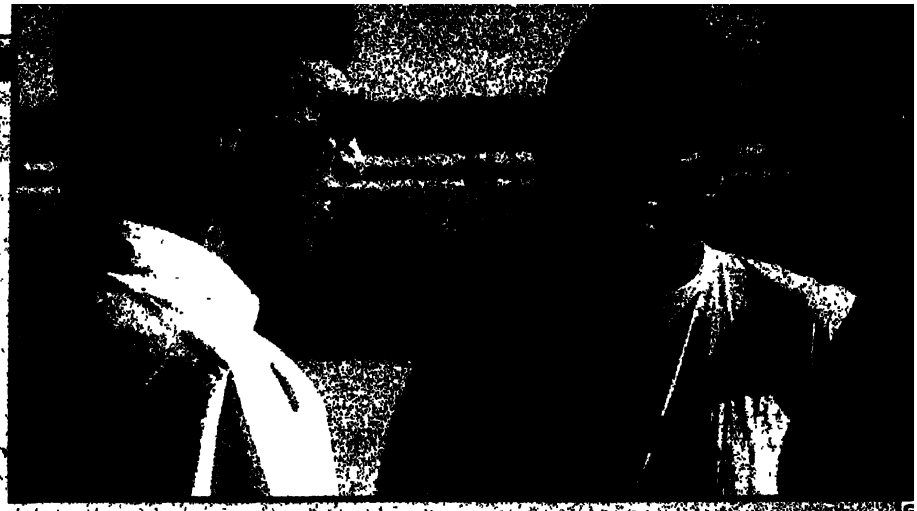
For Scindia, obviously, it would be a tough decision, because the anti-Sharjah group is still up in arms. The partisan attitude of the organisers has not been forgotten, and more importantly the proposal put forward by Dalmiya to hold a similar tournament in India is already reported to have found favour with many cricketing big shots.

When a few months ago, Jaggu Dalmiya took up the cudgels against the Sharjah tournament, he propounded the tournament theory to further strengthen his case for spurning the Sharjah lure.

"Isn't it a shame that we being such a major cricketing nation cannot organise a tournament like Sharjah which would both entertain the game's fans and at the same time benefit many a former cricketer?" he said, making his point. "In India we have the most complete cricketing infrastructure. So, why can't we hold a tournament like that instead of going to Sharjah every year and sacrifice our honour? India should never go to Sharjah to sacrifice her honour."

As a first step towards turning his proposal into reality Dalmiya even offered to organise a Sharjah-style tournament under the auspices of the CAB, the Cricket Association of Bengal, claiming, "The CAB has in the past has set many examples of hosting major international tournaments successfully, and if the BCCI has any problems to organise such a tournament, the CAB can come forward to host the tournament from which many of our former cricketers can benefit. If need be, we will go out of our way to make the event successful, use all our resources to make it worthy of being an international tournament, to make sure that the Sharjah experience is never repeated."

Against such a backdrop, when the CAB got the BCCI's permission to hold a one-day tournament as part of its Diamond Jubilee celebrations later this year, speculations began that



Asif Iqbal (left) with Pakistan's Javed Miandad and Inzamam Ahmed: optimistic about India's return to the desert

Jagmohan Dalmiya would use this opportunity to turn his tournament theory into reality. It was even mentioned in the press conference announcing the CAB tournament that though most of the major cricketing nations are likely to be invited, the Diamond Jubilee tournament may eventually become a four-nation or three-nation event held 'very much on the lines of the Sharjah show'.

However, for some technical reason or other Dalmiya, did not want to describe the CAB tournament as the one envisaged as part of his anti-Sharjah campaign. "Look, the BCCI has yet to find out whether it can hold the proposed Sharjah-style tournament on its own. It is only after they make up their mind that we can know for sure whether such a tournament is going to be held at all or who is going to hold it. If the BCCI is unable to host the tournament, then only it will give the responsibility to one of its affiliated bodies. Since we are yet to hear from the BCCI in this regard, the CAB Diamond Jubilee tournament cannot be viewed as the alternative to Sharjah. Of course, if we can hold this tournament successfully, making it a really big event, then that will be an example."

> "Let no one make this mistake and assume that India will not go back to Sharjah. We have, of course, ruled out participating in the April tournament, but there is no ban on Indian participation in any future tournament in Sharjah."... SCINDIA

The BCCI, on the other hand, can decide about the Dalmiya-proposed tournament only when it makes up its mind to bypass Sharjah—a decision that for all practical purposes will eventually spell its doom. Because without India, Sharjah may simply prove a financial liability to its organisers. And the truth is not many BCCI officials are inclined to make that happen.

"Let no one make this mistake, and assume that India will not go back to Sharjah," said BCCI president Madhav Rao Scindia in an interview to *Sportsworld*, following the recent visit to Delhi by two key organisers of the Sharjah tournament, Asif Iqbal and Abdur Rehman Bukhatir.

"We have, of course, ruled out participating in the April tournament, but there is no ban on Indian participation in any future tournament in Sharjah," Scindia said categorically.

"What we require now is certain confidence building measures adopted by the Sharjah organisers," Scindia continued, explaining, "If they can convince us that the tournament would be held in a fair manner, that the experience of 1991 will not be repeated, that no team will be discriminated against, or be a victim of partisan attitude, then India will certainly go back to Sharjah."

It was reliably learnt that in their desperate bid to make the Indian Board change its mind, the Sharjah organisers even offered their Indian counterparts to have a say in formulating the tournament's playing conditions. In 1991, much of the trouble stemmed from the playing conditions, and still worse, from what appeared to the Indians as partisan and discriminatory implementation of the rules. India was forced to play in semi darkness on one occasion and by and large it seemed to many Indian cricketers that the entire tournament in Sharjah was oriented towards Pakistan. In fact, Kapil Dev said, without mincing matters "I would never like to go back to Sharjah. It has gone beyond all limits of tolerance....From the top officials to the groundsmen, this anti-India bias and pro-Pakistan feeling is on the increase."

The question now is: for all the new assurances from Asif Iqbal and Co, is there any real guarantee that the sad happenings of 1991 will not occur again. And, on the other hand, can anyone really dispute Jagmohan Dalmiya's contention that if India wants she can easily have a Sharjah-type tournament on her own soil, which will be beneficial to many a former cricketer, and at the same time preclude any future Indian victimisation in Sharjah?

Jagmohan Dalmiya: no compromise



RABI BEHARI DAS

Looking For Perfection

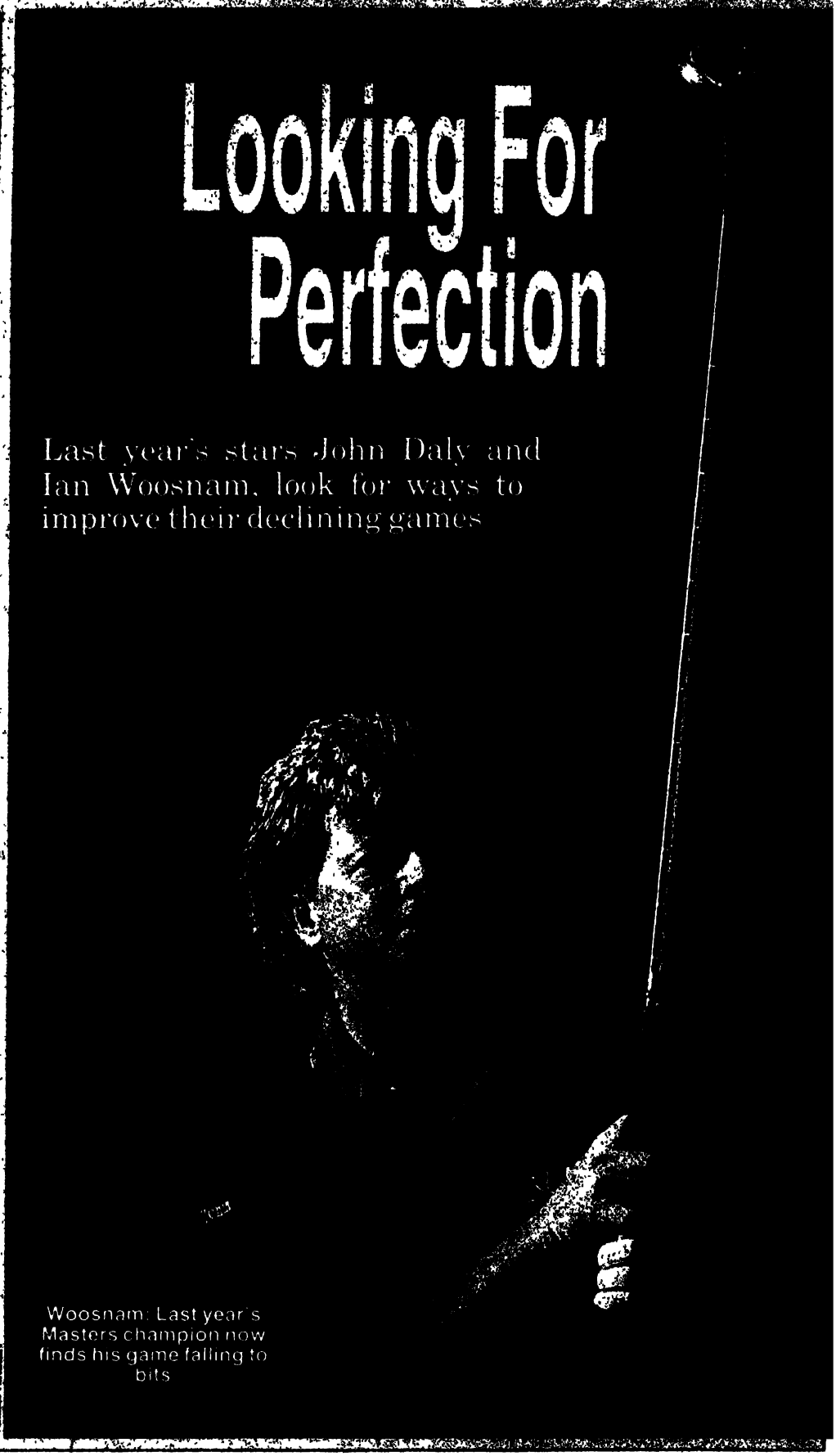
Last year's stars John Daly and Ian Woosnam, look for ways to improve their declining games

First it was 'power' golf, courtesy Jack Nicklaus. Then it was 'shark attack', whenever Greg Norman took the course. And, now, it's 'killer' golf with John Daly! With "kill" as his attitude during swing, the blond bomber from Arkansas is literally murdering golf courses around the world with his lusty driving.

Ever since John Daly added his personal chapter to the book of golfing fairytales with a first-off win in the PGA Championship last August—having made it there as the ninth alternative!—the world of professional golf has been reverberating with his over-300 yard drives thudding into greens... more often than not.

As if that's not enough, the big man's also been blessed with a deft touch, which was invaluable around the notorious Crooked Stick course, venue of his PGA win. Obviously Daly doesn't think it's enough. He got himself into top gear for the Masters at Augusta (never mind that he didn't win) by recruiting the help of the only man to master Augusta's wide fairways, lack of rough and short par-fives on his first visit to the imposing course: Fuzzy Zoeller.

Zoeller, who created quite a sensation by winning the 1979 Masters as a rookie and becoming the only player to win at Augusta on his first visit since 1935, showed Daly round the course and later praised his 'pupil' for being a fast learner. With typical panache, Daly slotted home the [illegible]y putt



Woosnam: Last year's Masters champion now finds his game falling to bits

saying "People forget that I'm still young (he's 26). I'm still learning."

If John Daly keeps hanging out with gurus like Zoeller—as well as gorging himself on his personal selection of brain-nutrition... hamburgers!—the rest of the golfing fraternity had better watch out. There's going to be a killer stalking the courses of the world. And his favourite weapon's going to be a six iron.

While John Daly is going from strength to strength, there's another player on the course who's struggling to recapture the form that took him to the Masters title last year... and the biggest paycheck in golf the year before. Ian Woosnam just can't seem to get it all together for that virtuoso

First it was 'power' golf courtesy Jack Nicklaus. Then it was a 'shark attack,' whenever Greg Norman hit the course. And now it's 'killer' golf with John Daly

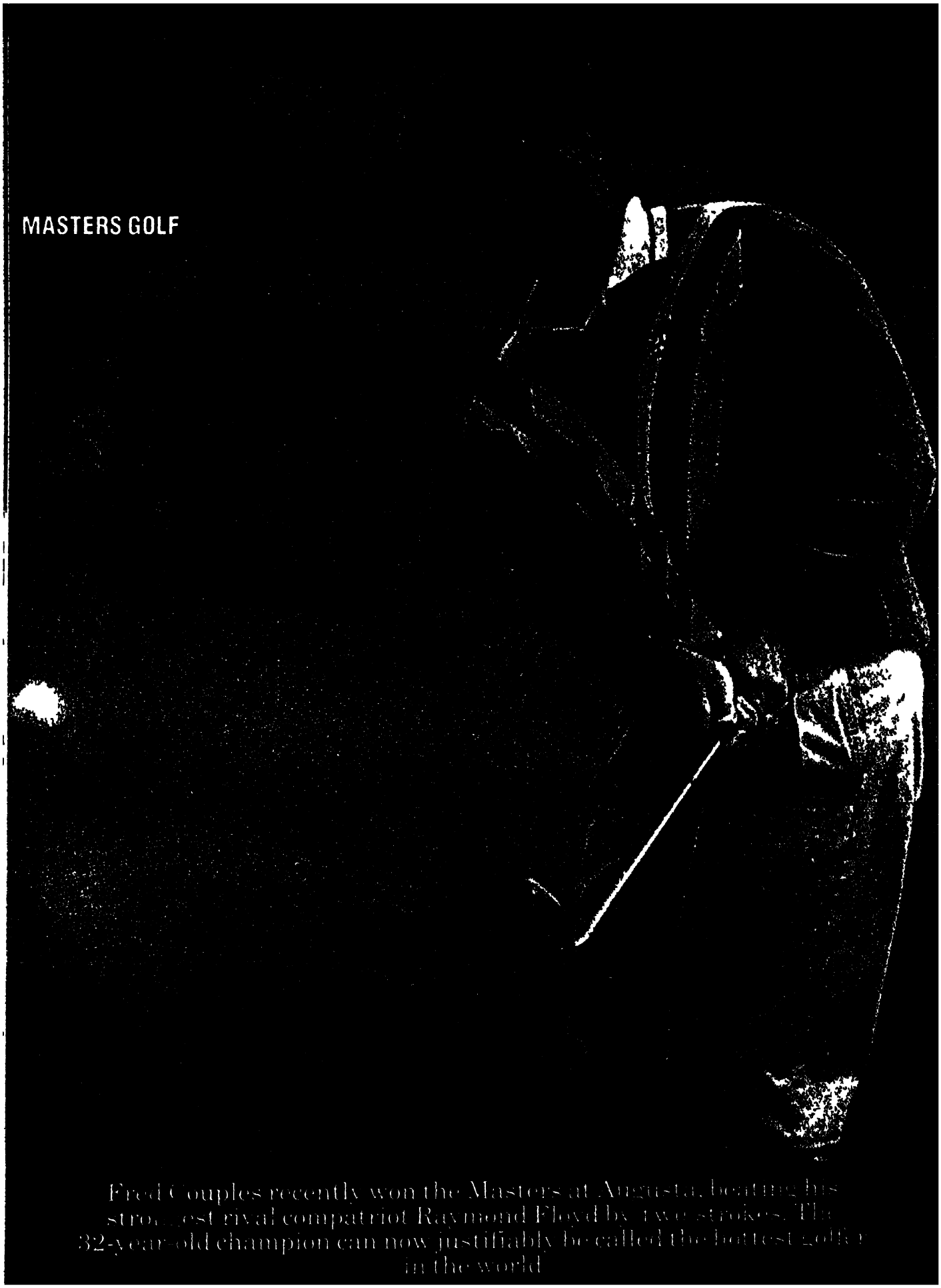
performance that will announce his return.

Embarrassed by a mere sixth place finish on the European tour's Dubai stop, the diminutive Welshman, was having his spills at the driving range at Augusta, when he was approached by teaching pro Phil Ritson with some advice on his swing. A native South African who now hawks his expertise in Orlando, Ritson had been teaching a student the rudiments of the game when he apparently noticed a flaw in Woosie's action and sauntered over to help.

Woosnam, ever desperate to improve his game which is falling to bits, immediately saw the wisdom in Ritson's words—maybe he was aware of the fact that even the great Seve Ballesteros had engaged Ritson for a practice session at last month's Players' Championship, while legendary golfing guru David Leadbetter accepts that Ritson gets

[illegible] of the course by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

MASTERS GOLF



Fred Couples recently won the Masters at Augusta, beating his strongest rival compatriot Raymond Floyd by two strokes. The 32-year-old champion can now justifiably be called the hottest golfer in the world

IT'S really hard to believe, but it's the truth. For a pretty long time a golfer who had a fantastic swing and plenty of talent hadn't tasted the sweetness of a major triumph. And that unfortunate fella was Fred Couples. However, the 32-year-old American has been able to overcome that bad patch this season. With three minor tournament wins and a couple of single-stroke defeats it was expected that Couples was on the threshold of a major breakthrough since he joined the professional tour in 1981. Not that he hasn't been winning but then those small wins were not good enough to raise his status

However, his recent fine performances enabled him to develop that cool confidence to harrass the big-timers in this sport And his confidence and consistency have now propelled him to his first major victory This Couples did in great style, winning the US Masters at the Augusta National Golf Club He beat his friend and mentor,the 49-year-old Raymond Floyd by two strokes with a score of 275 13-under par

Earlier, Couples missed the Players Championship title by a whisker but this anyway didn't diminish the shadow of domination Couples has cast over the American Circuit .and after a brief rest he wanted to arrive at Augusta (where he had finished fifth twice in the last four appearances) fresh and in fine fettle He also had the psychological edge since the Sony computer rankings showed for the first time since its introduction six years ago, that an American, Couples himself, had taken the top slot. And this obviously made Couples the hot favourite at Augusta. "I can't really wait to get there," said Couples impatiently That the American was the biggest threat in this prestigious tournament was rightly predicted by defending champion Ian Woosnam of Wales. Even Floyd didn't underestimate his young friend's chance.

Couples, who has a down-to-earth personality, spoke about his No. 1 world ranking:



Friend and mentor Raymond Floyd reacts as his putt drops for a birdie on the 14th hole. He finished two shots behind compatriot Fred Couples

"Being the No 1-ranked golfer is great. But if I can come out and have a chance to win (the Masters) or finish high, that's fine I just don't see how people can say it's going to be different for me. If I decide to do things differently it's a mistake Six years ago, I was a pretty good player, and after I played, I'd sign about 15 autographs" But for Couples it's a different story right now

He's earned his first major championship and that he is now a far superior golfer. Now that he has more fans he also has problems with the autographs."You can't sign all of them",was his reaction.

He ponders how he held off a late

Couples has a different lifestyle. None of the showy business. He is more at home in the caddies trailer for lunch than at the clubhouse



challenge when his senior colleague Floyd, the 1976 Masters champion, was just a single shot ahead. Australian Craig Parry was the leader at the outset of the ultimate round at 12-under par. With this slender lead Parry was in trouble. It wasn't the Aussie's day and gradually he went into obvlion and the scene evolved around the two Americans.

Couples, who played more relaxed golf on the back nine, forged ahead by one shot at the 9th when he putted a curling 20-foot birdie. Floyd's game seemed to go a little haywire as he muffed up his chances at the 10th and 12th. Couples can claim that the turning point on the final day came at the short 12th hole. His tee drive

Woosnam helps Couples on with his traditional green jacket at Augusta 1992

landed "two feet from the water in the rough with a severe uphill lie. EvenCouples thought it was unbelievable, how the ball stayed out of the water. Floyd held his breath. "It was probably the biggest break in my life," said Couples, when he proceeded to make a brilliant chip to within two feet from the pin for a par. "I knew if I got by that hole, I would win."And he did.

But strangely Couples did not necessarily believe that this Masters triumph really enchances his status as one of the game's great players. It seems that this change in fortune doesn't mean much. But he's content that with a first prize purse of $270,000 his bank balance from prize money alone has soared to $1,008,162. Plus there are many more wins to follow presumably.

Couples has a different lifestyle. None of the showy business. He is more at home in the caddies trailer for lunch than at the clubhouse. "I stay away from the spotlight. I have a few friends at home I hang around with. I don't go places to get recognised...As far as being a super star, maybe right now I am. I do think I'm a good player. But I don't toot my own horn too much because it's a weird game."

A Correspondent

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week continuing with our self-defence techniques from *kokutsu-dachi*, immobilise your opponent with a powerful upward strike to the region just below the armpit, while at the same time pull down his striking hand with your free hand.

(Due to a slip-up the main picture that appeared last week illustrates this technique. The main picture that appears this week is that of *sita-tsuki*).

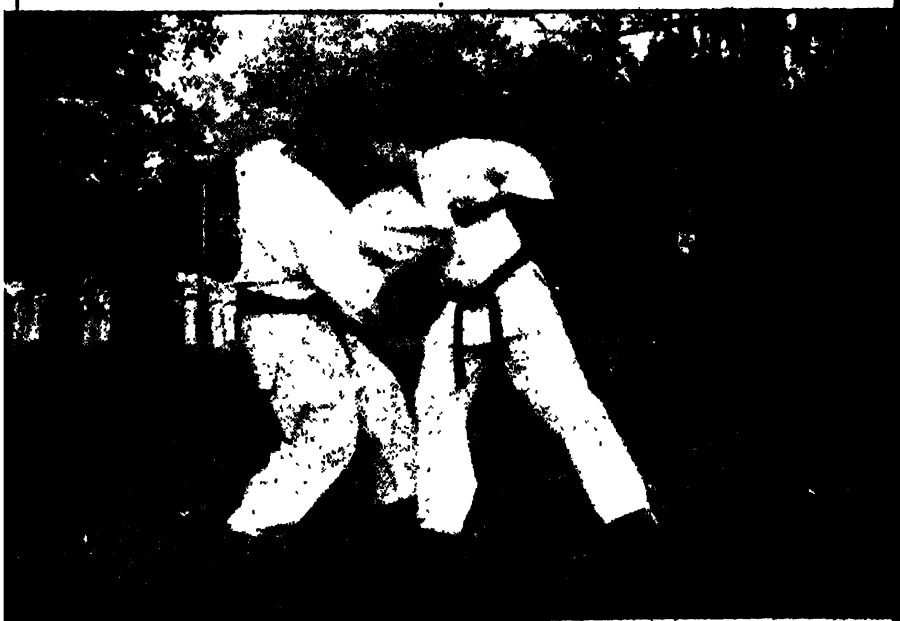
By Shivaji Ganguly,

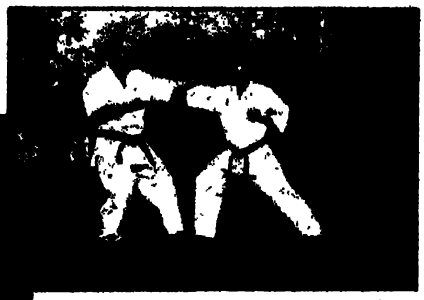
Kyokushinkaikan Karate.

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



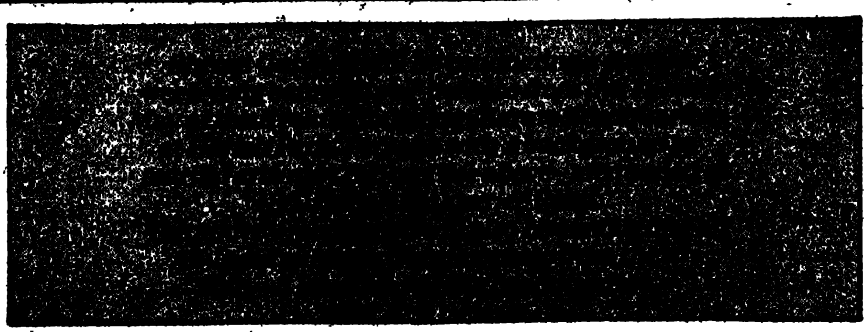
Go into kokutsu-dachi and block the punch with a mwashi-uki block (inset). Than pull him towards you and deliver a hook punch to the solar plexus.











YAWN!

Soaring temperatures, the absence of many top stars, and poor organisational efficiency robbed the tournament of its glamour

THE success of the Beighton Cup Hockey Championship has always centred around the participation of the Army teams from Jalandhar Army Service Corps (ASC), Corps of Signals and a couple of other non army outfits from Punjab have more or less formed the backbone of this tournament Yet another Army side the Army XI made its debut in the 97th edition this season and, in fact won the championship

With about half a dozen players from the Services team that won the national championship at Madurai earlier this year the Army XI was put together only recently Trained by Services team coach, Sher Singh the Army XI has been raised from the 11 Corps Operations Signals regiment Like most Army sides this team also has a no nonsense approach Playing on the hit and run tactic the Army XI proved quite a handful to its opponents in its maiden tournament appearance

Three Army teams made it to the last four of the Beighton Cup this time It was in keeping with the domination of the Services team in the national circuit But most strikingly very few players from the Services actually made it to the national team

The fourth team to make it to the semi finals was the Kapurthala based Railway Coach Factory (RCF) Inter-Railway champions, RCP was in fact the prime draw of the tournament, which is frankly fighting for survival, despite the backing of tobacco giants, ITC But the national camp in New Delhi robbed the team of most of its glamour as Pargat Singh the national team captain Jagdev Singh and few others could not assist the RCF side in the Beighton Cup

1988 Seoul Olympian Balwinder Singh was the chief attraction in the RCF side here in Calcutta The side also brought along a few youngsters who have represented the country at the junior level tournaments, but overall the capability of the side was pedestrian In its first match versus Corps of Signals, RCF won 4 2 via the tie-breaker RCF bade farewell to the tournament losing 2 0 to defending champions ASC in the semi finals

Army XI rode goals from Ignatius Barla in the 25th minute and John Topno in the 45th minute to get past EME in the semi-final The match was played under a killing sun and the teams must have craved for the experimental substitutes rule that is to come in force after the Barcelona Olympics this August The new rule will allow teams to rotate



Army XI, a team hastily put together for the Beighton Cup, are naturally all smiles after their win

A word about the officials. Despite a sizeable amount of sponsorship, the Bengal Hockey Association is all but killing the tournament, by their amateurish attitude and careless approach



their substitutes continuously, instead of restricting the number of changes to just three.

But in a match of almost similar styles, Barla opened Army XI's scoring with a penalty. The second goal came from a goalmouth scramble.

The heat took a heavy toll of the RCF side in the second semi-final at the Mohun Bagan turf. The team not only ran out of ideas but also ran out of breath. ASC never lost its grip on the game even though the inter-Railway champions improved marginally after the breather. Ajay Larka's 31st minute goal and James Lugen's 52nd minute goal off a stiff penalty corner hit took the stuffing out of RCF.

The final did not rise to great heights. On another balmy afternoon, Army XI and ASC played the hit and-run stuff without much purpose. The quality, like it had been throughout the tournament, was agonisingly vapid and it was not difficult to guess why Indian hockey has slipped to such abysmal depths.

It was more luck than design which gave Army XI its victory. The final was decided by the penalty shootout and it was rather anti-climatic for four times champions ASC, who held the upper hand throughout the match and had even taken the lead through Ajit Toppo three minutes from the breather, to lose.

In the shootout, Poovaiah was the lone ranger for ASC. Pritam Singh, Barla, Dung Dung and Niman Bage made no mistake with their strokes to fetch Army XI a rather lucky win.

Action during the final between ASC, Jalandhar and Army XI, Jalandhar. Note the empty seats in the background

An important aspect of the Beighton Cup was the umpiring. Two internationals, and widely respected in the country, T.S. Bhullar and A.S. Basa, officiated the final match. Their authority and integrity was a lesson for the local umpires, who often mess up matches due to their callous attitude.

Bhullar, in fact, has been chosen to officiate in the forthcoming Barcelona Games.

A sour episode involving former international Thoiba Singh, one of the coolest players in the country, tarnished the initial days of the Beighton Cup. Thoiba, trying to "protect" a colleague from CESC's volatile D.K. Ghosh, used the stick to deadlier effect and earned the ignominy of seeing the red card. It might have been the first red card in Thoiba's career, but the gritty Manipuri, surprisingly, did not have any regrets.

And a word about the tournament's officials. Despite a sizeable amount of sponsorship, the Bengal Hockey Association, the organisers, is all but managing to kill the once blue riband of Indian hockey. A careless approach and an amateurish attitude is simply stifling the Beighton Cup. It is high time that the BHA showed more professionalism and stopped the Beighton from going the IFA Shield way.

A Correspondent

PHOTOGRAPHS AMIT DUTTA

ENIGMA!

Russell Davies studies the Bjorn Borg syndrome—from his sudden retirement to his equally unexplainable comeback—and compares him to other role models in sport

MY SON has a very good memory for songs and snatches gathered in passing from radio and television and can reconstitute these with sometimes startling accuracy One of his specialities is a droning refrain performed I think some years ago on one of those Saturday morning comedy pop and hobbies programmes for children, in which a long haired tennis player with a head band gives out with his sporting autobiography

This emerges in the form of a dreary Swedish mantra along the lines of "He tried to beat mee but I beat heem and so I won Weembledon for the first time It then bores on in this vein until our hero Bjorn Borg unmistakably-has won Weembledon for the fifth time consecutively At which point the lyrics make an exciting switch to I tried to beat heem, but he beat mee. " and so on How the thing finished is not recalled but if it was true to life it simply came to an abrupt and inexplicable halt

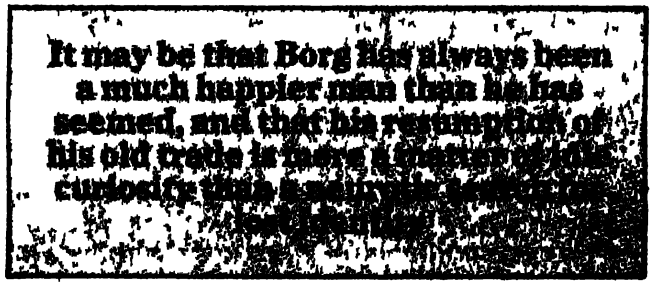
Borg s disappearance from top tennis like Harold Wilson s withdrawal from government a few years before constitutes one of the great resignation puzzles of modern times One can put up all kinds of contributory explanations for it, but none seems central enough to be convincing

Borg had enjoyed what he may well have considered an unrepeatable run of success, perhaps he thought it was all downhill from there He had also married Mariana Simionescu in 1980, a partnership dissolved four years later and enshrined in between times by what now appears a very sad little book *Love Match'* Mariana s belated wedding present to her husband

It s a book in which euphoria and anguish mingle uncomfortably The idea of writing it Mariana says, struck her a few days after that wonderful love doubles in London, when I played with Bjorn against Chris Evert and her husband, John Lloyd "The Lloyds won that encounter, though love deserted both partnerships in the end

It may be that Borg realised quite soon that family life was not going to carry him through the great silence left behind by his renunciation of that terrible drug, competitiveness At all events, he attempted comebacks twice, in 1982 and 1984 they failed to take Tennis was changing rapidly not least in the technology of its implements and the surfaces of its playing area Borg with his great sweeping topspin shots had virtually invented a new game now the equipment was being changed to cope with it

Every time he came back, he was playing the new game with increasingly out dated tools At the beginning of his latest resurrection, he was still insisting on wooden rackets, which, flattering though it was to the Cambridge stockists who were able to supply him, made Borg look a little like something out of an Ealing Comedy He might just as well have stipulated long white trousers



But with persistance that is at least recognisably characteristic of him, Borg seems still to be pressing on We read of him losing to an unranked Swede who virtually apologised after the match, explaining

that Borg had been the reason for his getting into tennis in the first place Then Borg and Lloyd ghosts from the Love Match' of long ago were reported as having lost to a pair of teenagers young enough to be their sons Borg said afterwards that he and Lloyd were just getting the feel of the game when they lost it

In a way, there is no terrible indignity in this it is not the tennis equivalent of Randolph Turpin s sordid tour of the halls as a wrestler-but even so it is difficult to see what Borg is aiming to get out of this renewed struggle His best result of recent days was to win a tie break set in the course of losing to Nicolas Pereira No doubt he sees this as a stage in his learning to win again but all the time he is learning instead to derive small satisfactions from losing-a skill he will have discarded some time before he won the Weembledon (he really did pronounce it like that) Junior Championship, all of 20 years ago

Borg's role model, or rationale, is presumably his old rival Jimmy Connors, who is, after all, nearly four years older. But Connors has taken no serious breaks from the game and its stylistic progress; his game in itself has

TOMMY HINDLEY



Circa 1991: An older and much mellowed Borg trains for his comeback



durable, idiosyncratic features (whereas Borg's became the prototype on which newcomers based their own playing patterns); and he has been able to take his audience along with him through the very gradual decline in his competitive expectations.

He no longer expects to win major tournaments but he settles for creating a noisy sensation in going as far as he can go.

The all-American claim that You Can Be Anything You Want To Be is an obvious fraud, but while Jimmy

Faldo directs the anger and frustration derived from competition against himself

Connors is on court, you can believe it. It sounds unkind, but nothing of the sort was ever remotely true of Borg.

It may be the case—I hope it is—that Borg has always been a much happier man than he has seemed, and that his resumption of his old trade is more a matter of idle curiosity about himself than it is a neurotic search for lost identity. But on the face of it, Borg is preeminent within that small category of sportsmen—they are almost invariably men, because women are at least *offered* an alternative role by Nature—whose existence seems entirely bound up with their success.

You simply can't imagine how it will turn out for them when, for one reason or another, they stop winning. Nigel Mansell is one example, though Mansell's metabolism, once released from the horrors of his competitive life, seems to revert to such extreme placidity that it's possible to picture him living out his days as a happy family man and manager of his own investments.

With Nick Faldo, another of the type, one cannot be so sure. There seems to be a lot of anger locked up in a sense of competition that he apparently directs first and foremost against himself; and it is clear that his endless tampering with his swing must have at least as much to do with mind-control as with bodily mechanics—either that, or Faldo has a very perverse and forgetful body indeed.

The new entrant in this category, and one who interests me a lot, is Fred Couples. Here is a man who strides about purposefully, hits the ball a long long way, and looks at first sight like a competitor capable of a certain bumptiousness. But what we learn from interviews, now that Couples is enjoying a run of success that some see as likely to culminate in the Masters title, tells another tale entirely...

His speech-making capacities, in terms of their rhetorical drive, match those of Peter Sellers' zombie President in *Being There*. In himself, Couples has the potential to displace Borg at the top of the pyramid of Great Baffled Victims of Success. But of course, Couples hasn't had that outstanding a career, so far. And he is also happily married to a woman with her own sporting interests—different ones, chiefly polo—and the organisational temperament he apparently lacks. So Couples has a safety-net in place. Borg, meanwhile, is still failing.

Failure... the key to victory

THIS has reference to your editorial, 'The Indian team needs a psychiatrist'. This is the time for Indian cricket to start afresh, but at the same time this disaster should not be forgotten. It must be made clear to the players that it should not happen in the future. One should, at this time, remember the famous saying, 'Never forget failure, as it is the key to victory'. Our losses remind us that we have to work hard to win.

This disaster is not the end of the world for Indian cricket, but the players should realise the value of the failure and learn from it.

PAYAL DHAR,
New Delhi.

Deserving victory

HEARTY congratulations to Imran Khan and the Pakistan team for winning the World Cup. It was a dream come true for Imran and Pakistan cricket. And lastly Akram certainly deserved the 'Man of the Match' award for his superb performance in the final.

FAHEEM SHAIK,
Bombay.

Will people learn?

IF there's one thing that is certain after the World Cup it is that the team has not performed to its full potential and there is no point in blaming the captain. Dissension does exist everywhere. The players should remember their obligation to the 850 million people back home. And because of this they should forget the differences between them, at least on the field, and should perform as a cohesive unit.

It is time that the BCCI prepare wickets at par with the ones found in the rest of the cricketing world if our team is to perform better. If we do not take some steps in the right direction soon, then Indian cricket will never see better days again.

D.V.M. SASTRY,
Visakhapatnam.

Give it another go, Dilip

DILIP VENGSARKAR'S announcement of retiring from international cricket came as a rude shock to us. Though indifferent form has been nagging him in the recent past, everyone believed that he could come back with a vengeance. Courage and determination has always been part of his forte and he could certainly come back.

Vengsarkar certainly has a lot more of cricket left in him and Indian cricket would certainly benefit from a few more innings from him. Here's hoping that he will reconsider his decision and come back into the mainstream of cricket once again.

BIJAN BANDYOPADHYAY,
Calcutta.

Time for action

THANKS a zillion for the exciting Kodak World Cup photo feature. It truly brought alive the myriad colours of the World Cup.

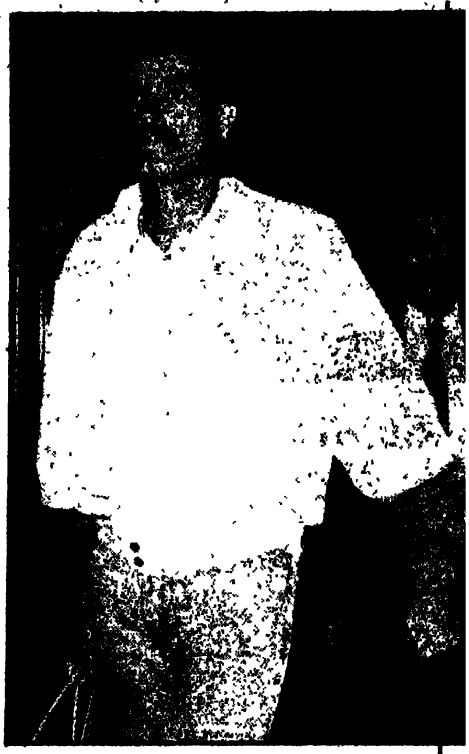
I also take this opportunity to pen a few thoughts about my favourite team, the West Indies. In the last edition of the World Cup, the excuse given by the West Indians was that they were in the process of rebuilding their team and this World Cup also saw a very lacklustre performance from them. Once again, the reason forwarded was the same.

One wonders when they will stop this rebuilding process and start winning some matches for a change.

DEEPAK E. B,
Kodakara.

Where's the rationale?

INDIA'S poor showing in the World Cup 1992 is yet another glaring example of the lack of planning. Cricket, specially the limited overs variety, has changed a lot in the past few years. Unless we switch over to the unconventional approach from the present pedestrian style we will continue to suffer defeats, despite the bountiful talents in the team. The batting order that we presented in this World Cup was neither rational nor was it based on strategy.



Dilip Vengsarkar: Is this the last exit?

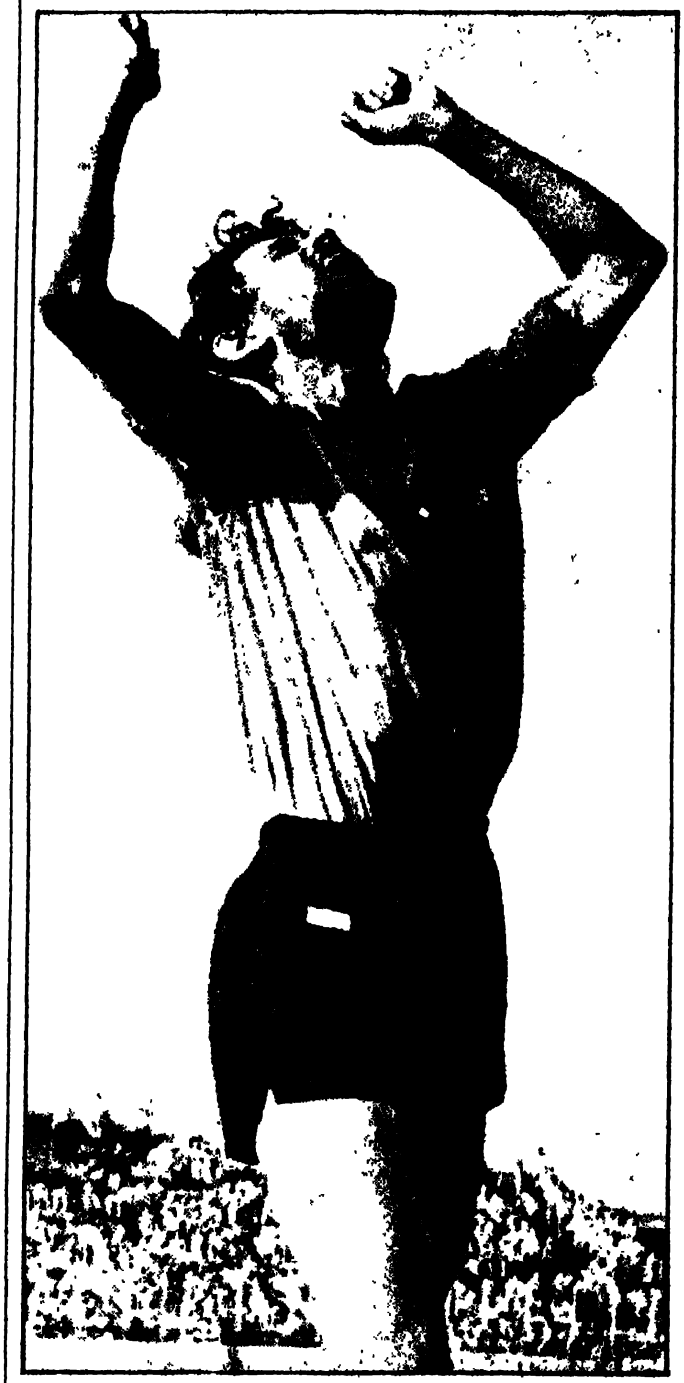
Like, we kept Kambli till the end of the match and send him in only during the slog overs and hence he could not play his natural aggressive game, because he took time to get set. Srikkanth was persisted with in spite of his poor form and talented youths like Amre and Banerjee were sidelined.

We neither had an aggressive captain like Imran nor a shrewd manager like Simpson. What we need now is a cricketing brain like Gavaskar at the helm of affairs and a captain who is given a free hand in the selection of the team. There should be no interference from the Board members who are only interested in securing berths for their zonal players in the national team.

C. R. PANCHANATHAN,
New Delhi.

Bikash Panji and Prasanta Banerjee hold a unique record in scoring

THE MIDFIELD MAESTROS



BIKASH PANJI, the East Bengal captain, is only the second mid-field player (after Prasanta Banerjee) in India to have the distinction of scoring his 100th goal against Southern Railway on February 3, 1992 during the 16th Federation Cup Football Tournament held at Calcutta. Panji achieved this feat within a span of ten years from 1982—the year he made his debut for Mohun Bagan. Whereas Panji's senior team colleague Prasanta Banerjee scored 109 goals, taking 16 years from 1976—the year in which he made his debut for East Bengal.

Before starting his career for one of the city's premier clubs, Panji played in only one major tournament: Santosh Trophy for the Railway, held in Trissoor, 1981. The statistics of both the midfielders remain unaltered till March 15, after the final of the 1992 All Airlines Gold Cup in Calcutta.

This is how Bikash Panji and Prasanta Banerjee crossed their respective milestones.

BIKASH PANJI: Year by year in club football

Year	Team	Goals Scored
1982	Mohun Bagan	5
1983	Mohun Bagan	6
1984	Mohun Bagan	10
1985	East Bengal	5
1986	East Bengal	2
1987	East Bengal	18
1988	East Bengal	14
1990	East Bengal	6
1991	East Bengal	9
1992	East Bengal	13
		1
		89

IN THE SANTOSH TROPHY

Year	Played for	Goals Scored	Opponents
1981	Railway	1	Kerala
1986	Bengal	1	Services
1988	Bengal	1	Tamil Nadu
1989	Bengal	1	Delhi
		4	



FOR INDIA

Year	Tournament	Opponent	Goals Scored
1985	Nehru Cup	Algeria	1
	Pre World Cup	Bangladesh	1
	Pre World Cup		1
1989	Nehru Cup	North Korea	1
1991	Super Soccer	PVS Eindhoven	1
1991	Nehru Cup	Zambia	1
	Nehru Cup	Soviet Union	1
			7

Total: 100 Goals

* Second top-scorer for East Bengal in the 1987 Senior Division League by scoring 15 goals, next to Cheema's 26, It is still a record of scoring the most number of goals (by a midfielder) in a league season.
* Top-scorer for East Bengal in the 1988 League by netting nine goals.
* Joint second top-scorer in the 14th Federation Cup (held in Trissoor, 1990) by scoring goals in all the three quarter-final group league matches.
* Second top-scorer in the 1991 Bardoloi Trophy.
* In all, 10 goals were scored by him in big matches for Mohun Bagan, he scored two goals against Mohammedan Sporting. While playing for East Bengal, he netted 7 goals against Mohd. Sporting and one against Mohun Bagan—in the 1st match of the 1988 IFA League.

HAT-TRICK

East Bengal vs Kidderpore, return League, on 18.08.87.

East Bengal vs Sonali Sibir, IFA League, on 22.02.88.

(It was the only hat-trick in the 1988 Senior Division Group A League, 1988)

4 Goals : East Bengal vs Srilong XI, Bardoloi Trophy Semi-final, on 16.09.91.

PRASANTA BANERJEE : Year by year in Club football

Year	Team	Goals Scored
1976	East Bengal	2
1977	East Bengal	2
1978	East Bengal	4
1979	East Bengal	1
1980	Md. Sporting	2
1981	Md. Sporting	7
1982	East Bengal	0
1983	East Bengal	13
1984	Mohun Bagan	6
1985	Mohun Bagan	11
1986	Mohun Bagan	7
1987	Mohun Bagan	7
1988	Mohun Bagan	16
1989	Mohun Bagan	8
1990	Mohun Bagan	2
1991	Mohun Bagan	2
1991	East Bengal	4
		94

IN THE SANTOSH TROPHY

Year	Played for	Goals Scored	Opponents
1981	Bengal	1	Railway
1982	Bengal	1	Kerala
	Bengal	1	Karnataka
1984	Bengal	1	Nagaland
1985	Bengal	1	Assam
	Bengal	1	MP
1986	Bengal	1	Meghalaya
1987	Bengal	1	Haryana
	Bengal	1	Maharashtra
		9	

FOR INDIA

Year	Tournament	Opponents	Goals Scored
1981	four-nation tournament (Piyong-yong)	China (Jr.)	1
	Exhibition match	Russia	1
1982	Nehru Cup	South Korea	1
	Exhibition match	Kuban (Russian team)	1
1983	Pre-Olympics	Malaysia	1
1984	Asia Cup	North Yemen	1
			6
			Total 109

* Second top-scorer in the 1988 Airlines Gold Cup.
* In all three goals were scored by him in big matches, when he donned Mohun Bagan colours—one against Md. Sporting and two against East Bengal.

HAT-TRICK

East Bengal vs Dempo Sports Coub, PeerlessTrophy,on 5.9.83.

Mohun Bagan vs ITI, Durand Cup, on 1.11.86.

Mohun Bagan vs SBI (Madras) Sikkim Governor's Gold Cup, on 23.10.89.

* Tie-breaker goals are obviously not included in the list.

Compiled by HARIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAY

CALCUTTA

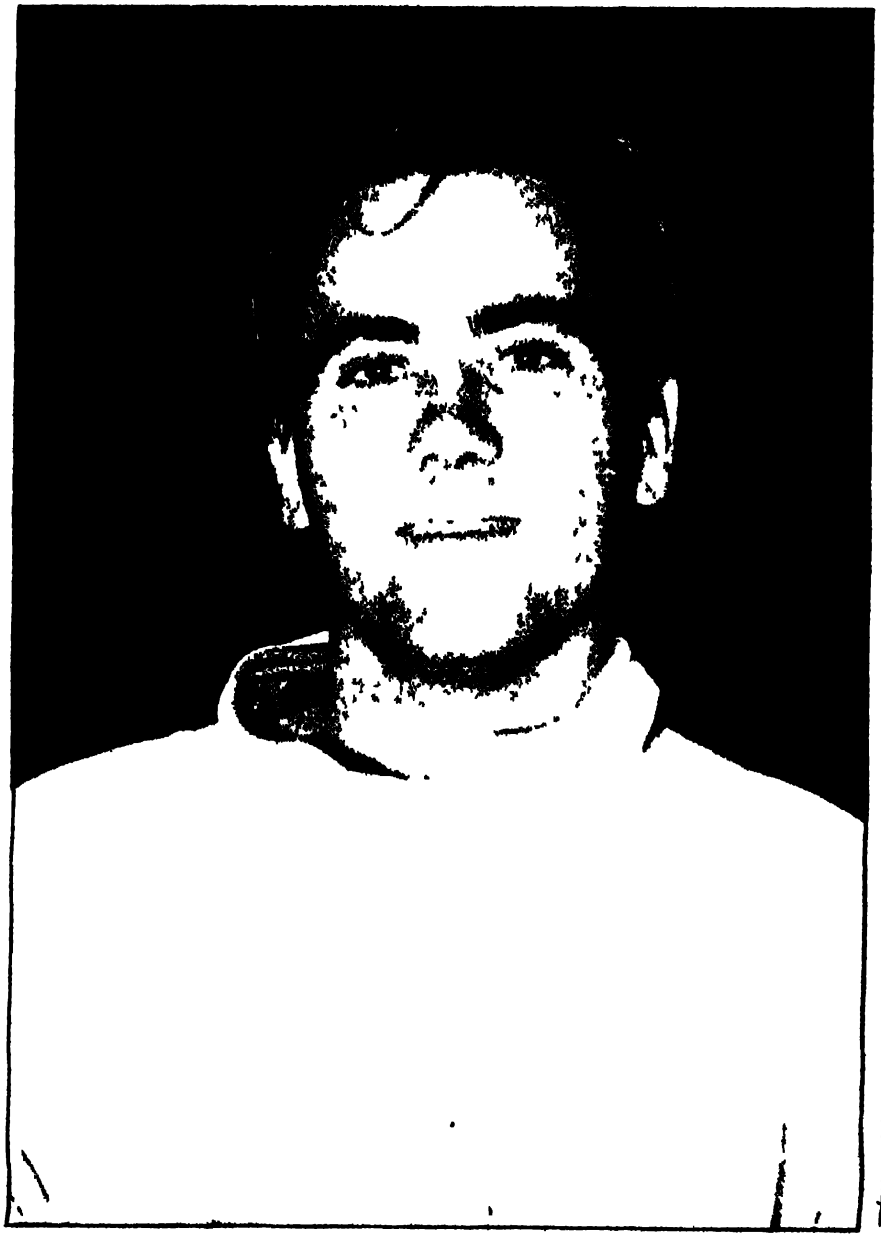
State Tennis

VETERAN Enrico Piperno emerged best in the men's division and young Neeth Deviah topped in the ladies section in the Bengal State Tennis championships which concluded recently

An interesting episode of the final day's proceedings was the shifting of venue midway through the ladies final. With Neeth already having won the first set 6–4 against the Assamese girl, Runumee Das, fading light forced the finalists to move to the grass courts of South Club from the Calcutta Gymkhana courts, the actual venue of the championships.

The ladies final had to be completed because the players were to leave the same day for committments elsewhere. Runumee, however, shaped well at the South Club and forced Neeth into the tie-breaker But Neeth had the last laugh as she triumphed in the second set 7 6 (7 4) to him the title

Enrico Piperno: a fine triumph in the Bengal State Tennis championships



But Runumee was not undone in the Under-16 girls final as she defeated Usha Prabhu in straight sets 6-2, 6-3. The corresponding boys' title went to Sourabh Sharma who got the better of Vishal Uppal 6-4, 6-2

The never-say-die spirit of Piperno surfaced again in the men's final Down 6-3 in the first set against the gangling Asif Ismail of Bombay, Piperno recovered to beat Ismail 6-4, 6-1 to win the title.

Piperno went on to win a 'double' as he paired with Ismail to clinch the men's doubles crown beating Ram Kumar and Amit Chaturvedi 6-4, 6-4

The State meet was rather devoid of glamour as both Zeeshan Ali and Leander Paes were not available. Leander had won the East India tennis just few days before the Gymkhana meet got underway.

J.K. Bose Trophy

EAST ZONE lifted the All-India J.K. Bose Cricket championship for sports journalists for the ninth time. In 15 editions of this annually held tournament, East had also won the trophy in Chandigarh two years ago The meet fell through last year.

Unlike other years, this year's J.K. Bose Trophy was rather a damp squib. Only three zones—hosts East, South and West—competed North could not put up a side.

East Zone ran out comprehensive winners beating South Zone by 10 wickets in their opening match at the Eden Gardens In the three-team round-robin league, South defeated West by seven wickets.

East completed the rout by hammering West Zone by 10 wickets on the last day of the competition. With two wins under their belt, East became the champions.

The ease with which East came through their matches was expected. South was not at their full strength and West Zone, also, had couple of key players missing. But East's openers Arup



East Zone were the winners of the J.K. Bose trophy

Chatterjee, who made 54 off 60 balls, and Avi Saha, who compiled 56 off 61 balls, against West, impressed.

On the bowling front, East's Biplab Bose ran through the South batting with five wickets for 15 runs. Versus West, veteran Shyam Sundar Ghosh bowled his deadly inswingers to end with three wickets for 22.

In the A.C. Bali Memorial table tennis championship, Bombay dethroned Calcutta 3-1 with R.K. Bowrie playing a major role in the win. Bowrie also defended his single's title, successfully defeating Hyderabad's A.J. Subhas Roy 21-18, 21-15 in the final.

Soumitra Bose

Eastern India Golf

CADDIE-turned pro, Basad Ali's winning streak went unchecked as the Calcutta-based golfer won the Wills Eastern India championship at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club recently.

It has been a pretty good season for Basad. With at least three major tournaments under his belt, Basad's earnings have swelled. But he had a rather indifferent outing in the Indian Open in the second half of March.

Basad jumped into the lead on the opening day of the Eastern India with a two under 71. Bunty Randhawa too shared the lead but faded out as the competition wore on.

Basad never spurned his lead and with a brilliant four under 69 in the second round, he went ahead of the pack. Aditya Khaitan kept pegging away in the amateurs' division and had a cumulative score of 145 at the end of the second round.

Basad shot a one under 72 in the penultimate round and went on to win the championship with a total score of 282. Youngster Indrajit Bhalotia, who is easily the most promising golfer in the circuit, finished runners-up just two strokes behind the leader.

Khaitan went on to win the amateurs' title with a score of 299.



Basad Ali did well in the Wills *Eastern India Golf* championships

CALCUTTA

State Junior Chess

ROKTIM BANDOPADHYAY and Gargi Meur emerged the best in the Under-17 State Junior Chess championships in the boys' and girls' sections, respectively. The State meet was held at the Netaji Indoor Stadium recently.

Roktim finished with four-and-a-half points to edge out Suvrajit Saha by half-a-point for the title. Aniek Paul (3½), Souvik Pramanik (3) and Sandipan Chanda (3) finished in that order.

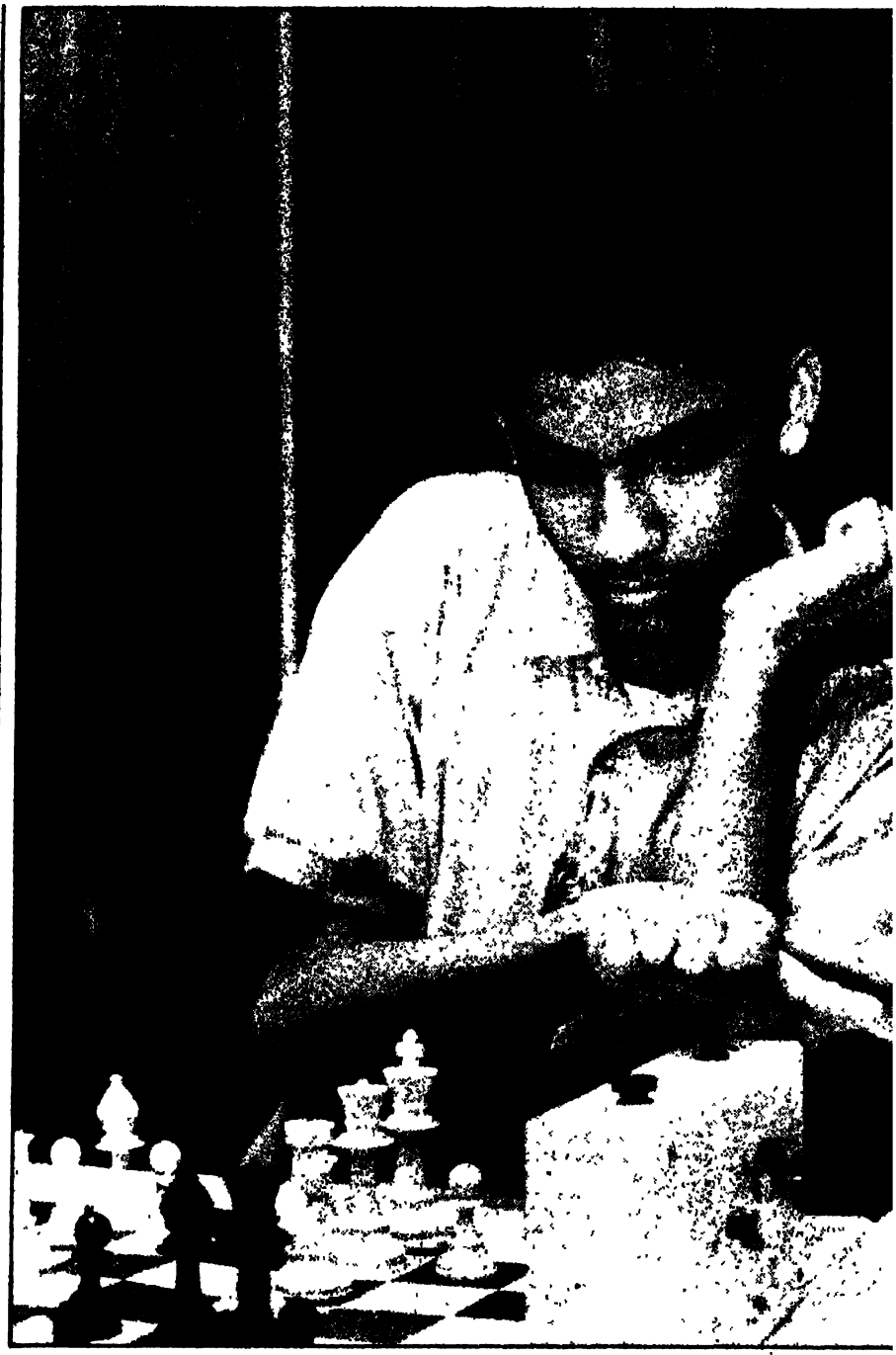
In the girls' Under-17 section, Gargi ended with 2½ points. The Mohta sisters, Swati and Nisha finished with 2 and 1½ points to finish second and third, respectively.

There was a strong fight in the boys Under-8 category. In fact, it is this fierce competition in the sub-junior levels that helps Bengal produce such talented players in the country. Adwaya Chaudhuri, with five points in his kitty, became champion while Nilav Upadhyay with four points was second. Debaditya Datta and Saptarshi Roy each ended with three points.

Soumitra Bose

Night Navigation Rally

WHILE rallying in the rest of India has gone over to Maruti Gypsys (and Maruti 1000s from this year, according to rumour) and Suzuki Supras, rallying in Bengal is still wallowing behind the times. So if one sees tatty Ambassadors and Enfield Bullets lumbering down what passes for highways in Bengal during a rally, one should not be too surprised. But what is lacking in technology is amply made up for by the enthusiasm and friendly atmosphere surrounding rallies.



Roktim Bandopadhyaya: Under-17 chess champion

Although the CMSC is the oldest motorsports club in India, over the last few years there has been an acute lack of sponsorship available to it, which has led to a paucity of events held. This year, things might be looking up if the Night Navigation Rally on April 11 & 12 is anything to go by.

In a night navigation rally, emphasis is laid on good navigation and keen road sense which means that it is not a good starting point for novices. But in this rally, there were a lot of entries from novices which pointed towards a healthy interest in the sport. The fact that most didn't complete and that some were already lost by the time they reached the Eastern Command Stadium (where Mr B.K. Saha, Commissioner of Police flagged off



The winners of the two and four wheelers, with their trophies

the rally), is another matter. There was even a husband-wife team on two wheels, Ahlad & Reena Roy, a la Jagat and Anita Nanjappa down South.

The Rally route covered 250 kms and was set by seasoned veterans Proshanto Paul & Nani Gopal Chanda. After the flag-off, the vehicles headed towards the Dhapa (City garbage dump) and the Kasba Industrial state via Garia, Patuli and Bantala for the competitive stages.

The only minor mishap occurred at Dhapa when Mitil Chakravarty's car hit a marshal's car while braking hard on the slippery cobbled surface at a Time Control (TC). With temporary repairs effected, Mitil resumed his battle with Arindam Ghosh in a Maruti 800. Arindam had earlier suffered a blowout in the Kasba area and had lost time driving on a flat tyre before being able to change at the next TC. Driving skills having been tested, it was now the turn of navigators as the rally moved into that maze called Salt Lake City and indeed the route had them foxed for the entire rally got lost and was delayed by an hour.

At the first sector halt, the Salt Lake Service Station, Mitil's Gypsy was the first to arrive, suffering from carburettor flooding, just before 3 am. The last vehicle arrived at 5.15 am and it was becoming a day rally. But, keeping the novices in mind, the organisers decided against timebarring the latecomers so that by finishing the rally, they would get a feeling of achievement.

The finish was at the Astor Hotel where at the prize distribution many opinions were expressed with Arindam Ghosh feeling it should have been a two-man rally while the winner, Mitil Chakraborty said that the vast amount of calculation involved required a three-man team.

But everyone was unanimous about the fact that to sustain the tremendous interest generated by this rally, more events are required to be held in the future.

Anamit Sen

KANPUR

Inter-Electricity Football

PUNJAB and West Bengal were declared joint winners after a goalless final in the 19th All India Inter-Electricity Board Football tournament.

Earlier, in the semis, the eventual champion had blanked Orissa 4-1. While West Bengal in the other semi-final overcome hosts Kerala by a solitary goal.

In the losers' final, Kerala outplayed Orissa 4-0. 18 teams were in the fray for the title.

Kailash Agarwal

All India Bridge

IT was a Calcutta show, all the way. In the All India Srinivas Lohia Bridge tournament, being played at the Kanpur Union Club, Phoolbagh here, R. Chatterjee, A. Kundu, A.Sengupta, A. Das, Milan

Roy and S Saha of Standard Chartered Bank, Calcutta won the final against Patron's team Kanpur by 37 international match points

The Calcutta guys deservedly won a purse of Rs 15 000 The Patron's team which included Lalit Shrivastav, H C Nigam, P Basu, B M Singh and T N Singh remained content with the second place They bagged a cash prize of Rs 8000 Manas Mukherjee and Kantha the losing semi finalists, also from Calcutta, got Rs 2500 each

SILCHAR

Sunil Valson Benefit

BIG cricket arrived in Silchar with the Sunil Valson Benefit match on April 8 The sleepy township, south of Assam known for cane furniture, sprawling tea estates and regular rainfall aims to become an important regional cricket centre—the Faridabad of the north east Eight of India's World Cup squad, ex Windies skipper Alvin Kallicharan Sunil Gavaskar Roger Binny S Kirmani and Anshuman Gaekwad played in the fun and frolic match at Silchar Some of the Pakistan stars who had promised to come missed out, due to victory celebrations at home

Valson s slick organisation enabled the benefit match to go off smoothly and be financially viable Meticulous planning and lots of legwork led to the success of the match A deputy officer in the public relations department of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Valson made a trip to Australia during the World Cup to finalise the players He utilised the services of Minister of Steel and Mines, Mr Santosh Mohan Deb and his own department to ensure success

Dev s son-in-law, Karun Dube, the former Orissa and East Zone opening batsman is a college friend of Valson (both played for Hindu College in the mid 1970s) The minister also had his own axe to grind He wants to make "Silchar an alternative to Guwahati as a sports centre of Assam " So many forces were at work to make the Silchar benefit a success The covers at the venue were certainly excellent In spite of heavy overnight rain, the match started on time Also enthusiastic volunteers mopped the outfield



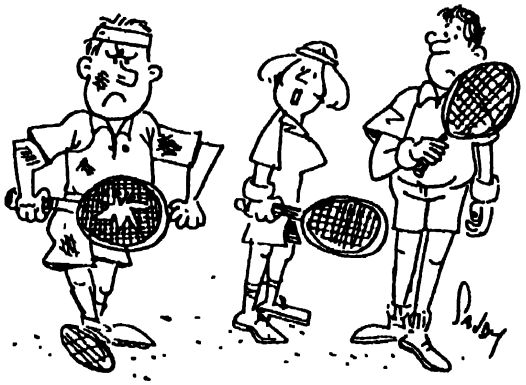
Sunil Valson: a fitting benefit match

Everybody benefitted from this "masala match " The main beneficiary Sunil Valson got Rs six lakhs With major stars in action for the first time, ticket sales were brisk A capacity crowd of 20,000 willingly bought tickets even at exorbitant prices of Rs. 100, 150 and 300 The turnover from gate money was Rs 20 lakhs

Sunil Valson, the left arm seamer never represented India in Tests and one-dayers but was unlucky not to do so The Gavaskar—Bedi feud probably cost him a place for the 1990 tour Down Under when he was at his peak Nippy off the wicket, he rattled the best batsmen with the occasional bouncer and the odd one which came in He was a member of the victorious 1983 World Cup squad but did not play a match In the elation of the victory, he was promised a flat by the Delhi administration, but the deal never materialised Now with the Rs six lakhs and maybe some more money from Silchar, Valson and his attractive Assamese wife, Shabnam, can achieve middle class respectability and a flat in Delhi In the Ranji Trophy, Valson served three teams, Delhi 1977-78 to 1980-81, and 1982-83 to 1986-87, Tamil Nadu, 1981-82, and Railways, 1987-88, with distinction and finished with over 200 first class wickets for an average of 25 35 A perfect team man he got a near perfect benefit and deserved it fully.

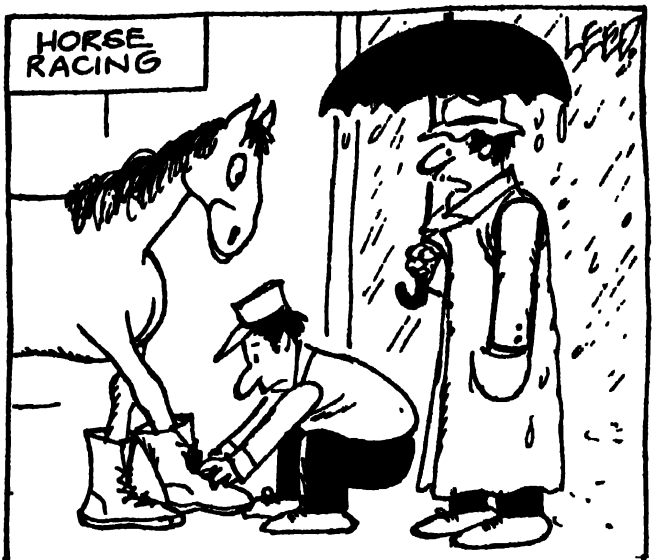
Novy Kapadia

SPORTOON



"WHAT A SHAME.... AND WE TOLD HIM TO HAVE A NICE DAY, TOO"

SPORT CHUCKLES



" HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A HORSE TRAINER?"

Be a Sport

by Jim Janeway



"THEY'RE A RIOT WHEN THEY PLAY DURING A VOW OF SILENCE!"



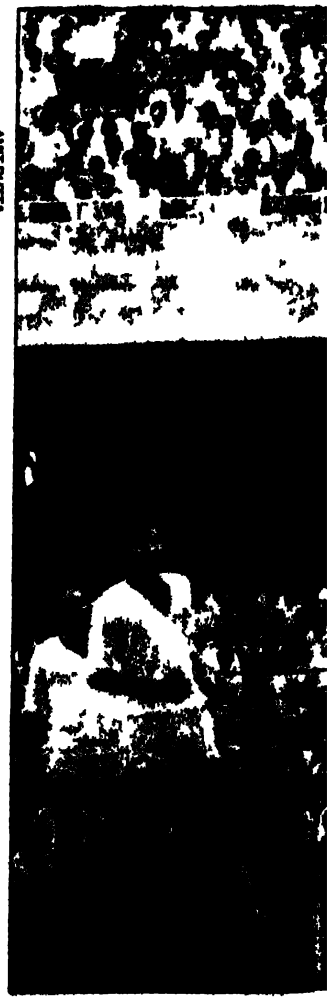
"YOU SURE THIS IS A NUMBER ONE DRIVER?"



AMIT DUTTA

East Bengal skipper Bikash Panji (left) and close friend Krishanu Dey with the Airlines Gold Cup after defeating Bagan in the final at the Salt Lake Stadium

FLIGHT TO VICTORY



Over zealous efforts to have the 'right' teams featuring in the latter rounds have in the past landed the organisers of the All Airlines Gold Cup football tournament in trouble. It was poetic justice that they were kept waiting for seven years for their first Mohun Bagan-East Bengal final But, even that came about with the 'helping hand' very much in evidence.

Amit Bhadra used his left hand to good effect as he pushed home Mohun Bagan's match-winner in a crucial group-league match against Titanium, the referee and the linesman preferring to look the other way. Then, in the semi-final, Christopher Kem used his right, karate-style, to bring down East Bengal medio Prasanta Banerjee and earn the red card.

Mohammedan Sporting, having neutralised East Bengal's early lead, were, at that stage of the match, threatening to tear apart their opponents' defence, with Christopher playing a telling role in midfield. As he non-chalantly stomped off the pitch, he took with him his team's chances. Coming as

it did only a day after the Nigerian had accepted advance payment for a season with East Bengal, his unprovoked and irresponsible act only fuelled suspicion among fans that he had given it away In fact, the tournament, which concluded just four days before IFA's inter-club transfers began, was never out of the shadows of this annual drama

As far as club officials and fans are concerned it is a time when players loyalties are suspect It was, thus not surprising that Debashis Sarkar one of the heroes of Mohun Bagan s Federation Cup win in February was not fielded at all for the medio had already decided on going back to East Bengal With the backdrop of the transfers looming large and the city's vernacular dailies filling up their pages with news and speculation on who s going where, the tournament was almost but forgotten Till the April 15 final at the Salt Lake Stadium

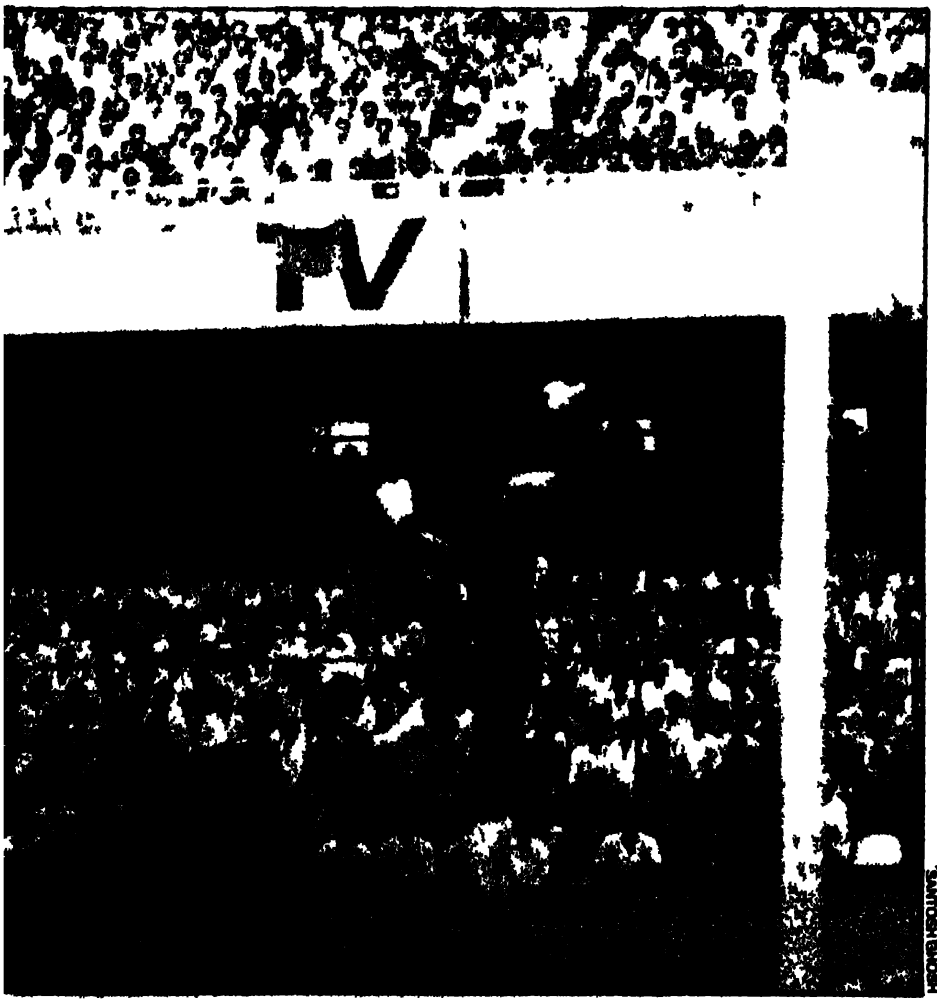
One wonders what such tournaments serve in the AIFF's scheme of things. It is ridiculous to have an AIFF-sponsored meet that brings together just six teams, three of them from the host city itself.

About 40 thousand spectators — a very good crowd considering the response to the tournament till then — braved the scorching sun to be party to another clash between the two Calcutta giants The teams had already met in a drab group-league encounter on the opening day but the final, quite expectedly, was a lot more entertaining. It was, one suspects, not just because of the winner-takes-all situation, but also be cause the final provided the last opportunity for the Maidan stars to display their wares and catch the eye of the club officials before the bargaining and haggling for fees began in right earnest

It is amazing the number of times Kuljit Singh has managed to hog the limelight after the most undistinguished of tenures on the pitch The East Bengal striker wiped out memories of another listless show by managing the most important act of the tournament — scoring the only goal of the final

His left-footer, curled around the Mohun Bagan 'wall' from a 80th minute free-kick just outside the box, found its mark but Tanumoy Bose's effort (or, rather, the lack of it) hardly justified the goalkeeper's stature as one of the leaders in his trade in the country After having plugged the gap at first post with the wall, the top corner near the second upright is exactly where any goalkeeper worth his salt would expect the ball to come from a direct kick Strangely, Tanumoy had hardly moved and looked the most surprised man on the ground when the ball went past him to bulge the net

The result, however, was in the fitness of things for East Bengal had looked the better team, both in the final and in the earlier match between the two teams Even though Mohun Bagan were bolstered by the inclusion of stopper Achinta Belel and striker Sishir Ghosh for the final, the players, it seemed, did not quite believe they could beat their arch-rivals. Quite inexplicably, they fell into defensive postures and allowed East Bengal to dictate terms The point was driven home further when, in the nothing-to-lose situation after the goal, Mohun Bagan created



Mohun Bagan winger Uttam Mukherjee's attempt goes past BSF goalkeeper Bivash Saha in the semis. Mukherjee was adjudged the player of the tournament

As far as club officials and fans are concerned, it is a time when players' loyalties are suspect. It was, thus, not surprising that Debashis Sarkar, one of the heroes of Mohun Bagan's Federation Cup win, was not fielded at all for the medio has already decided on going back to East Bengal

their best scoring chances of the match.

Krishanu Dey, as always, was the fountainhead of the East Bengal attack. He kept flouting his genius as he sprayed defence splitting passes with unerring accuracy. With Prasanta Banerjee and the young Tushar Rakshit having a good tournament, East Bengal's midfield had a look of solidity, though Kuljit's disappointing form and the absence of Bikash Panji for much of the tournament meant that their striking power lacked teeth.

Satyajit Chatterjee took the bulk of the load for Mohun Bagan and his searing runs helped split up opposing defences time and again. However, their defenders, changed and chopped with every match, proved a jittery lot. The goal they let in against Kerala league champions Titanium, from a 20-yard free-kick, was the result of a defective 'wall' and it briefly threatened the team with exit even before the semi-finals. The match, of course, was made (in)famous by the Bhadra 'goal'.

The stopper, having seen his header from a corner-kick come back off a defender on the goalline, pushed the rebound in with his hand. Referee Dipak Das and linesman Shanti Banerjee saw it fit to ignore the infringement and it almost brought about a walkout by the Kerala side. The organisers, strangely, had appointed a Calcutta man to supervise the match when two outstation referees were on their panel.

Titanium, left with the task of defeating East Bengal in their next match, put up a spirited show. Their attack brought in a lot more improvisation than that of their opponents, but the genius of Krishanu and Prasanta proved the bugbear once again.

Among the outstation teams, Jalandhar's BSF looked the most potent. With Gouranga Pal and Darbara Singh doing a good job





Kuljit draws first blood when his header went past Mohd. Sporting keeper Debashis Ganguly in the semi-final



AMIT DUTTA

East Bengal's Kuljit Singh's open net header missed the Mohammedan Sporting goal in the final. However Kuljit managed to score the match-winner against Bagan



SANTOSH GHOSH

East Bengal's Tushar Rakshit scores the wining goal against Mohammedan SC in the semifinal

upfront and a host of experienced stars, BSF posed quite a few problems before bowing out with a 2-1 semifinal loss to Mohun Bagan.

Royal Nepal Airlines, sans star Mani Shah, was a disappointment. Like Krishanu, Shah is a brilliant ball player and his presence would surely have delighted the connoisseurs. Though Ganesh Thapa showed glimpses of his old form, it was just not enough to lift his team, especially with the experience of having to play in near-40C quite alien to them.

The tournament, of course, allowed the fans a good look at the new outstation recruits of the big clubs. Bernard Oparanozie, who had caught the eye during the Federation Cup, was shadow of himself. He was pathetically slow. Thomas Khusboo, Mohun Bagan's other outstation recruit, also failed to get his act together.

The most outstanding among the outstation men was Nagpur's Abdul Khalique. He showed keen positional sense and it was no surprise that the Mohammedan Sporting forward finished as the top scorer of the meet. Babu Mani, having shed a lot of the weight he had put on last season, is on a comeback trail.

Having been through it all, one wonders what such tournaments serve in AIFF's scheme of things. It is ridiculous to have an AIFF-recognised meet that brings together just six teams (the 1988 tournament in Siliguri featured five!), three of them from the host city itself. Then, with East Bengal refusing to take part without their six first-eleven players busy in the Asia Cup preparatory camp in Bangalore, the meet had to be pushed back by four days. It meant that there were two group-league matches everyday, and the organisers decided to stage one of them at the Salt Lake Stadium, while the other was played at the Rabindra Sarobar Stadium at the other end of the city. It only helped encourage an even poorer spectator turnout.

The standard of football dished out was, of course, one of the main reason why the fans stayed away. Another must have been the fact that barely a month-and-a-half earlier, the cream of India's club teams had gathered in the city for their most coveted trophy -- the Federation Cup.

Arup Chatterjee

SPORTSWEEK

This week in the history of sport

GHAUS MOHAMMAD, Indian national tennis champion of the thirties and the first Indian to reach the quarter-final at Wimbledon (1939, lost to R L Riggs), died in Hyderabad on **Apr. 22, 1982.**

ON **Apr. 23, 1989,** Navjot Singh Sidhu scored 286 against Jamaica at Kingston-the highest score by an Indian on a tour.

ON **Apr. 24, 1895** Captain Joshua Slocum started his successful single-handed voyage round the world from Boston in a 36-ft boat Sloop Spray.'

A dog named 'Shoe' achieved the highest speed of 67 14 kmph in greyhound racing in Richmond, Australia on **Apr. 25, 1968.**

SOCCER star Diego Maradona, hero of Argentina's 1986 World Cup Victory, was arrested on **Apr. 26, 1991** in Buenos Aires on charges of drugs possession and was later released on a 20,000 dollar bond.

R. A GUNTOWSKI of United States of America set a world record of 15ft 8 1/2 in. in men's polevault at Palo Alto, USA on **Apr. 27, 1957.**

ON **Apr. 28, 1967** world heavyweight boxing champion Mohammad Ali was stripped of his title by American Boxing authorities for his refusal to fight for America in the Vietnam war

A.R. Sharif

MILESTONES

CONFIRMED: That Australia will play three Tests and three one-day internationals in its five-week tour to Sri Lanka in August and September. This will be the first foreign tour in Sri Lanka since 1987.

WON: By Jim Courier the Japan Tennis Championships in Tokyo. He defeated Richard Krajicek 6-4, 6-4, 7-6, (7-3) in the final. With this win he regained his No. 1 ranking.

WON: By Antonio Pinto of Portugal, the 12th London Marathon. He collected $55,000 as the first prize.



If it's the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix it's got to be homeboy Michael Doohan. Here he thunders, round a bend on his 500 cc bike enroute to winning the event this year

WON: By George Foreman his bout against Alex Stewart.

WON: By West Indies the third and final one-day international against South Africa. South Africa were 189 for 6 in 50 overs while West Indies made 190 for 3 in 43 overs.

WON: By Jansher Khan the British Open Squash Championship for the first time. He defeated Chris Robertson of Australia 9-7, 10-9, 9-5 in the final. The ladies edition of this tournament was won by Susan Devoy of New Zealand. She defeated English No. 1 Martina Le Moignan in the final.

RE-ELECTED: Graham Gooch as the captain for the English cricket season against Pakistan this summer.

RETAINED: By James Toney of the U.S.A., the International Boxing Federation's middleweight title when he defeated Glenn Wolfe in an unanimous points decision after 12 rounds.

TO TOUR: An English under-19 team in India from January 15-March 10 next year.

DIED: Raja Bhalindra Singh, former vice-president and life-member of the International Olympic Committee in New Delhi. He was 72.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Which country pioneered synchronised swimming?
2 When was synchronised swimming recognised internationally?
3 Of what colour are the regulation costumes in an international wrestling bout?
4 Who/what is a *yokozuna* ?
5 When was the Melbourne Cricket Ground founded?
6 What is common to Neil Harvey, Mohinder Amarnath and Ian Chappell?
7 Which famous Indian Test cricketer was nicknamed Fergie ?
8 What is flirting in archery?
9 What is common to Pele Beckenbauer Gordon Banks and George Best?
10 What happens if a goal-bound shot hits the referee causing the ball to deflect past the goalkeeper and into the net?
11 Who was the only England batsman to score a double century against both Australia and South Africa?
12 Who is the first player to score at least 150 in both innings of the same Test match?

13 Who was the only player to score two centuries in the inaugural World Cup cricket competition?

14 Who holds the distinction of being the only cricketer to score over 10,000 runs in a completed career without scoring a century?

15 Which English County has beaten the touring Australians on a record nine occasions?

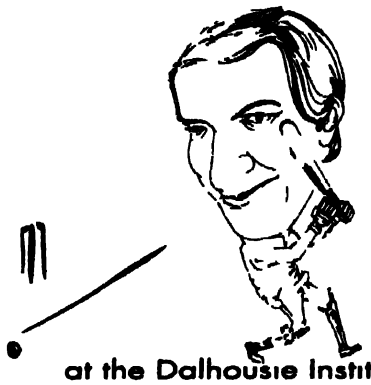
16 Who was the only England batsman to have fallen victim to Don Bradman s bowling?

ANSWERS

1 The U S A
2 1952
3 One of the contestants wears red and the other blue
4 The highest position possible in sumo wrestling (the grand champion')
5 In 1853
6 A brother of each of them played Test cricket
7 Subhas Gupte
8 The behaviour of an arrow that wobbles instead of flying true
9 Each of them played in the N A S L (North American Soccer League)
10 A goal is awarded (because the referee is regarded as part of the field of play)

11 Eddie Paynter (216* v Australia at Trent Bridge in 1938 and 243 v South Africa in Durban in 1939)
12 Allan Border (150 v 153 v. Pakistan at Lahore 1980)
13 Glenn Turner (171* v E Africa and 114 v India)
14 Tony Lock (10 342 run highest score 89)
15 Surrey
16 Wally Hammond (at Adelaide in 1932)

PATAUDI AND GAVASKAR BAT TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME...





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The fabulous Dunlop Sports and Cricket Quiz books will be available for just Rs. 100/- per set along with a free carry bag

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Tony Cozier was there to provide glimpses of the emotions that were aroused by the South African tour of the West Indies

BLACK OR WHITE?

SOUTH AFRICA'S cricketers took another decisive step towards international acceptance when they played in the heartland of anti-apartheid sentiment in a fleeting series confined to three one-day internationals and their first Test match since 1970.

The streets of Kingston were not thronged with thousands tossing garlands of welcome as they were for the South Africans' arrival in Calcutta last November on their first overseas venture since readmission to the International Cricket Council. They could expect no more than grudging acceptance from a strongly politicised population aware of the effects of white domination on their black kith and kin in South Africa and still wary about the lifting of sporting sanctions. Steve Biko stirs memories here, not Graeme Pollock.

Only the support of Nelson Mandela and the former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, one of the Third World's most strident voices against apartheid, has got them here.

So, too, had the rare chance for the West Indies Cricket Board of Control to make a healthy profit. Shaky economies, small populations and exorbitant hotel rates usually result in sizeable losses for the board in a home series. But the South Africans, through sponsorship by British Petroleum, paid their way leaving the West Indies to pocket the gate receipts and the rights for the live television coverage back to South Africa and Britain.

They also found cricketing interest diminished by post-mortems on West Indian failures in the World Cup. Six of the eight matches were carried live on TV and the public did not like what it saw.

Distinguished voices such as Sir Garfield Sobers, Michael Holding and Gordon Greenidge were among those raised in anguish. "I didn't see the camaraderie that I used to know," was Holding's assessment. "It seems to me they were a bunch of guys who were called together at the last moment to go out there and play a cricket match." Greenidge, who retired in October after 108 Test matches, claimed there was a "breakdown in the total harmony of the team". Sobers reflected widespread feeling that "a number of players selected should have been left at home and a number of players who should have gone were left here".

This was a reference to the former captain, Vivian Richards, Greenidge and Jeffrey Dujon, all jettisoned by selectors keen to rebuild a side under a new captain, Richie Richardson.

Although he quit the captaincy, and Test Cricket at the end of the series in England last summer, Richards had insisted that he was keen to play in the World Cup. Still ignored, he asserted that "some people in positions of responsibility in the team and on the board did not want me anyway." That implicated Richardson, a fellow Antiguan, who has been so weighed down by the pressures of captaincy that he was out in single figures five times and managed only one half-century in the World Cup.

Newspaper polls in Barbados have indicated a big majority in favour of dumping Richardson after only six months in the job and giving it to Desmond Haynes, Richards's vice-captain who was overlooked when Richards stepped down. When the fast bowler Tony Gray, of Trinidad, was left out of the World Cup team, the president of his board, Alloy Lequay, said he was considering refusing to host any matches against the South Africans at the Queen's Park Oval in protest.

It is a background of disarray the South Africans could not use it to their advantage. Their win over the West Indies in the World Cup was a bitter pill to swallow but at least that was on the other side of the world. To have it repeated here, more especially in the single Test match at Kensington Oval on a ground where the West Indies have not lost since 1935 and have won 10 times in succession since 1978, may be too much to take.

Indeed it was not the South Africans who had to worry about hostile crowds during the next series but rather the West Indians themselves.

Courtesy The Independent

The camaraderie amongst the present West Indians is still not a patch to that which was evident among the 'Old Order'



The South Africans were not only fighting to save the series but also trying to overcome mental odds and pressure in the heartland of anti-apartheid sentiment

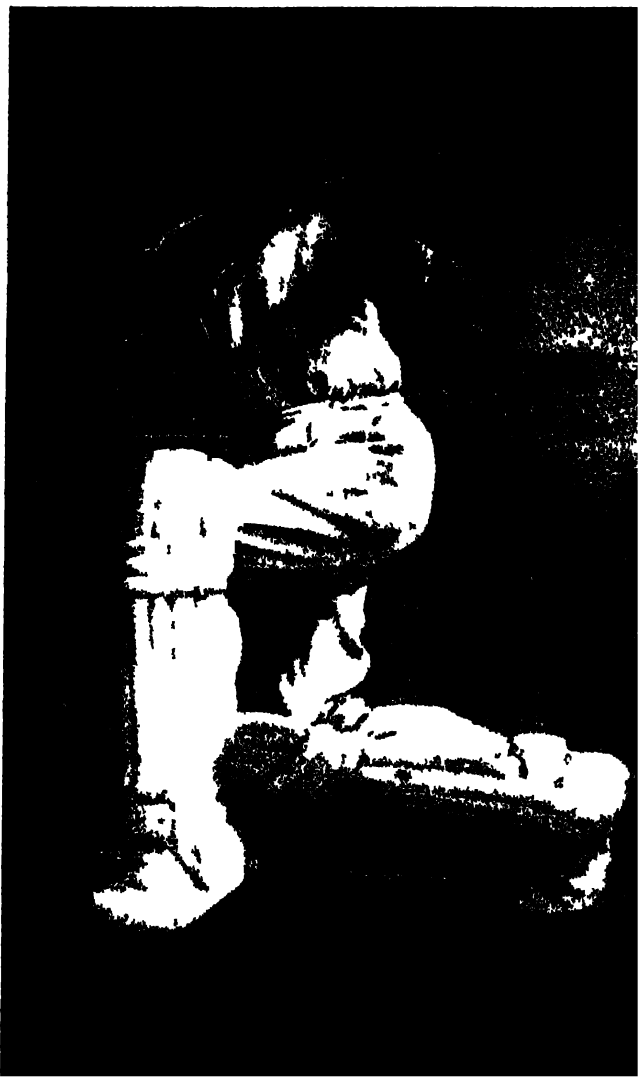




SIR DONALD BRADMAN

An Encounter With A Legend





Gautam Bhattacharya recounts his meeting with the world's greatest, and most elusive, cricketer

(Above): Flanked by the author (right) and journalist Debashis Dutta, the Don signs the Bradman albums

(Right): A wonderful painting of Bradman in all his glory

PHOTOGRAPHS: GAUTAM BHATTACHARYA

DOES 2 Halden Street, Kensington Park, Adelaide, South Australia mean anything to you? Probably nothing, if you aren't a desperate cricket fan. But if you are, then you'll understand, for we're talking about the address of a shrine—to put it simply, the house of Sir Donald George Bradman.

To say Bradman is a living legend, would be a classic understatement. Yet he is also a recluse, not perhaps as reticent as Greta Garbo was, but very close. If seeing him is improbable, reading about him is equally difficult, for Bradman has withdrawn from public life, becoming a mysterious personality, reluctant always to give interviews, the last of which was done God knows when.

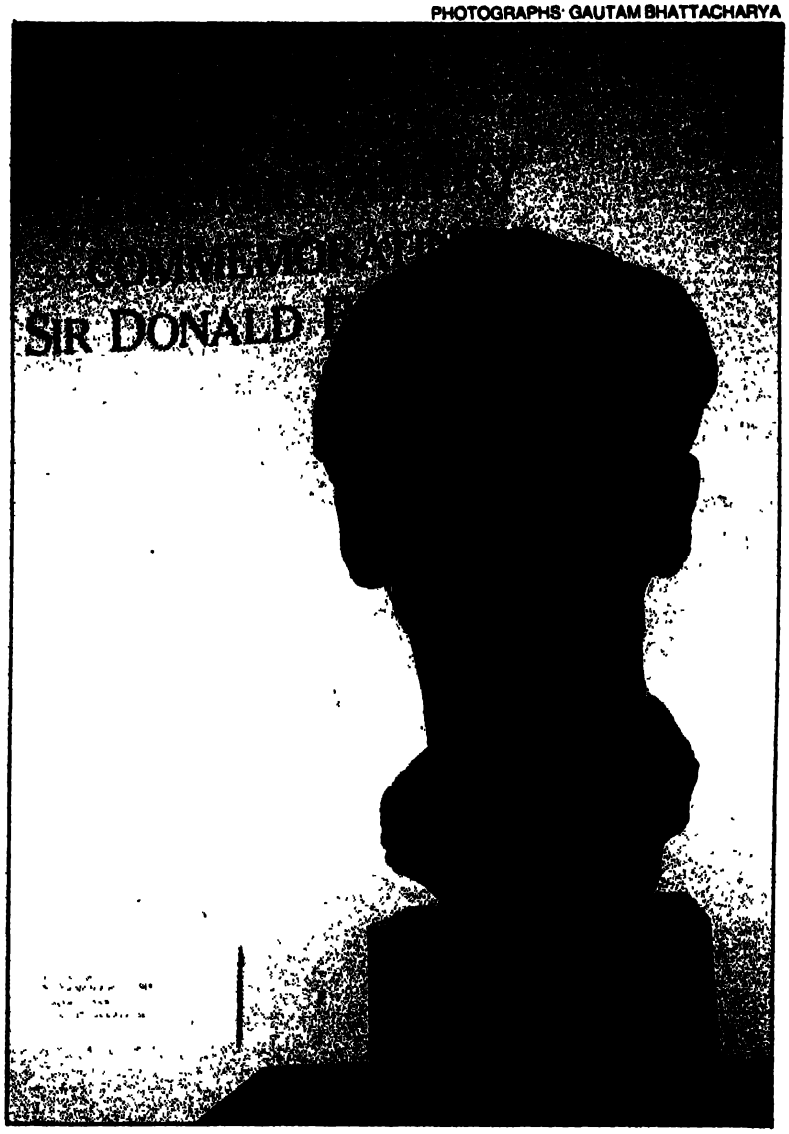
Needless to say, everyone in Australia's cricketing fraternity knows who the 'Don' is, but in this land of the immigrant not everybody else does. The taxi driver, for instance, who drove me from Adelaide Airport to my hotel, had never heard of 'Halden Street', but considering he was of Greek descent he was quickly forgiven.

But that was nothing. The cab driver the next day, having located 'Halden Street' after consulting his map book at length, seemed suitably impressed when I mentioned I was off to see Bradman. "Yeah mate, though I don't follow cricket I've heard of him". He should have left it at that. Instead he continued: "But tell me why did he cut off his beard? He looked better with it on". By now I was totally bewildered, realising after much calculation that the cabbie, ignorant most definitely, had confused Bradman with Allan Border.

However, by this point we were nearing Bradman's house and I was getting increasingly nervous. How could one intrude into a legend's privacy, especially in a country where impromptu visits are not socially acceptable. I mean this is a country where if you want to visit your mother or sister or whoever, you have to call in advance to fix a time—that, is the done thing.

My fear was further compounded by a story the former Bengal caption Gopal Bose told me. A friend of his, loitering outside Bradman's house, was picked up by the police and released later with the warning, "Never come here again. We consider this house our national property where trespassers are prosecuted."

Since a morning in the police station hardly excited me, I stopped the taxi about 500 metres from Bradman's house and began looking for some form of help. A bunch of girls playing tennis proved useless, merely pointing to where his house was, which I knew anyway

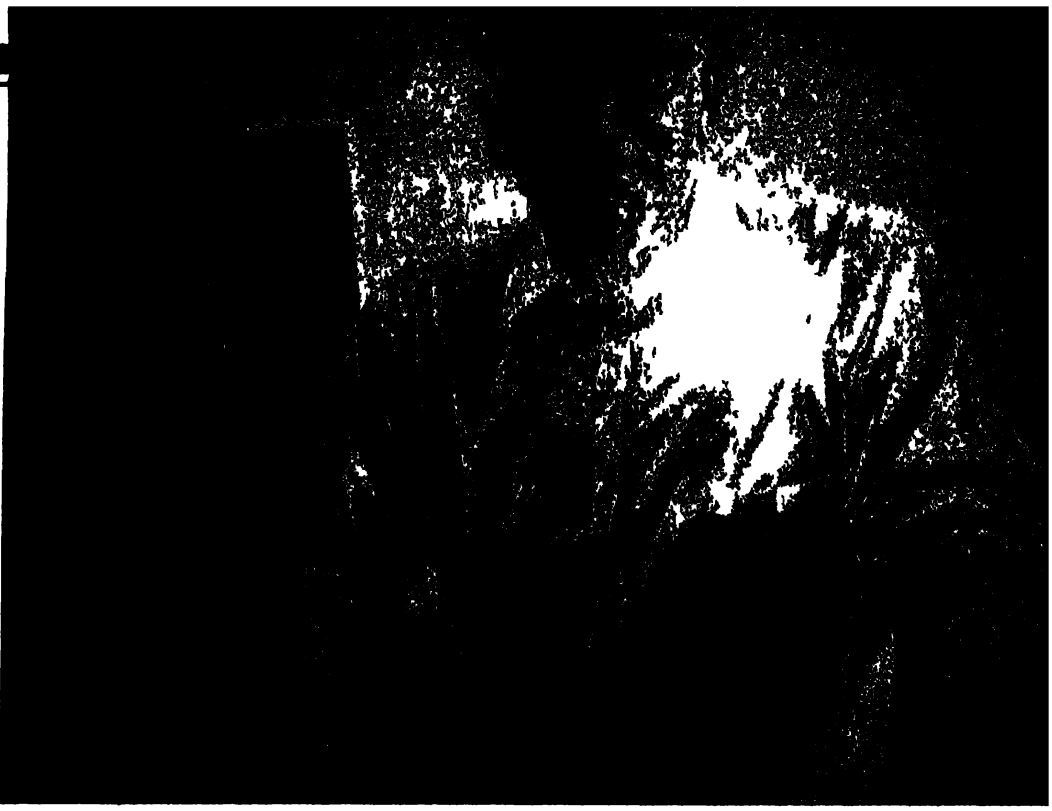


(Above): In the history of Australian sport, few men have been as honoured and respected as Bradman

What now?

Surprisingly, an ally, and from a most unexpected quarter—Debashis Dutta, a journalist buddy from a rival paper. We both looked at each other and burst into laughter, for we had met merely about half an hour ago, when he said he was going to the bank, and I explained I was heading for the Adelaide Oval. And here we both were, having failed to outdo each other. Resigned to the fact that neither of us had a scoop, we decided the enormity of the venture demanded a truce—we would go for Bradman together.

Luck favours the brave remember, and luck for us was Lucy, a girl who lived in the house adjoining Bradman's. Lucy's advice was to "stick around, because he only comes out of his house once a day to



(Right). A series of paintings that hang at the Bradman museum in Bowral

(Below): A rare photograph of Bradman (right) in his youth, during a mock wrestling match



collect his mail and that s about now (10 a m)"

And so we waited and waited and waited, but no Bradman Time for action Finding courage from the absense of a policeman or any 'Beware of ' signs, we cautiously entered the gate and approached the house It is worth mentioning that prior to the World Cup, I had sent Sir Donald a letter, or should I say an impassioned plea, requesting an interview His reply, though courteous, was in the negative "I am 83 now", he wrote, "and I suppose I have the right to spend my remaining days on earth peacefully" So now it was a question of intruding his privacy as opposed to realising every cricket writers dream of meeting him—selfishness prevailed, I had to meet him

So we knocked on the door with great trepidation and held our breath Minutes later he answered the door, looking to be precise, quite flabbergasted Before he could say anything we said, "Sir, you are a hero to us, a God We're extremely sorry to disturb you, but since your number is unlisted we had no other choice" Sir Don, always the gentleman, said, "It's very nice of you to have come all the way. I wish I could spend some time with you but my wife is very sick. So please excuse me, I have to go up and look after her. In fact I'm not keeping well myself" Incidentally, Jesse Bradman is also 83 years old, the same age as her husband, and



(Left): The house where Bradman grew up has become a monument

(Below): The man is old, unwell, but unfailingly polite and courteous

unfortunately has been quite ill for sometime

Bradman, understandably reluctant to talk further, did agree however to pose for a photograph But would you believe it, the camera wouldn't work Nothing, absolutely nothing, could be more embarassing Worse, that meant another trip next morning

To make up for our *faux pas*, next morning we went armed with gifts and, of course, a functional camera Fortunately there were no policeman on patrol—in fact, there was nobody around except the Bradman family's house physician, whom we mistook for Bradman's son John, a lecturer at Adelaide University. John, who visits his family on weekends changed his name from Bradman to Bresden, the pressure of being Don Bradman's son obviously and understandably too much. And John Bresden dislikes journalists intensely.

While the doctor clarified that he was not John and had only come to see Lady Bradman, Sir Don came out, accepted his gifts, signed autographs, posed for photographs, all done with a wonderful grace. And then, excusing himself once again, he was gone.

In all this adventure, all I had managed was a fleeting glimpse of him and a few words. But I have my photographs of him and his voice on my tape recorder. And they will live with me forever for they are priceless. My meeting with Sir Don will never be forgotten. ●



ON THE track all eyes are on Nigel Mansell. This is the beginning of what will almost certainly be his last stand. He has decided that he will be the first into the first corner after the grid. And he is trying his damnedest to be first in every race till November.

Mansell, at the moment at least, is riding the crest of a tidal wave that has smashed everything that dared get in his way. Three races—South Africa, Mexico and Brazil—and three outright wins. Mansell is finally baring his teeth because he knows it is 'now or never' for him.

Ever since he made his debut in 1980 at Austria he has been waiting to take the bow as world champion but the cue has never been given. Recalling the 1991 season where he came so close to winning it, but lost out to Senna because of mistakes,he said, "That hurt, it really hurt."

The new Mansell is lighter, meaner and less moody than last year. His performance so far has been a powerful and meaningful, one. The change in the 39-year-old Englishman is apparent after he shifted his home to Florida. There he trained all winter, again learning from what Senna has done over the past few seasons; keeping away from cars, relaxing with family and friends, ly ing in the sun and recharging the batteries.

"I'm four kilos lighter, fitter than I have ever been, and very motivated," he said.

Helping him in his efforts to win the title are his team Williams-Renault with their new car for this season with the 'reactive'

Mansell, at the moment at least, is riding the crest of a tidal wave that has smashed everything that dared get in his way.....

suspension. This has given Mansell a car which behaves well at the turns and maintains a better balance during acceleration and braking.

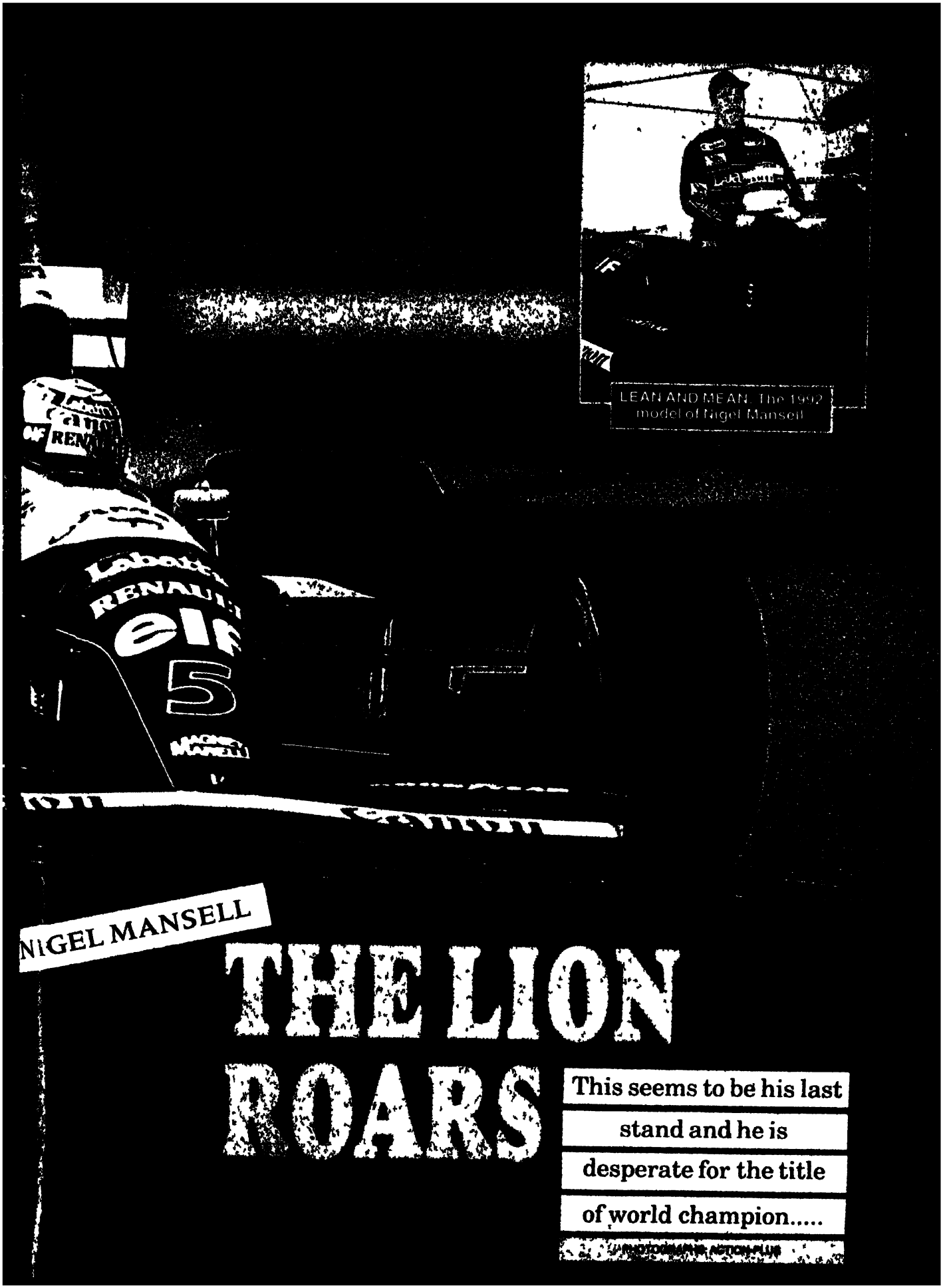
It takes courage, self confidence and confidence in the car to win and Mansell has these qualities and maybe, luck. Something that has always eluded him.

The Brazilian fans call Mansell 'The Lion', but the way he is pulverising all opposition would suggest that 'The Terminator' is a better description

Avik Lee



KYALAMI, SOUTH AFRICA: The first race of the season and Nigel Mansell in the Williams-Renault was burning up the track to victory


LEAN AND MEAN. The 1992 model of Nigel Mansell
NIGEL MANSELL
THE LION ROARS
This seems to be his last stand and he is desperate for the title of world champion.....

LYNN JENNINGS

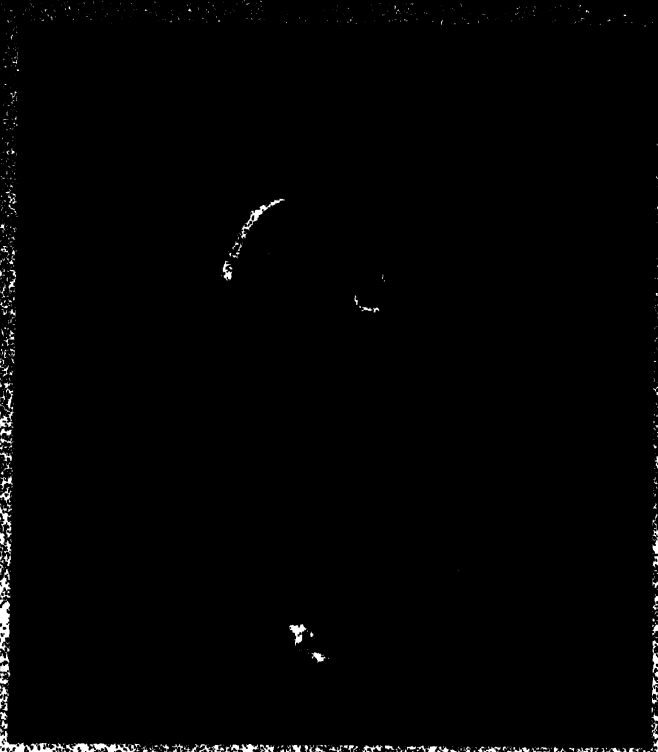
SHE'S A LADY! SHE'S A KILLER!

Lynn Jennings lifted the world cross country title for the third time in a row with an impeccable win in Boston recently

March, '92

IT was cold in Boston. Five inches of snow had fallen during the night. The runners were shivering. They were depressed. It was going to be so difficult to run a cross country course in these conditions. Except for one runner. Lynn Jennings. She lives in nearby Newmarket, New Hampshire and she had been doing a lot of training in these conditions.

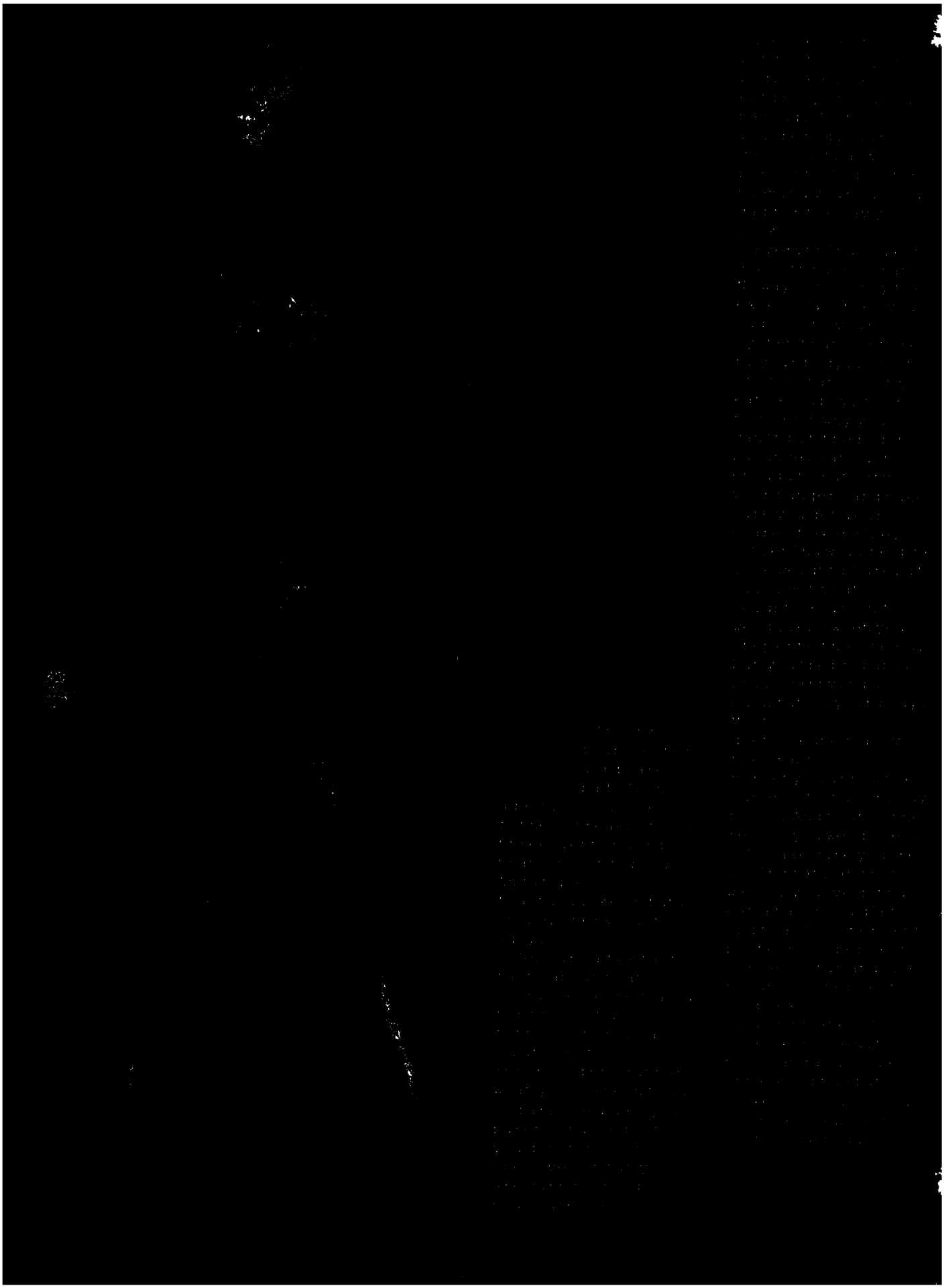


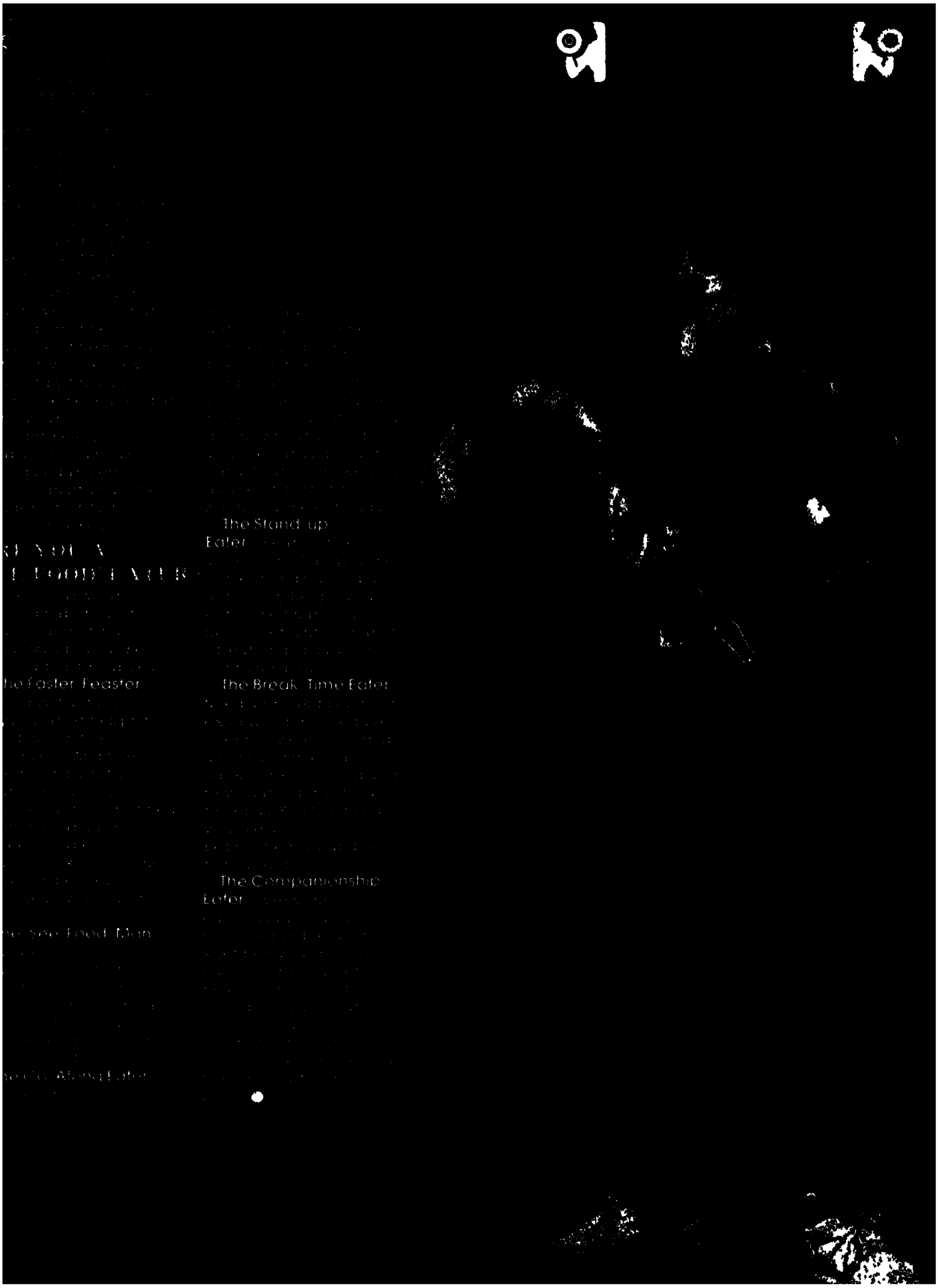


W

[illegible] to
[illegible]
New
Hampshire
home of two-time world
cross country champion
Lynn Jennings. It's 16
degrees on a winter
morning in Jennings
and Dave Hill, her
husband of four months,
embark on a 7-mile run
through the winding dirt
roads that surround
their home in February.
The sun is just coming
up, turning the
[illegible] of ice
[illegible] feet. This
[illegible] Jennings
[illegible] 10
[illegible] like
[illegible] ever

shown here two seasons). Shannon Dirsmith (relay and Sunday (female) and paced with Hill, 30, into a cozy cabin for some [illegible] before [illegible] Jennings [illegible] never [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible] and [illegible] cross-country [illegible] Jennings [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]




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